VILLAGE OF MOSCOW REGULAR SESSION OF COUNCIL

May 1, 2023

Regular Council meeting called to order, pledge of allegiance at 6:00pm by Mayor Suter, with roll call by Bill Gilpin

English - Present Nichols - Present Roark – Present

Turner - Present Gorth - Present Caudill - Present

Mayor Suter – Present Alan Ausman, Village Administrator - Present

### Bill Gilpin, Fiscal Officer –Present Emily Supinger, Solicitor –Present

Also present – Joe DaGiau, Dennis Cooper, CC Commissioner David Painter, Jim Hiles, Kevin Oberlin, Moriah Oberlin, Susan Martin

\*Motion to accept the minutes of the April 3, 2023 meeting by Caudill, seconded by English

English – yea Nichols – yea Roark - yea

Turner – yea Gorth - yea Caudill - yea MC

\*Motion to pay bills by Gorth, seconded by Nichols

English – yea Nichols – yea Roark - yea

Turner - yea Gorth - yea Caudill - yea MC

**GUEST SPEAKER:**

County Commissioner David Painter noted that the county is prepared to assist if the vote tomorrow results in the dissolution of the village.

Washington Township Trustee Dennis Cooper reported meeting today with State Senator Vance and a representative from Representative Wenstrup’s office regarding the Zimmer Plant. They discussed the issue of the owner’s not paying their county real estate taxes while purchasing 2 nuclear plants for $3.4 billion at the same time; also discussed the bad odor from the transfer of fly ash.

Phil Turner noted that the plant is being dismantled and the ultimate tax valuation is yet to be known.

Dennis Cooper reported that many at the state level appear to be unaware of what is going on at the Zimmer site.

Mayor Suter reported receiving a phone call from a liquid waste recycling business that may be interested in purchasing the site.

**ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:**  Alan Ausman reports:

* **Maintenance:** Body Solid machine in the fitness center has been repaired; daily sewer reads; building use is slowing down; cleaning the building; new camera system is working well; skatepark estimate is $2,700 for new transitions and hardware; mowing daily; met with Zeuch Construction about sewer projects; roof fixed on garage; cleaned the debris from the boat ramp twice.
* **Administrative:** Utility collections in April; met with Audrey Koester about easement and wall project; working on post office door issue
* **Zoning:** One permit issued for deck

Alan Ausman reported that the utility bills were sent out a week late; will talk with Sheila DuFau about delaying late charges for one week as well. Ohio River sweep is June 24; planning for Memorial Day and alumni events.

**FISCAL OFFICER’S REPORT:**  Bill Gilpin reports:

Reported the need for a motion to hold the 2024 tax budget hearing on July 5, 2023 at 5:45pm; noted that Ordinance 2023-08 is to continue the 50% reduction in mayor and council salaries.

\*Motion to hold the 2024 tax budget hearing on July 5 at 5:45pm by English, seconded by Caudill

English – yea Nichols – yea Roark - yea

Turner - yea Gorth - yea Caudill - yea MC

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**SOLICITOR’S REPORT:** Emily Supinger reports:

Instructed Alan Ausman to track any payments made during the one week delay for late charges as it will require council action to waive the late fees; reported working with the post office on the door repair issue.

Phil Turner asked when the vote will be certified. Dennis Cooper noted that the approximate date is May 18. Mayor Suter noted that the board of elections said there were seven early votes cast for the May 2 election. Susan Martin asked if signs would be allowed in front of village hall tomorrow. Mayor Suter replied yes as long as they are beyond the boundary signs posted by the poll workers.

**MAYOR’S REPORT:** Mayor Suter reports:

Reported receiving a letter regarding upcoming fly ash cell cleaning at the Zimmer site that will be occurring on the north end of the site; asked Alan Ausman to send a letter to the owners of the old lodge building as it suffered wind damage over the weekend.

**READING OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

ORDINANCE 2023-08 – AN ORDINANCE EXTENDING THE REDUCTION IN COMPENSATION OF THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL BY 50% FOR A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

\*Motion to waive the readings of Ordinance 2023-08 by Gorth, seconded by Caudill

English – yea Nichols – yea Roark - yea

Turner - yea Gorth – yea Caudill – yea MC

\*Motion to adopt Ordinance 2023-08 by English, seconded by Nichols

English – yea Nichols – yea Roark - yea

Turner - yea Gorth – yea Caudill – yea MC

\*Motion to adopt Ordinance 2023-08 as an emergency by Gorth, seconded by Caudill

English – yea Nichols – yea Roark - yea

Turner - yea Gorth – yea Caudill – yea MC

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Cindy Gorth asked if the ball field could be prepped for small ball teams to play on.

Todd English asked the walking trail project issues have been resolved. Emily Supinger reported that the contractor has been told that the retainage will be kept and used by the village to finish the needed work in house.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mayor Suter reported there may be the need for a special meeting later in the month to take care of issues if the dissolution vote goes in favor of saving the village.

**PUBLIC INPUT:**

Commissioner Painter reported that the auditor is fighting the states proposed 43% increase in property valuations.

Dennis Cooper noted that Washington Twp. has voted to restrict solar farms in excess of 50 megawatts; also a group of residents is circulating petitions to initiate zoning in the township.

Emily Supinger suggested having a discussion on what type of solar may be allowed in the village, particularly for residents.

Commissioner Painter relayed information on solar field component types being installed in the county; also noted the process for approval at the county level.

Mayor Suter noted that any solar farm on the village portion of the Zimmer site would need to adhere to village zoning requirements; also noted that an opportunity may exist to work with Washington Twp. to create a JEDD district to capture revenue on any redevelopment on the Zimmer site.

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\*Motion to adjourn at 7:01pm made by Gorth, seconded by Nichols

English – yea Nichols -yea Roark - yea

Turner - yea Gorth – yea Caudill - yea MC

APPROVED BY:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

TIM SUTER, MAYOR

ATTESTED BY:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

BILL GILPIN, FISCAL OFFICER