

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL OF VILLAGE OF EAST
SPARTA, COUNTY OF STARK AND STATE OF OHIO HELD IN THE
MUNICIPAL BUILDING ON MARCH 19, 2008.**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm, with the following members present; Mayor Jackie Truax, Council Members Michael Caudill, Chris Freitag, Marlene Gray, Robert Smith and Clerk-Treasurer Rice. Visitors included; Chief Hager, Robert Cyperski, Lee Strad, Doug Baum, David Ross, Scott Muir, Nancy Collier, Ron Morrow, Dave Collier, Mike Schillig, Charles Hall, Don Charnetzky, Louie Grooms, Esta Wolford.

Collier addressed Council. Collier stated that Charles Hall, legal council, would be speaking on behalf of the fire department. Hall stated that everyone knows how costs have risen over the years and that the fire department is having a hard time coping with the increases in expenses without an increase in funding. Hall stated that the department is asking the Village for a sum of \$18,000.00 for 2008. Hall stated that if a contract could not be reached by the next Council meeting that the department would be forced to stop providing fire protection to the Village. Caudill stated that he would like a public statement that the fire department would not respond to a fire in the Village. Hall would not make such a statement and neither would Collier. Hall was informed that the Village does not have an extra \$8,000.00(the old contract was for \$10,000.00). Hall stated that \$900.00 a month was not sufficient and that the department would no longer provide fire protection for this amount. Council informed Hall that in November the department had stated that they would work with the Village and would accept the \$10,000.00 for 2008 and that the Village would place another levy on the ballot after the 1.25 passed to get closer to the 2.0 mill requested. Hall stated that he was not in attendance and this was not the case now.

Caudill made motion to enter in Executive Session, seconded by Smith. Roll call 4 Yea, 0 Nay, Executive Session entered at 7:45pm. Smith made motion to exit Executive Session, seconded by Freitag. Roll cal 4 Yea, 0 Nay, session exited 8:00pm.

Council offered the fire department \$13,000.00 for 2008. Hall stated that he would take to the Executive Board. Hall stated that the board will probably accept the \$13,000.00 but also wants a commitment of one of two items. First, the Executive Board wants Council to commit to placing a 2.0 mill levy on the November Ballot. Second, the Board wants Council to commit the funds they will receive from the annexation of the Tile Plant to the fire department if the Council will not commit to a 2.0 mill levy. Council informed Hall that they will NOT commit the funds from the Tile Plant and also that they will not commit to placing a 2.0 mill levy on the ballot. Council stated that they would discuss the amount of the levy to be placed on the ballot and would make the decision based on what is best for the residents of the Village. Hall agreed and stated that he would have a contract sent to Cyperski within the next couple of days.

Smith made motion to adjourn, seconded by Caudill. Meeting adjourned 8:15pm.

MAYOR

Clerk-Treasurer