

VILLAGE OF MADISON
Regular Council Meeting
April 14, 2025

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Mayor Britton called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

Mayor Britton invited all in attendance to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Mayor Britton requested that everyone observe a moment of silence. Council Members Mr. Adams, Mr. Donaldson, Ms. Drown, Mr. Lee and Mr. Vest were in attendance. Also in attendance were Acting Administrator Mr. Jason Chapman, Law Director Mr. Szeman, Fiscal Officer Kristie Crockett, Assistant Village Engineer Tommy Somogyi and Chief of Police Troy McIntosh. Village Engineer Eric Haibach was not in attendance.

PUBLIC HEARING: None

MINUTES

Mayor Britton announced minutes to be approved for the Council Meeting held on March 24, 2025.

Motion for approval made by Mr. Vest, seconded by Mr. Donaldson.

Questions/Discussions – None

Roll call on approval, 5 yeas. Motion carried.

In order for visitors to speak first rather than attend the entire meeting, Mayor Britton decided to move the around the agenda.

FINAL HEARING OF PERSONS BEFORE COUNCIL:

Shirley Mather (941 W. Main Street) – Mrs. Mather stated that she received her first water bill from the Lake County Department of Utilities. She stated she was shocked with the amount due. She also spoke with several of her neighbors that have high bills and their bills were almost identical. She also stated that she has one friend that was gone for the entire billing period and her bill was high as well.

Mr. Chapman stated that he can't comment on why their bills were the same and how residents use their water, everyone has different habits.

He and Mayor Britton stated that there is a minimum usage bill through the Lake County Department of Utilities.

Councilman Donaldson stated there is a charge for being hooked up to the system, there is a minimum charge and a sewer charge.

Mrs. Crockett provided the County's rate structure that she took from their website. Plus, the Village surcharge is added to the bill. The surcharge hasn't changed, it is the old CIF charge(s) that were always on the bill.

Mr. Vest added that the way the Village would bill their sewer was based on how much water a customer used. Lake County Department of Utilities does not do it that way. They charge a flat rate regardless of what you use.

He reminded all that the CIF charges are still on the bill, just renamed as the Village Surcharge. This is to take care of the loans that were previously taken out and the loan that was used to pay for the interconnect. He stated that this although “not nice”, it was the better choice. With what had to be done to the Wastewater Treatment Plant per the EPA would have been astronomical. He also stated that we (the Village) tried to get the County take the debt, however; they would not.

Mrs. Crockett stated that low volume users are going to have a higher bill from the County versus what the Village’s bills were. The residents that will see a savings are going to be the higher volume users because of the sewer charge.

She stated that if you are a resident that is sixty-five (65) or older, the County does offer a discount program for these utilities.

Ms. Drown reiterated how important this program is for our residents to help off set the cost of the bills. A notice will be put on the Village’s website as well as the FaceBook page.

Mrs. Crockett confirmed that the meter charge on the bill is around \$0.08 or \$0.09 a day.

Walt Richardson (700 E. Main Street) – Mr. Richardson stated he call the Lake County Department of Utilities at 8:30 a.m. and the clerk stated she was already having a bad day due to the volume of phone calls they were receiving. She thanked him for being nice to her!

He stated that a little more information regarding the sewer charge would have been helpful to the residents. He also thinks that residents aren’t realizing that the Madison Surcharge is the CIF charges that have always been on the bills.

Mrs. Crockett added that the current bills the residents received from Lake County aren’t typical because of the billing period from when their bill was finialed out from the Village to the end service date with Lake County. This first bill isn’t a typical ninety (90) day cycle.

Mr. Adams concurred with Mr. Vest in that if the Village would have upgraded the Wastewater Treatment Plant, the cost incurred would be too much for the residents to absorb.

PAY ORDINANCE

Mayor Britton presented Pay Ordinance No. 2521: \$133,918.51 for payroll and \$117,976.00 for current and upcoming expenses, for a total of \$251,894.51.

Motion for approval made by Mr. Lee, seconded by Ms. Drown.

Questions/Discussions – None

Roll call on approval, 5 yeas. Motion carried.

OLD LEGISLATION: None

NEW LEGISLATION:

ORDINANCE NO. 11-2025: AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE NORTHEAST OHIO PUBLIC ENERGY COUNCIL (NOPEC) FOR THE 2025 ENERGIZED COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM, TO PERFORM ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. (1st Reading)

Motion for suspension made by Mr. Vest, seconded by Mr. Lee.

Questions/Discussion: None

Roll call on the motion: 5 yeas. Motion carried.

Motion for passage made by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Donaldson.

Questions/Discussion: None

Roll call on the motion: 5 yeas. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 12-2025: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT PURSUANT TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM FOR ROAD SALT CONTRACTS AWARDED IN 2025; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. (1st Reading)

Motion for suspension made by Mr. Vest, seconded by Ms. Drown.

Questions/Discussion: Mr. Chapman confirmed that there is currently approximately one hundred fifty (150) tons left over. On average, this is less than what is typically on hand. He explained that ODOT is offering a summer fill which they normally do not do. The salt for the summer fill cost less than a winter fill. He confirmed that there is no cost for storage.

Roll call on the motion: 5 yeas. Motion carried.

Motion for passage made by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Lee.

Questions/Discussion: None

Roll call on the motion: 5 yeas. Motion carried.

PURCHASE ORDERS AND OTHER APPROVAL PERMITTED BY MOTION:

A purchase order to Smith Electrical Contracting in the amount of \$15,800.00 for replacement of bulbs, GFI outlets and rewiring (as needed) for Main Street & Village Park decorative light poles.

Motion for approval made by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Donaldson.

Questions/Discussion: Mr. Chapman stated that this is in conjunction with the NOPEC legislation that was just passed (Ordinance No. 11-2025). The Village still has money available from 2023 & 2024 which will be used for this purchase order. We can then apply for 2025 funds.

He explained that the decorative light poles throughout Main Street and the Village Square Park have high pressure sodium lights in them with ballasts which are very expensive to run and very expensive to replace. The Contractor will replace these with daylight LEDs with no ballast. Some of the poles have wire that need to be replaced. The outlets on the poles need to be GFIs, some of them are not. The Contractor will replace the outlets that are not GFIs.

Mrs. Crockett explained the billing process with NOPEC.

Roll call on the motion: 5 yeas. Motion carried.

A purchase order to John Jones Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram in the amount not to exceed \$46,000.00 for a 2025 Dodge Durango AWD – Pursuit Package to replace 2017 or 2018 Dodge Charger to be retired from patrol.

Chief McIntosh stated that the car is in stock. After the outfitting of it, it would potentially be on the road in July 2025.

Chief McIntosh stated that in a few months, he will have no idea of what the condition of the 2017 & 2018 vehicles will be in.

The 2017 Charger currently has 82,013 miles on it and the 2018 Charger currently has 84,109 miles on it.

Mr. Vest stated that he feels like these vehicles are not holding up to the standards that he thinks they should.

A brief discussion took place on what repairs would be necessary for both of these vehicles.

Chief McIntosh confirmed that there are eight (8) marked patrol cars and one (1) unmarked unit. This does include the 2017 & 2018 Chargers. He stated that there is one Explorer left that is the donor car for equipment that went into the new Dodge Durango that they just got. This Durango has not been put on GovDeals yet, it still has some equipment in it, it is still running and is still marked. Due to the problems with the 2017 & 2018 vehicles, he is keeping it just in case there may be an emergency and it will be needed. This vehicle has approximately 76,000 miles on it.

Chief McIntosh provided the years and makes of the current fleet.

A brief discussion was held regarding what the Painesville Police Department uses for their vehicles. Mr. Adams stated that he likes to have two (2) different makes of vehicles in the fleet.

Chief McIntosh confirmed that this item is in the budget.

Motion for approval made by Ms. Drown, seconded by Mr. Adams.

Questions/Discussion: None

Roll call on the motion: 4 yeas. 1 nay. Mr. Vest voted no. Motion carried.

A purchase order to Statewide Emergency Products in the amount of \$20,323.00 for emergency equipment to be installed by dealer on 2025 Durango Pursuit vehicle being purchased.

Motion for approval made by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Vest.

Questions/Discussion: None

Roll call on the motion: 5 yeas. Motion carried.

A purchase order to MPH Industries, Inc. in the amount of \$2,558.00 for the PHD BEE III – 2KA Radar Unit to be installed in the new cruiser arriving in 2nd or 3rd quarter.

Motion for approval made by Mr. Lee, seconded by Mr. Vest.

Questions/Discussion: Chief McIntosh stated that this will go into the new cruiser instead of taking one out of the old Charger. The age of the old units are approximately fifteen (15) years old.

Chief McIntosh confirmed that this item is in the budget.

Roll call on the motion: 5 yeas. Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

➤ Engineer's report –

Mr. Somogyi reported that they are working on finalizing the cost for the Waste Water Treatment Plant.

➤ Fiscal Officer's report –

Mrs. Crockett reported that earlier in the day between herself, Mr. Chapman & Mrs. Grafton they took over eighty (80) phone calls regarding utility bills. She stated that we are more than willing to work with our residents and explain the process of the transfer of the utility bills. We are also working with Lake County Department of Utilities to help give them as much up to date information that we can.

She wanted to reiterate that if you are sixty-five (65) or older, please contact the Lake County Department of Utilities to see if you qualify for their discount program for your utilities (water/sewer).

She thanked everyone for their patience and grace as we work through this transition. There will be a few hiccups along the way with a project of this size however; we'll work through them.

➤ **Police Chief's report –**

Chief McIntosh reported that the new telephones from Spectrum were installed on April 1, 2025 and are working well.

He reported that at the last Safety Committee meeting there was discussion about the excessive speeds and other concerns on Route 90. He is working on some strategies to help combat this. He stated that on March 28th & 29th 2025, the Officers wrote eight (8) tickets that were all in the seventy (70) mile an hour speed zone. Those tickets were because of speeding, the range was from eighty-seven (87) miles per hour up to one hundred and five (105) miles per hour.

Chief McIntosh stated that the Village Officers are patrolling Route 90 because of the excessive speeds that are happening. The Officers are not there every day however; when an Officer is patrolling Route 90, there is still another officer patrolling the rest of the Village.

He stated that he is receiving complaints from 911 calls or resident complaints regarding the excessive speeds.

He stated there are other issues in this area. Mayor Britton stated that he receives calls as well regarding safety issues.

Councilman Lee expressed his concerns regarding the safety of the Officers when patrolling Route 90.

In closing, he reported that he will be in Columbus from April 27th – 29th at a Chief's Conference.

Councilwoman Drown thanked the Madison Village Police Department for their presence. She stated that when they are patrolling the area, she notices the trucks are at a much slower speed.

Mrs. Mather suggested using a dummy car to sit on Route 90.

➤ **Administrator's report –**

Mr. Chapman thanked Mrs. Crockett & Mrs. Grafton for their help with the phone calls earlier today. He stated that he held a meeting the week prior to discuss what was coming up.

He reported that stick pick up started today. The Service Department is approximately half done with it. They will resume again in the morning.

He stated that he will get the salt ordered from ODOT since the legislation passed.

He has been working with Mr. Haibach to get the numbers finalized for the decommissioning of the Waste Water Treatment Plant.

He stated that he just received paperwork for the OPWC 26 Round for doing road repairs for next year. He will work with Mr. Haibach to get that taken care of. In closing, he reminded all that the schedule is out for the Concerts in the Park and the M.C.I.C. is still accepting donations for this.

Mr. Vest confirmed that ODOT has stated that Route 84 will be closed for ninety (90) days for the Wood Road project.

Chief McIntosh stated that there is signage to alert drivers of the closure, however; many are missing it and still driving through only to have to turn around.

COMMISSION AND COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

NEW BUSINESS

Walt Richardson (700 E. Main Street) – Mr. Richardson expressed his concerns regarding the excessive speeds on E. Main Street. He stated that he likes the idea of dummy cars.

Mayor's Report: -

Mayor Britton provided a brief update regarding the Administrator position. He feels that there is a need for a Full Time Administrator. He feels that Mr. Chapman is doing a great job and Village Hall is working well.

He stated that things will continue as is for a while, he will sit down with Mr. Chapman at a later time to discuss the position.

A motion was made by Mr. Lee, seconded by Mr. Vest to move to summer hours. This means that the first Council meeting of the month will be cancelled. Summer hours will start in May 2025 and end in September 2025. If a meeting is needed, it will be advertised before it is held.

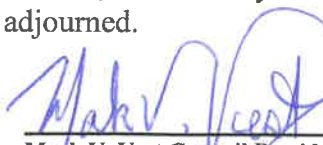
ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 7:53 pm made by Mr. Adams, seconded by Mr. Lee.

Roll call on adjournment, 5 years. Meeting adjourned.



Sam Britton Jr., Mayor



Mark V. Vest Council President



DATE

Attested:



Kristie M. Crockett, Fiscal Officer



DATE