

**INDIAN LAKE OHIO  
VILLAGE OF RUSSELLS POINT  
COUNCIL MEETING**

**MEETING MINUTES  
March 2, 2015**

Mayor Reames called the Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Ms. Kelly Huffman, absent; Ms. Marie Hendel, present; President Pro-Tem, Mr. John Huffman, present; Ms. Joan Maxwell, present; Ms. Libby Stidam, present; Mr. Dave Wallace, present.

Recorder: Fiscal Officer Jeff Weidner

Guests: Ms. Sharon DeVault, 209 E. Elliot, Russells Point  
Ms. Kaci Draper, 704 Grand Ave., Russells Point  
Mr. Rob Eshenbaugh, Solicitor  
Mr. Greg Iiams, 211 Clermont, Russells Point  
Ms. Nikki Smith, 704 Grand Ave., Russells Point

Minutes: **February 16, 2015**

*Ms. Joan Maxwell moved to approve the February 16, 2015 Council Meeting Minutes. Mr. John Huffman seconded the motion.*

*The Vote: Ms. Marie Hendel, yea; Mr. John Huffman, yea; Ms. Joan Maxwell, yea; Ms. Libby Stidam, yea; Mr. Dave Wallace, yea.*

*The motion passed: 5 yeas – 0 nays.*

Reports: **Mayor's Report** –

The February 2015 statement for Mayor's Court showing Village revenue of \$279.00 was presented to Council for approval.

*Ms. Joan Maxwell moved to approve the February 2015 Mayor's Court Statement as submitted. Mr. Dave Wallace seconded the motion.*

*The Vote: Ms. Marie Hendel, yea; Mr. John Huffman, yea; Ms. Joan Maxwell, yea; Ms. Libby Stidam, yea; Mr. Dave Wallace, yea.*

*The motion passed: 5 yeas – 0 nays.*

**Indian Joint Fire District Report** –

Ms. Maxwell reported on the recent fire board meeting.

**Solicitor's Report** –

Mr. Eshenbaugh has been contacted by Mr. Mike Kerns, owner of 229 W. Main, in regards to the \$8,688.25 lien that was placed on the property taxes in 2013, when the village removed the remainder of a structure on the property due to safety concerns. Mr. Kerns has since refused to pay the tax lien. Since the lien is still outstanding, all requests for permits have been denied by the village. Mr. Kerns argues that the village placed more work into the tear down project than was necessary and has offered \$800 to the village to clear the lien from the property taxes.

Mr. Eshenbaugh has also been in contact with the LC Prosecutor, Mr. Bill Goslee regarding the lien. Another option to resolve the issue is to foreclose on the property through the LC Treasurers Office. Council was asked, if they wish to go this route, if they would be willing to help pay to have a title search done, which would be around \$500.00. Once the title search is done the property may go to Sheriffs Sale and the \$500.00 would be returned through proceeds of the sale.

*Ms. Joan Maxwell made a motion to proceed with the foreclosure option and approve the expenditure of the costs associated with the title search. Mr. John Huffman seconded the motion.*

*The Vote: Ms. Marie Hendel, yea; Mr. John Huffman, yea; Ms. Joan Maxwell, yea; Ms. Libby Stidam, yea; Mr. Dave Wallace, yea.*

*The motion passed: 5 yeas – 0 nays.*

**Police Report** –

- One of the gators was used after a snowmobile accident to get through the field to the victim.
- Chief Freyhof informed council of two separate accidents involving the 2012 cruiser. The first accident involved Sargent Fenwick backing into a light pole and placing a small hole in the rear bumper. The second incident involved Officer Bowman who slid on ice in the R.P. Post Office parking lot hitting the stationary mailbox near the exit. This incident caused approximately \$7,300 worth of damage to the front driver’s side. The accident has been reported to the insurance company and both incidents have been formally documented.
- A request for an extension has been filed with the Dept. of Justice to extend the remaining time allowed to use the grant funds under which Officer Bowman is employed. The extension is needed due to the time lost during the original hire after receiving the grant, as well as time lost between the resignation of Officer Hostetler and the hiring of Officer Bowman.

*Mr. John Huffman made a motion to move into Executive Session at 7:33 p.m. to discuss disciplinary action of an employee or public official. Ms. Joan Maxwell seconded the motion.*

*The Vote: Ms. Marie Hendel, yea; Mr. John Huffman, yea; Ms. Joan Maxwell, yea; Ms. Libby Stidam, yea; Mr. Dave Wallace, yea.*

*The motion passed: 5 yeas – 0 nays.*

*Mr. John Huffman made a motion to go out of Executive Session at 7:56 p.m. Mr. Dave Wallace seconded the motion.*

*The Vote: Ms. Marie Hendel, yea; Mr. John Huffman, yea; Ms. Joan Maxwell, yea; Ms. Libby Stidam, yea; Mr. Dave Wallace, yea.*

*The motion passed: 5 yeas – 0 nays.*

**ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS:**

**A. Ordinance 15-1115, Storm Water Rate Structure**

**AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A STORM WATER RATE STRUCTURE TO PROVIDE FOR THE OPERATION, MAINTENANCE, AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE STORM WATER SYSTEM IN THE VILLAGE OF RUSSELLS POINT, LOGAN COUNTY, OHIO.**

*Mr. Dave Wallace made a motion to send the Ordinance to the Rules & Ordinance Committee for further discussion prior to the first reading. Mr. John Huffman seconded the motion.*

*The Vote: Ms. Marie Hendel, yea; Mr. John Huffman, yea; Ms. Joan Maxwell, yea; Ms. Libby Stidam, yea; Mr. Dave Wallace, yea.*

*The motion passed: 5 yeas – 0 nays.*

A Rules & Ordinance Committee meeting was set for March 30, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

**A. Ms. Nikki Smith, 704 Grand Ave., Russells Point**

Ms. Smith addressed council in regards to three parcels adjoining her property in which she would like to purchase. There are property tax assessments for mowing on the parcels totaling \$3,076.80. Ms. Smith asked if council would consider waiving the assessment fees to make the property more affordable.

Council agreed that waiving these fees may open the door for future like requests. These fees are placed on the property taxes for the purpose of recouping village costs and should not be waived.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

A. Clean Ohio Open Space Meeting

A Clean Ohio Committee meeting was scheduled for March 30, 2015 at 6:15 p.m. to discuss a ribbon cutting for the Indian Lake/Great Miami River Open Space Project.

B. Dump Truck

Council was informed that due to the extreme low temperatures, which affect the ability to sandblast the truck frame, repairs will take longer than expected.

C. Consolidated Care Meetings

There are three more sessions left with the current group as originally scheduled. Consolidated Care is considering offering an additional two groups with six sessions each. The dates are unknown at this time, but they would like to use the village facilities if possible.

D. New Phone System

The new phone system has been installed in the municipal building. Time Warner has been contacted to get an updated quote to switch from CenturyLink to Time Warner as the carrier.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Logan County CDBG Grant Applications

Council was provided with copies of the CDBG grant application forms. The village may submit as many projects for funding as they wish. Mayor Reames noted that if anyone has any ideas that they would like to try to obtain grant monies for to complete the application for submittal.

B. CCA Tax Preparation

A representative from CCA will be at the municipal building on March 10, 2015 from 5-7 p.m. to help residents complete their municipal income tax forms free of charge. The information has been advertised through multiple media outlets and will be placed on the marquee sign in front of the municipal building.

C. Newly Obtained Gators

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the four gators received through the Federal 1033 program and the lack of information to council prior to obtaining them. Council questioned what these vehicles would be used for, the travel & payroll costs involved along with which department budget the expenses should be paid, and the legality of using them on village roadways. Various uses were mentioned during the discussion only to bring forth further questions. Council asked that the Street Superintendent be present at the next council meeting to discuss his thoughts on the uses of the gators in relationship to the street and water department.

*Mr. John Huffman made a motion to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Ms. Marie Hendel.*  
The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Next Ordinance: 14-1115 Next Resolution: 14-808

Scheduled Meetings:

A. **Council Meeting: Monday, March 16, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.**

B. Board of Public Affairs Meeting: Monday, March 9, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.

---

Fiscal Officer Jeff Weidner

---

Mayor Robin Reames

---

Date Passed