

Village of Chauncey Council
March 13, 2024

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Amy Renner called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

PLEDGE TO FLAG – The pledge was observed by all in attendance.

ROLL CALL – Taken by Fiscal Officer

Seat 1 – Connaught Cullen, Absent

Seat 2 – Tammy Hawk, Present

Seat 3 – Karla Dellinger, Present

Seat 4 – Evelyn Nagy, Present

Seat 5 – Mike Kraus, Present

Seat 6 – Dylan Skees, Present

Mayor – Amy Renner, Present

Village Administrator – Present

Village Solicitor – Present

NEW BUSINESS

Phase 1 Sewer Project Update: Contractor has delay and will not begin until middle of April. They will begin at the plant and work there way down Converse.

Phase 2 Sewer Project Update: We have a one million dollars out there for the funding of the project. If we don't get this funding, we have options. We can get a loan for the remainder of the project and we would be able to get it out for bid in May. We will talk about this in April once we find out if we get the funding from the state. There is a 40 year no-interest loan available for the remainder of the project.

Sewer Project Ribbon Cutting: We had our ceremony on Monday. We had a great turnout. We had state representatives and county representatives.

Sewer Extension: Ohio West Virginia is currently working on the extension.

Housing Fair: Saturday the 23rd of March. We have not received any volunteers. We do not have any volunteers. Connaught Cullen, Karla Dellinger and Evelyn Nagy have volunteers. This will be at the Athens Friend Meeting in Chauncey. Noon to 3.

Rural Action AmeriCorps: Johna Metcalf from AmeriCorps was present. We have state and vista programs. The state program is a direct server, more of a hands-on service. Our vista program is a more behind-the-scenes type of service. Karla Dellinger: How about the match of the grant. Would we have to match the whole \$9,000 or how does that work. Johna: Yes, it is a match. Evelyn Nagy: Is there a wait list for the summer of 2024? Johna: Yes. Mayor Amy: Would it be

best for us to make a list of items we would want you to work on and see if you're able to help us? Johna: Yes, that would be best.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Tammy Hawk, seconded by Karla Dellinger, AIF

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of February 7th, 2024: Motion by Karla Dellinger, seconded by Connaught Cullen, AIF

Approval of March 2nd, 2024 Special Meeting-Committee on the whole): Motion by Karla Dellinger, seconded by Tammy Hawk, AIF

APPROVE FINANCES AND REPORTS FROM FISCAL OFFICER

Motion to approve the February financial statements, Dylan Skees, seconded by Mike Kraus. AIF

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTION

Ordinance 2024-2 (Third Reading) Pay to Stay: The only item we can do tonight is do the changes that was asked and recommended. We will then have to have another second reading in April. We are not allowed to make the changes and adopt. Once a change is made, per the law the village will then have to have a second reading again. Mayor Amy did provide the council with the changes. Resident question: Where does a village member go out to see what council would be voting on prior to council voting? Solicitor stated that by law, we are not required to provide a draft of the ordinance and resolution that would be passed. Motion to make the changes made by Tammy Hawk, seconded by Evelyn Nagy. AIF

Ordinance 2024-3 (Second Reading) Unlawful Discriminatory Practices: This ordinance needs to be updated/changed. We will have to do a seconded, second reading in April. Johnathan: There may be a reason to revisit this ordinance because there is currently issues with discrimination amount the state law and legislation. I do not see this changing anytime soon. The supreme court is not very fast.

Karla Dellinger: Karla's comments was typed out by her. Please see attached document.

Evelyn Nagy: Evelyn's comments was hand wrote by her. Please see attached document.

Dani: After receiving a copy, in C1 there is nothing in there says anything about source of income. The council will take a look at this. Council can postpone the reading if council would

like to look at it more. Karla Dellinger would like to make a motion to postpone the second reading today, seconded Mike Kraus. AIF

Ordinance 2024-4 Ohio Basic Code: This is an ordinance we do every year. We need to adopt this. Tammy Hawk would like to introduce the Ohio Basic Code, seconded by Connaught Cullen. AIF Tammy Hawk would like to make the motion to declare an emergency and suspend the rules so that the village is covered by the Ohio Basic Code, seconded by Mike Kraus.

Tammy Hawk: Yes

Mike Kraus: Yes

Dylan Skees: Yes

Connaught Cullen: Yes

Karla Dellinger: Yes

Evelyn Nagy: Yes

Evelyn Nagy made a motion to adopt, seconded by Dylan Skees. AIF.

Ordinance 2024-5 Water Management (First Reading): This is an effort to clean-up our ordinances. This is meant to include all of the water services we provide to the village. This is all regulated by the EPA. Tracey made the recommendation to up our penalty fees to be changed to 10%. Karla Dellinger: Under section 2: Does that mean that you can only use certain contracts within the village? This only means that they have to check with the village administrator before work can begin. Under section 6: If someone moves into a home, do they have to pay for a water tap? No, only new taps are installed. Dylan Skees: What is our current penalty for late fees? 3.82% is our current fee. Village Administrator: The late fee is usually on 10% on the first \$20.00 then it goes down to 3.5% after that. Connaught Cullen 3F: It talks about any "Authorized representative", what does that mean? Chris can appoint someone to do something. We will add different wording to make it clear. Tammy Dellinger: I want to make sure that they will not be charged double (water and sewer) for a fee that we may charge. For the reconnection fee, we do not charge if the tenant calls and asks us to shut it off for a reason. I3 needs to be removed/changed. Evelyn Nagy introduced, seconded by Mike Kraus. AIF

Ordinance 2024-6 Sewer Management (First Reading): Karla Dellinger 1B: Is that mean no porta-johns Those are fine as long as they are temporary. Mayor Amy: One thing I did want to point out is for the brewery and them not being able to put their yeast into the system. They will need to do something with it before it enters into our system. They will need to get with the EPA and be compliant. Karla Dellinger: I did find some typos. 17.3 What is the difference between the two? Mayor Amy: We will look at this. Evelyn Nagy introduced, Tammy Hawk seconded. AIF

Resolution 2024-5 Palestine Ceasefire (First Reading): Connaught Cullen would like to introduce, seconded by Evelyn Nagy. AIF. Karla Dellinger Opposed. Evelyn Nagy and Connaught Cullen put some items different items together and provided it to council. Tammy

Hawk: Maybe we could not include the number of cities and just change the wording. Karla Dellinger: The only reason I opposed was I agreed to uphold the Constitution of the United States and Ohio and the Village of Chauncey. This is way above our paygrade. I want to focus on Village issues. Mike Kraus: How does this affect the oath of office we took? Karla Dellinger: This is not within the boundaries any of those.

MAYORS REPORT

Clean-up day is April 20th. I believe it is at 10:00. The locations of the dumpsters are going to be on the Abdella Property. Karla Dellinger: Are we doing the pick-up again? As of right now we are only doing drop off due to not having any volunteers.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR

Do we have a number of roll-offs we want? We normally get 5. I will have him deliver 6.

Dan Abdella: He would like to know when he can connect to the water and sewer line so it could be a selling point for his property. Mayor Amy: I have spoke to him on the phone about this. Chris will talk to him and tell him we will work with him.

The water line on Plum Street is done. We are waiting on the EPA to test it.

Frank Campbell text me on the stop sign. I have reached out to the state about the stop sign. I'm waiting to hear back from them. We are going to have a white stop line put on the road. I am worried if we move it up no one will see the stop sign because everyone parks on that side.

The software update we are currently working on right now. We are hoping that the portal will be available starting next month. I did read the meters a week early due to the company being here and will help us with the first month.

Connaught Cullen: Did you ask about the bus routes while they do the sewer project? They are going to try to do those streets while school is not in session.

VILLAGE SOLICITOR

Chris did ask me to research about the stop sign. I have not look at this issue yet.

I have been working with Drew on the mobile home ordinance. We are still looking at this and the planning commission will review it at there next meeting. I believe that the planning commission will have a report for the village council during April's meeting.

There is continues issues with the sewer project that we are taking care of and addressing.

It was brought to my attention that various committees are asking the Mayor to come to the meetings and take the minutes. She should not be doing this. It is the responsibility of the committee to have someone take the minutes. I advise the council to not have her take minutes anymore. Council is taking on more legislation than before. If there is an issue, the committee that is around the issue. They should look at this and report back to the council. The council should not be asking the Mayor to prepare legislation. We should not be abandoning the correct order. This could come back on the village if there is a legal issue.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL

Tammy Hawk: I was asked why the newsletters are not being put in the post office. This year we mailed them to anyone who has a PO Box. I was also asked if we could do the newsletter more often, like quarterly. Thank you to Johnathan for his update to council.

Connaught Cullen: I did submit the grant for the artwork on the side of the building. We should know if we receive the grant in May.

Karla Dellinger: The emails need updated on the website. What is the time for the clean-up day? 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. They will be there until Monday morning. Can we put the clean-up day on a bright sheet of paper and post it? Yes. If anyone wants to donate to the Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday, March 30th at noon at the park). Please let me know. Do we have a timeline for when phase one of the sewer project will be completed? They are estimating it may take a year. Are we doing an annual yard sale this year? We can pick a date. It doesn't need to go through council.

Evelyn Nagy: Preparing some fundraisers for the park and I have a bike path meeting next week to find out when we will be connected to the bike path.

Mike Kraus: Are we still wanting to put the stop signs at the 4-way stops? Chris: I need to order them.

Dylan Skees: Are the bathroom doors still working properly at the park? Chris: Yes

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Harold Dellinger: Nothing

Abby Hearne: What is the discussion around the discriminator ordinance? Karla Dellinger: We are trying not to take away from one group of people and give them to another one. I tried to put a little of everything in there so that no one felt like they are being picked on. Abby: Someone's identity can't go against their belief. That's who they are. Karla: I'm thinking more on the business side of the aspect. Abby: I still think no matter what you are discriminating against.

Alex: This is my first meeting here. I am a member of the queer community. You should not be able to bar someone from living somewhere rather it be to rent or buy land. In regards to the Palestine Ceasefire, we now have over 100 cities that is behind this.

Ward Bryson: If you can rent a home to a male and female and won't rent to a queer couple, that is discrimination. I work with many people with AIDS and they worry about being discriminated against. I am behind

Lee Branner: I want to apologize for my outburst during the meeting.

Zachar Buck: I want talk about the Palestine Ceasefire. Is it within the council's rights to take action on this? Solicitor: It is up to council and I can only advise the law. The law allows some leeway on issues within the law. Is there a place where I can come and look at all the records? Yes, all the folders on the shelves.

Ellie Hamrick: I support the ceasefire resolution. I do not want our tax money to support the bombs being dropped, I would rather the money go toward our local people. I have been denied housing in the past due to the possibility of having an autistic kid to stay with us. I believe the tenant's rights are being discriminated against if they are denied housing due to an issue.

Liz Hill: The library is available and free to everyone. We don't discriminate who walks through the door. I have watched kids in the this village grow up and watch them leave. I want them to be able to come back "home" to Chauncey without being discriminated against. I want them to feel like they can come home. I do not see how it will benefit Chauncey if it is discriminating against people.

Barb: In regards to the Palestine Ceasefire. I think that a petition would be better fit. There is other issues around the world that we are not talking about. I do not think it is the council obligation to do this on behalf on the village. If you are going to do it for one, why are you not doing it for everyone. I personally think on you discrimination, if I have three people coming to look at my property, I should be able to choose who I want to rent no matter what. A land owner is a business if they are renting a place to someone else. They have the right to run their business as they want to. If you don't like it then maybe you should buy the business from them.

Evelyn Nagy made a motion to extend residential comments, seconded by Karla Dellinger. AIF

Zach: I think we want to be careful where we draw the line with the dissemination issue. I want to advice caution to where you draw the line.

Liz: Barb, if you put you blood sweat and tears into a business should you be able do deny someone to come in? Barb: Sadly yes.

Abby: If there is one teacher who support people, then it does reduce the suicide.

Ellie: I think the ceasefire issue is that our money is going toward the wrong side compared to the other issues Barb brought up.

Johnathan (Solicitor): I encourage members of the council to vote in there beliefs and what you stand behind.

Karla Dellinger: Is this something we can put on the ballot to vote on? Johnathan: I will check on it.

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be on April 10th, 2024 at 5:30 pm.

Motion by Dylan Skees at 8:27 pm, Tammy Hawk seconded. AIF

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

RECORDED BY

Tammy Hawk, President of Council

Kevin Simons, Fiscal Officer