



Village of Risingsun

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REGULAR MEETING | TOWN HALL | FEBRUARY 25, 2025

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 p.m. by Rick Whetsel

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

John Dierksheide	Mike Thomas	Dan Conner	Tim Woodruff	Earl Morse	Juanieta Rodriguez
P	P	P	P	A	P

GUESTS – Denise Beck (Free Library / Book Exchange Box & Wildflower Garden)
Denise spoke about putting a free library / book exchange box on the corner of her property next to St. Paul's church. She also asked if there were any objections to her establishing a wildflower garden on her property. The council didn't object or see any reason not to allow.

MAYOR'S REMARKS. – (Rick Whetsel)

- 3 Resolutions this evening:
 - 1 – Resolution to enter into the cooperative purchasing program thru the state.
 - 2 – Street Levy Resolution for Necessity Renewal– 1st Read
 - 3 – Park Levy Resolution for Necessity New (as old levy was not renewed) – 1st Read
- The Sandusky County Visitors Board phoned in to invite the village in participating in the GOBA event (Great Ohio Bike Adventure).

MOTION: Accept minutes from previous meeting December 17, 2024.

1st: Rodriguez. 2nd: Thomas

All in favor – Y

FISCAL OFFICERS REPORT and FINANCE COMM. – Gena Rathburn, Fiscal Officer / Clerk (Comm. Morse, Rodriguez, Dierksheide)

MOTION: To accept emailed reports/financials.

- 1st Dierksheide 2nd Rodriguez

All in favor (yes) Motion passed

STREET COMM. – (Conner, Woodruff, Thomas) – Mike Cox “Town Man” – St. Dept.

- Mayor Whetsel asked the Street Comm. to get with Gena and put together job description(s) and a paid leave schedule for Street Dept. and Fiscal Officer position(s).
- Heater in Police / Maintenance Bay wouldn't light. Bob's heating was out to fix as well as installed a switch in the lobby of the hall.
- Have about 1000# of salt on the truck. Hoping that gets me through the year.
- Per Jake at Bob's Plumbing and Heating.
\$1200. to \$1400. for a new 30 gal. water heater in the park building.
- He's still waiting for a limit switch for the Town Hall building. On back order.
- Been working on remodel of the bathrooms. Ground the floors down to bare and patched some concrete in preparation for Epoxy floor. Painted the walls and ceiling in bathrooms and repainted the walls in the hall. Had 8 gallons of paint left from when the Firefighters repainted the truck bays. They said that we could have it since it was about 15 years old. Still have about 4 gallons left.
- Bought new vanities and sinks. I'm not sure how the old ones didn't fall off the wall. The mounts just crumbled when we pulled the sinks off. The vanities are the cheapest Menards had to offer. Probably will only last a few years but I can build better out of solid wood when I have more time.
- Removed the stall dividers and took them to my shop. In the process of refinishing them. They are historical to the building so I will do all I can to keep them.
- Hopefully will have the floors done by the time of this meeting.
- Have been discussing with Gena the feasibility of moving the street department completely out of the town hall to the bus garage, making the space available to the PD. Not sure how that will affect the finances since the Street Dept. pays part of the bills for the building.

FIRE DEPT. – Chief Mike Cox.

- Staffing / Will be sending 2 - 3 FF to a Free Fire Academy Jeff Skaggs, Johnathon Ropper, Emma Holman.
- Assistant
Chief Open
Position: Kyrt Myers was the only applicant so we opted out of the interview process per the new policy. I would make it my official recommendation that Captain Kyrt Myers be officially promoted to Assistant Chief.
- Job
descriptions: New job descriptions have been submitted for the positions of Captain and lieutenant. They are basically the same as the Assistant Chief. I would like to get those approved so that we can move forward with appointing those positions.
- Grants: Not yet awarded. However, we were told at the officer symposium that there were way more requests than they have funding for this year. So not holding my breath
- Training: February training was an introduction to incident command, scene size up and decision making.
Instructor was Paul Perry from Troy Twp. and Penta.
- Inventory of
assets: Your Firefighters are currently doing a complete inventory of village assets and cataloging them with serial numbers to provide better tracking of equipment.
This is a continuing project that will likely take a few months.
- Tablets: The new tablets were purchased and assigned to Chief/Mike, Captains/Kyrt and Perry Engineer/Tyler.
They worked well for rig check night and I know at least Tyler has been putting his to good use tracking maintenance.
- Officer
Symposium: The officer symposium was very informative. We learned several things involving the maintenance of our turnout gear as well as workman's comp, incident Reporting, Fire code and a lot of other things.
- Station
upkeep: There have been a lot of station maintenance and housekeeping improvements happening. Several members have really stepped up.
Also, would like to thank Patrick Shall for Small Town Washers for pressure washing our bay floors over the weekend.

POLICE DEPT. – Chief Shawn Beckley

- No Report

ZONING REPORT – David Feahr (President of Zoning Board)

- Would like to remove B. Decker from Zoning Board as she has missed 3 meetings now. Mayor Whetsel to get with C. Speweik to discuss the 3-meeting rule.
- Rodriguez discussed looking into developing an ordinance to have "Dangerous Dogs" removed from the Village. Mayor Whetsel to discuss this with C. Speweik.

FINANCE COMM. – *Nothing to report*

OLD BUSINESS:

- Route 23 property is still being worked on Mayor Whetsel will be working on this in 2025.
- Fire Auxiliary – Deadline will be in March.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Motion to approve Job Descriptions for 1st and 2nd Captain as well as 2nd Lieutenant. **
In amended form minor change needed **
1st: Dierksheide 2nd: Thomas AIF yes
No Vote / Abstain: Morse Absent
- Motion to approve Kurt Myers for the position of Asst. Chief of the Risingsun Fire Department.
1st: Thomas 2nd: Rodriguez AIF yes
No Vote / Abstain: Morse Absent
- Resolution 2025-001 A Resolution Authorizing the Village to Participate in the State of Ohio Cooperative Purchasing Program
MOTION: To approve Res. 2025-001
1st Rodriguez 2nd Dierksheide AIF yes
No Vote / Abstain: Morse Absent
- **1st Read:** Resolution 2025-002 A Resolution of Necessity to RENEW the 5-year 2.0 mill levy in excess of the ten-mill limit which was passed in 2020 for the repair to streets roads and bridges within the village.
MOTION: To approve Res. 2025-002
1st Rodriguez 2nd Thomas AIF Y No Vote/Abstain: Morse Absent
Rodriguez – Y, Woodruff – Y, Thomas – Y, Conner – Y, Dierksheide Y
- **1st Read:** Resolution 2025-003 A Resolution of Necessity to enact an additional five-year .5 mill levy in excess of the ten-mill limitation for the maintenance and improvement of village park land.
MOTION: To approve Res. 2025-003
1st Dierksheide 2nd Conner AIF yes
No Vote/Abstain: Morse Absent
Rodriguez – Y, Woodruff – Y, Thomas – Y, Conner – Y, Dierksheide Y

- Motion to Hire: Brian Mcconatha as the Risingsun Village Zoning Inspector at the rate of \$100./ mth for 12 mths.

1st Rodriguez 2nd Thomas

AIF yes Abstain: Morse Absent

- The Sandusky County Visitors Board reached out to ask we would open up the village and supply water and Gatorade for the GOBA event (Great Ohio Bike Adventure). The event will take place Saturday – June 21st from 8a.m. until Noon. We will be asking all village associations to come together and create a welcoming “pit stop” for these riders, as they make their way from Fremont to Bowling Green. There is a meeting March 18th in Fremont, Mayor Whetsel or a delegate will be attending. We will need some information to take to this meeting so we will be reaching out to all parties involved. Any ideas for the fund raising would be welcomed.

MOTION: To Adjourn 1st Dierksheide 2nd Rodriguez All in favor (yes) motion passed.

Next Meeting: Next Meeting March 25th, 2025 @ 6:30p.m. Town Hall

Finance Meeting: March 25th, 2025 @ 5:45p.m.



Gena Rathburn
Fiscal Officer / Clerk



Rick Whetsel
Mayor