

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL OF THE
VILLAGE OF EAST SPARTA, COUNTY OF STARK AND STATE
OF OHIO HELD IN THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING ON DECEMBER
15, 2008.**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. The Mayor led Council and visitors in reciting The Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken with the following members present; Mayor Jackie Truax, Council Members Charlene Stelluto, Michael Caudill, Chris Freitag, Marlene Gray, Kenneth Byrd, David Naus and Clerk-Treasurer Rice.

Visitors included; Joe Kostic (Village Coordinator), Robert Cyperski (Village Solicitor), Barb Malavite (Sandy Valley Community Park), Jeff Crouse (Countywide Landfill), Robert Easterday (BOPA) and Patricia Byrd.

Chief Hager presented the Police Report to Council. For November there were; 7 Traffic Arrests, 0 Juvenile Traffic, 0 DUI Arrests, 0 Crash Reports, 5 Misdemeanor Arrests, 0 Felony Arrests, and 6 calls for service. The Chief also reported that the police cruiser had circuit board for light bar and siren control replaced due to a short. Byrd informed the Chief that he had heard of a report that during an altercation at the Town Pump the police department was called and an officer stated that due to the weather and the condition of the vehicles they would be unable to respond. Byrd asked Hager if this was true. Hager reported to Council that when the altercation occurred, both officers on duty were involved with a traffic accident and as soon as one was able to break free did respond to the Town Pump. Byrd asked Chief Hager to secure an estimate from Wendell Ford for a new police cruiser. When asked how the Village would pay for it Byrd stated that if we get a cruiser he would find the funds.

Jeff Crouse addressed Council. Crouse showed Council a map of the facility and stated that he wanted to put to rest a rumor that was circulating about the landfill being on fire. Crouse stated that in the opinion of the landfill, there was no fire but rather a chemical reaction caused an increase in temperature which also caused the foul odor, Crouse reported that the landfill is working to defeat the chemical reaction and has spent \$60 million in doing so, Crouse reported that the landfill has also started a new project installing an isolation break to halt the movement of the chemical reaction. The project will take until the end of spring 2009 and cost \$6 million. In closing, Crouse reported that the landfill is completely safe as it is tested continuously. Crouse was asked by Council about the danger of Methane Gas or an explosion. Crouse reported that the chemical reaction caused such high temperatures that the methane was burned off and there is no danger of explosion. Crouse closed stating that the landfill is looking for members to serve on their Citizen Advisory Committee which meets quarterly and invited any member of Council who desired to serve to come to next meeting.

The minutes of the November meeting were read. Caudill made motion to approve the minutes as read, seconded by Naus. Roll call 4 Yea, 0 Nay Freitag and Byrd Abstained, motion carried.

The Financial Reports were presented to Council. The reports included; Warrant Register, Receipt Register, Bank Reconciliation, fund Status, Revenue Status and Appropriation Status. Freitag made motion to pay the

bills totaling \$24,439.40, seconded by Stelluto. Roll call 6 Yea, 0 Nay, motion carried.

The Mayor presented the Cash Report to Council. There was \$61.00 collected. Caudill made motion to accept the report as presented, seconded by Naus. Roll call 6 Yea, 0 Nay, motion carried.

O-17-08-10 an ordinance approving the police contract between the Village and the Magnolia Police Department. Freitag made motion to suspend third reading, seconded by Gray. Roll call 5 Yea, 1 Nay with Byrd casting lone dissent, motion carried. Freitag made motion to pass ordinance as presented, seconded by Gray. Roll call 4 Yea, 2 Nay with Byrd and Naus casting dissenting votes, motion carried.

O-18-08-10 Village pay ordinance 3rd reading. Freitag made motion to accept ordinance as presented, seconded by Stelluto. Roll call 45 Yea, 1 Nay with Naus casting the lone dissenting vote, motion carried.

O-19-08-10 Village Solicitor contract 3rd reading. Caudill made motion to accept ordinance as presented, seconded by Naus. Roll call 6 Yea, 0 Nay, motion carried.

O-20-08-10 Village Prosecutor contract 3rd reading. Caudill made motion to accept ordinance as presented, seconded by Naus. Roll call 6 Yea, 0 Nay, motion carried.

O-21-08-10 updates to employee handbook 3rd reading. Stelluto made motion to accept the ordinance as presented, seconded by Caudill. Roll call 6 Yea, 0 Nay, motion carried.

O-23-08-11 fire contract. Byrd made motion to suspend three readings, seconded by Freitag. Roll call 6 Yea, 0 Nay, motion carried. Byrd made motion to accept ordinance as presented, seconded by Freitag. Roll call 6 Yea, 0 Nay, motion carried.

O-24-08-12 Temporary Appropriations. Caudill made motion to suspend three readings, seconded by Byrd. Roll call 6 Yea, 0 Nay, motion carried. Caudill made motion to accept ordinance as presented, seconded by Byrd. Roll call 6 Yea, 0 Nay, motion carried.

R-18-08-12 resolution approving year end procedures. Naus made motion to suspend three readings, seconded by Freitag. Roll call 6 Yea, 0 Nay, motion carried. Naus made motion to accept resolution as presented, seconded by Freitag. Roll call 6 Yea, 0 Nay, motion carried.

R-19-08-12 resolution approving year end closing procedures. Caudill made motion to suspend three readings, seconded by Naus. Roll call 6 Yea, 0 Nay. Motion carried. Stelluto made motion to accept resolution as presented, seconded by Naus. Roll call 6 Yea, 0 Nay, motion carried.

The Mayor stated that the Council needs to set the Reorganization Meeting for 2009. Meeting set for January 8, 2009 at 9:00 am.

The Mayor stated that the State Auditor is offering Certified Public Records training in Sugar Creek on January 13th. The Mayor, Caudill, Freitag and Rice need to attend the training once for their new terms.

The Mayor stated that she is trying to set the meeting date for the School Property Committee as January 8th at 7:00 pm. The Mayor invited all members of Council to attend to help determine the use for the property.

The Mayor informed Council that she had received the bills for the purchase of the vacant lots. The cost was \$430.29 to the Clerk of Courts and \$201.30 to the Stark County Treasurer. The Village needs to obtain a

certified copy of the adjudication and have the deed transferred and liens cancelled. Cyperski to take care of.

Byrd stated that he feels the Village needs to place a levy on the November ballot for police protection. Byrd stated that the Village just does not have the funds to continue the protection without a levy.

R-20-08-12 1st reading – resolution requesting certification of 3.0 mills by the Stark County Auditor.

The Mayor stated that the 3.0 mill operating levy is expiring in 2009 and should be placed on the November ballot as a replacement rather than a renewal to help generate funds. The current levies are quite old and the revenue keeps dropping as they age while the expenses and cost of living continues to rise.

Cyperski addressed Council. Cyperski stated that he has received a bill of sale for the water lines from Laufflen and needs a motion for the Mayor to sign said bill of sale. Naus made motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the bill of sale, seconded by Stelluto. Roll call 6 Yea, 0 Nay, motion carried.

The Mayor stated that she had been approached by Williams Toyota about free trees to use a fund raiser for the park .The Mayor stated that she received 100 tree seedlings. Due to a medical condition and the decline in the weather, a fund raiser was not possible. The Mayor was able to give away about 55 trees and gave the balance to the Park Board to plant. The Mayor wanted to thank Williams and Toyota for their generous donation.

Kostic addressed Council. Kostic stated that he had nothing to report and wished Council and Mayor a Merry Christmas. Naus questioned Kostic about a hole on Walnut St. Kostic reported that the gas company had drilled hole and could not complete repair until spring, but the Village was filling the hole with 304 limestone tomorrow.

Malavite presented the Park Board minutes to Council.

The minutes of the Water Board were presented to Council.

The Mayor stated that she has been approached about offering a free income tax preparation service in the Village. The service will be offered free to anyone making less than \$42,000.00 a year and will be by appointment in the Community Building. More info forthcoming.

Stelluto reported that in conjunction with the Civic Association, Thompson Entertainment will be sponsoring a teen dance in January in the Community Building. All teens are invited and admission will be \$5.00 per. This is a test case and if successful, the dances could continue.

Naus made motion to adjourn, seconded by Gray. Meeting adjourned 8:27 pm.

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer