

**INDIAN LAKE, OHIO  
VILLAGE OF RUSSELLS POINT  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
OCTOBER 7, 2024**

Mayor Reames called the Meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. with recital of the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:**

*Ms. Joan Hinterschied, Present; Mr. John Huffman, Present; Mr. Greg Iiams, Present; Ms. Joan Maxwell, Present; Mr. Dave Wallace, Present; Mr. Steve Reid, Present.*

**RECORDER:** AshLee Hullinger, Administrative Assistant

**GUESTS:**

- Dianne Gauder, Zoning Officer/ Floodplain Admin.
- Sue Pitts, Russells Point
- Ann Elleman, Russells Point
- Greg Vosler, Russells Point
- Tracy Vosler, Russells Point
- Nate Smith, Bellefontaine Examiner
- Daniel Bey, Village Solicitor
- Rebekah Smith, Russells Point
- Tyler Thobe, Choice One Engineering
- Jason Smith, Open Road Renewables
- Melissa Miller, Russells Point
- Kelly Huffman, Russells Point
- Lindsey Huffman, Russells Point
- Taylor Huffman, Russells Point
- Brandon Bingham, Belle Center Village Administrator

**MINUTES:**

**September 16, 2024 - Council Meeting Minutes**

*Joan Maxwell moved to approve September 16, 2024, Council Meeting Minutes as submitted.  
Seconded by Ms. Joan Hinterschied.*

**Roll Call Vote:**

*Mr. Greg Iiams, Yea; Ms. Joan Maxwell, Yea; Mr. Dave Wallace, Yea; Mr. Steve Reid, Yea.  
Ms. Joan Hinterschied, Yea; John Huffman, Yea.  
Motion Passed 6 Yeas - 0 Nays*

**September 19, 2024 - Emergency Council Meeting Minutes**

*John Huffman moved to approve September 19, 2024, Emergency Council Meeting Minutes as submitted.*

*Seconded by Joan Hinterschied.*

**Roll Call Vote:**

*Mr. Greg Iiams, Yea; Ms. Joan Maxwell, Yea; Mr. Dave Wallace, Yea; Mr. Steve Reid, Yea.*

*Ms. Joan Hinterschied, Yea; John Huffman, Yea.*

*Motion Passed 6 Yeas - 0 Nays*

**Reports:**

**Fiscal Officer:** Mayor Reames Stated due to the change in Fiscal Officer position, our new Interim Fiscal Officer Rich Ford, will have a report ready to be presented at the next Council Meeting.

**Mayors Court:** John Huffman moved to approve the Mayor's Court Report as submitted.

*Seconded by Greg Iiams.*

**Roll Call Vote:**

*Mr. Greg Iiams, Yea; Ms. Joan Maxwell, Yea; Mr. Dave Wallace, Yea; Mr. Steve Reid, Yea.*

*Ms. Joan Hinterschied, Yea; John Huffman, Yea.*

*Motion Passed 6 Yeas - 0 Nays*

**Water Report:** Mayor Reames stated that Dan Tynan Water Superintendent is waiting for two more quotes to repair pump #1. He will present the quotes at the next meeting.

**IJFD:** None

**Parks and Recs Report:**

**Joan Hinterschied:** Stated that The Splash Pad Community is applying for a grant in November, the grant will pay 50% of the project, which they have budgeted at \$150,000. It would pay \$75,000 and the Village of Russells Point match would be 50% of which we now have \$66,000. They are waiting for an answer from the Nature Works Grant and are hoping to get approximately \$10,000 from them. Ms. Hinterschied said, an answer is expected sometime this month. There was a discussion about an ordinance that will be brought to the council at the next meeting. The resolution is about needing to make the appropriation to the donation the Village has received from the Department of Developmental Disabilities.

**Police Department:** Chief Joe Freyhof spoke about Safety Town. It is provided through a collaboration with Indian Lake Elementary School and instructors from the Russells Point Police and Washington Township Police Departments. Lessons provide safety tips to kindergarteners each fall. The program includes pedestrian safety, traffic signals and signs, fire safety, good and bad touch, getting in cars with strangers, and the hazards of drugs

among other things. Officers from the Ohio Division of Natural Resources and Wildlife will offer additional gun safety, boating, water, and park safety. Chief Freyhof went on to say that they added Archery to the program this year and the kids seemed to really enjoy it. There were 90 kids that received the Safety Town Certificate and a T-shirt this year.

Chief Freyhof stated that he and Sgt. Morgan Styles successfully completed their L.E.T.S Training where Sgt. Styles became Range Certified to conduct Range qualifications for officers. Chief Joe Freyhof became an instructor on V.R. training for Crisis Intervention.

Chief Freyhof gave an update on the 2024 Homecoming parade, stating that the weather was beautiful, and everything went very well.

Chief Freyhof informed the council that Narcan boxes have been mounted in the men's and women's Restrooms at the Village Pantry in Russells Point. The boxes will be replenished by the Logan County Health Department as needed.

Chief Freyhof spoke on the Children's Services Levy Stating " Children's Service Renewal of a tax for the Benefit of Logan County for the purpose of supporting children's services and the care, protection and placement of abused, neglected and dependent children that the county auditor estimates will collect \$2600,000 annually, at a rate not to exceed 2.15 mills for each \$1 of taxable value, which amounts to \$75 for each \$100,000 of the county auditor's appraised value, for 5 years, commencing in 2024, first due in calendar year 2025." Chief Freyhof added the Children's Services funds a lot of different community programs that help local children. Drew Shick at the Outreach Centers does an amazing job with the kids and community. If you would like signs to place in your yard to support the Levy, please see Chief Freyhof.

#### **Citizens' Comments:**

**Brandon Bingham**, Belle Center Village Administrator, talked about Local Government Funds Distribution, and how they are distributed to the state. He would like to see a change in the way the amounts are distributed.

Mr. Bingham presented A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF AN ALTERNATIVE METHOD OF A APPORTIONING THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND. Mr. Bingham stated the last time this issue was visited was in 1997. Mr. Bingham went on to say The Village of Belle Center has voted to pass the Resolution and hopes to get many of the other villages and townships on the same side to help pass the resolution to the state. The Village of Belle Center would like to see the funds distributed by population compared to the budget base it is at now.

**Mayor Reames** Said that the Council and the Village Solicitor Daniel Bey will go over the paperwork that Mr. Bingham presented, and someone would be in touch.

#### **Ordinances and Resolutions:**

##### **A. Ordinance 24-1245: Signature Authorization on Accounts**

*John Huffman made a motion to waive the 3 Reading rule and declare an emergency.*

*Seconded by Joan Hinterschied*

##### **Roll Call Vote:**

*Mr. Greg liams, Yea; Ms. Joan Maxwell, Yea; Mr. Dave Wallace, Yea; Mr. Steve Reid, Yea;*

*Ms. Joan Hinterschied, Yea; John Huffman, Yea.*

*Motion Passed 6 Yeas - 0 Nays*

*Greg liams made a motion to approve as amended. Removing the old general revenue fund account.*

*Seconded by Joan Hinterschied*

*Discussion: Dave Wallace stated that we need to add the safety deposit box to this as well.*

**Roll Call Vote:**

*Mr. Greg liams, Yea; Ms. Joan Maxwell, Yea; Mr. Dave Wallace, Yea; Mr. Steve Reid, Yea.*

*Ms. Joan Hinterschied, Yea; John Huffman, Yea.*

*Motion Passed 6 Yeas - 0 Nays*

- B. Resolution 24-1042:** Resolution accepting the amounts and rates as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary Tax Levies and Certifying them to the County Auditor

*Greg liams made a motion to waive the 3-reading rule declaring an emergency.*

*Seconded by Joan Maxwell.*

**Roll Call Vote:**

*Mr. Greg liams, Yea; Ms. Joan Maxwell, Yea; Mr. Dave Wallace, Yea; Mr. Steve Reid, Yea.*

*Ms. Joan Hinterschied, Yea; John Huffman, Yea.*

*Motion Passed 6 Yeas - 0 Nays*

*Greg liams made a motion to accept Resolution 24-1042 by title.*

*Seconded by Joan Hinterschied.*

**Roll Call Vote:**

*Mr. Greg liams, Yea; Ms. Joan Maxwell, Yea; Mr. Dave Wallace, Yea; Mr. Steve Reid, Yea.*

*Ms. Joan Hinterschied, Yea; John Huffman, Yea*

*Motion Passed 6 Yeas - 0 Nays*

- C. Resolution 24-1043:** Resolution to approve StarOhio as an allowed investment with the Fiscal Officer and the Mayor having access to the account.

*This Resolution was tabled due to not having enough information on the Resoltion 24-1043 StarOhio investments. It is to be brought up in a future meeting.*

**Old Business:**

**Yard Waste:** Mayor Reames expressed her concerns regarding the village yard waste collection area, stating that it needs to be better monitored and that people bringing yard waste will need to provide their water bill or something with their address to show that they reside in the Village in order to drop yard waste off at the collection area.

**Part-Time Hire:** Mayor Reames brought to the Council's attention that there have been a couple applications turned in for the Part-Time Parks and Rec Position. One has stood out to her and that is the application of Brandon Puckett. With Puckett being an Officer on the Russells Point Police Department, Chief Joe Freyhof gave his blessing and thinks it would be very beneficial to the Village.

The Interim Fiscal Officer Rich Ford is going to investigate the benefit details to make sure there is no conflict with his current Officer benefits and the part-time benefits for the Parks and Rec position.

**New Business:**

**Junk Day:** Mayor Reames asked the council to consider a junk day for fall clean up.

**Tyler Thobe Choice One:** Tyler explained that Helms and Sons is 70-80% finished with the Storm Drainage Project they hope to be finished at the end of October. There are plans to open the intersection of 33 and N. Orchard Island Road by the 25<sup>th</sup> of October, but Mr. Thobe is hoping for a sooner date, as long as everything goes as planned.

**Steve Reid** expressed his concerns to Mr. Thobe about the local business losing money during this time of road closure. Mr. Thobe reassured Mr. Reid that Choice One will put some pressure on Helms and Sons Engineering to get the project done quickly.

**Safety Deposit Box:** To be placed on the Ordinance 24-1245.

**Metal Detecting:** Mayor Reames stated there is to be no metal detecting done in the parks or public lands owned by the Village of Russells Point, due to the preservation of the plants that were planted here to help the wildlife.

**Money Market Account:** To be discussed once Council has more information on the matter.

**Swearing-In of new Mayor:** at 8:00 P.M, former Mayor Greg liams, swore in President Pro Tem John Huffman as the new Mayor of the Village of Russells Point, Ohio.

**Next Council meeting-** Monday, October 21, 2024, At 7:00 P.M.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

*Joan Maxwell made a motion to adjourn at 8:02 P.M. Joan Hinterschied seconded the motion. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:02 P.M.*

Next Ordinance-24-1246

Next resolution 24-1044

Mayor John Huffman  Date Passed 10-21-24

Recorder: AshLee Hullinger, Administrative Assistant 