

North Lewisburg Village Council Regular Meeting

-April 8, 2025

The Village of North Lewisburg Council met on April 8, 2025, at 6:30 PM in the Village Community Room.

Mayor Murphy called the meeting to order. Roll Call was answered by Mr. Nobbs, Mrs. Street, Mrs. Huffman, Mr. Burden, and Mrs. Warner. Mr. Warner was absent and excused. All present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Huffman moved to accept the March 11, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes and the March 25, 2025, Special Meeting Minutes, Mrs. Warner seconded, all in favor.

Mrs. Warner moved to accept the financials, Mrs. Huffman seconded, all in favor.

FISCAL OFFICER:

Fiscal Officer Davis presented to the council the possibility of closing the office one day a week to allow for time to work on projects and other Fiscal Officer duties. Fiscal Officer Davis stated she thought Thursday would be the best day of the week to be closed. After some discussion, Mr. Nobbs moved to approve closing the utility office window on Thursdays beginning May 1st, 2025, Mrs. Warner seconded, all in favor.

Fiscal Officer Davis thanked the Council.

MAYOR:

Mayor Murphy reminded the group of Spring Clean-up May 16th -17th and Community Yard Sales May 16th – 18th. He also reminded the group to watch for children on bikes or walking as the weather is getting warmer.

Mayor Murphy welcomed Greg Harvey, candidate for Municipal Court Judge, to speak to the group. Mr. Harvey introduced himself to the group and informed the group that he is running for Champaign County Municipal Court Judge. Mr. Harvey stated he was born and raised in Champaign County and he is currently serving as Champaign County Municipal Court Magistrate. Mr. Harvey stated he wants to serve as Judge to help make the community better and to see it grow. Mr. Harvey answered questions from the group and ended his presentation by thanking the Village Council for allowing him to speak and encouraging everyone to vote.

ADMINISTRATOR:

Administrator Freyhof introduced Cindy Brookes from Rural Community Assistance Partnership (RCAP) to the group. Cindy thanked the Village Council for allowing her to speak and presented to the group what RCAP can do for rural communities. RCAP is part of the Great Lakes Community Action Partnership. RCAP is a non-profit organization working to provide technical assistance, training, and support to rural and tribal communities with their water/wastewater and development needs. RCAP can help with rate studies, asset management, policies and procedures, sewer condition assessments and training just to name a few. RCAP has been assisting the Village of North Lewisburg with some of these items over the last 2 years. Cindy also presented information on OHWARN. OHWARN is a Response network for Water and Wastewater connecting communities together for support and promote statewide emergency preparedness. Administrator Freyhof thanked Cindy for coming to the meeting and sharing information.

Administrator Freyhof informed the group that Brandon Brooks a resident of the Village had inquired about the speed limit on East Maple Street and the rate of speed motorists are traveling heading out of town past the Dollar General Store. A discussion was held, and the Village will investigate the possibility of placing another

speed limit sign closer to the area of Dollar General. There is one 35MPH sign between Audas St and the Corporation limit.

Administrator Freyhof informed the group that the Neighborhood Revitalization grant is running into funding issue with the federal government. Mr. Freyhof will be meeting with the grant writer and engineers to switch the funding to a critical infrastructure grant instead of a neighborhood revitalization grant.

Administrator Freyhof stated the Bicentennial Planning Committee will meet in the Community Room on April 26, 2025 at 10:00 am and encouraged all to attend.

Cooper Vue Events is planning a Spring Fling Event May 10th.

STAFF REPORTS:

Police:

Chief Bodey presented the Monthly Police Report for the period of March 10-April 4, 2025. There were 3 Warnings, 2 Citations and 1 Summons issued. Chief Bodey reminded everyone to be cautious of the sun in your eyes when traveling east in the morning hours. Chief Bodey also stated that Officer Smith and Officer Fenwick have resigned, and he is currently hiring full-time and part-time officers.

Water/Sewer:

Administrator Freyhof asked the council for a motion to approve the Well #1 change order in the amount of \$18,520.00. Mrs. Street moved to approve the change order for Well #1, Mr. Nobbs seconded, all in favor.

Administrator Freyhof informed the group that we are working on securing a loan through the Water Pollution Control Loan Fund with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency and the Ohio Water Authority for planning, design, and/or construction of emergency repairs to the wastewater facilities.

Streets:

Brightspeed installation of fiber optic lines will begin mid-April.

The Republic Waste contract expires May 31, 2025. Administrator Freyhof reached out to Roberts Refuse in Urbana for a quote, but they declined stating it would be too much for them. He also contacted Rumpke and Republic for quotes.

Administrator Freyhof asked for discussion on the Bike Path repaving project as he has learned from ODNR that the funding is in place but not guaranteed. The council, after discussion, asked to table any decisions for now. Mr. Nobbs moved to table any decisions on the Bike Path Repaving project, Mrs. Huffman seconded, all in favor.

Other:

Administrator presented Job descriptions for Administrative Assistant and Water Operator to be reviewed and approved by council. Mrs. Warner moved to approve the job descriptions for Administrative Assistant and Water Operator, Mrs. Huffman seconded, all in favor.

RESOLUTION/ORDINANCE:

Resolution 4-8-2025 Emergency Iron filter re-build and Aerator Demolition was read. Mrs. Street moved to approve Resolution 4-8-2025, Mrs. Huffman seconded. Roll Call, Mrs. Huffman, yes; Mr. Nobbs, yes; Mr. Burden, yes; Mrs. Street, yes; Mrs. Warner, yes. Passed 5 yes, 0 no

Resolution 4-8-2025 A - Authorizing the Mayor to apply for, accept and enter a Water Supply Revolving Loan Account (WSRLA) agreement for design of water system improvements on behalf of the Village of North Lewisburg was read. Mrs. Street moved to approve Resolution 4-8-2025 A, Mr. Nobbs seconded. Roll call; Mrs. Huffman, yes; Mr. Nobbs, yes; Mr. Burden, yes; Mrs. Street, yes; Mrs. Warner, yes. Passed 5 yes, 0 no

Resolution 4-8-2025 B - Authorizing the Mayor to apply for, accept and enter into a Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) agreement on behalf of the Village of North Lewisburg for planning, design, and/or construction of Emergency repairs to the Wastewater Facilities was read. Mrs. Warner moved to approve Resolution 4-8-2025 B, Mrs. Street seconded. Roll Call; Mrs. Huffman, yes; Mr. Nobbs, yes; Mr. Burden, yes; Mrs. Street, yes; Mrs. Warner, yes. Passed 5 yes, 0 no

Ordinance 294 – Approving, Adopting and Enacting American Legal Publishing’s Ohio Basic Code 2025 Supplemental (S1) Edition and declaring an Emergency was read. Mrs. Huffman moved to approve Ordinance 294; Mr. Burden seconded. Roll Call; Mrs. Huffman, yes; Mr. Nobbs, yes; Mr. Burden, yes; Mrs. Street, yes; Mrs. Warner, yes. Passed 5 yes, 0 no

Ordinance 295 – For Emergency Replacement of the membranes at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and Emergency Repair of the WWTP driveway culvert was read. Mrs. Warner moved to approve Ordinance 295; Mr. Nobbs seconded. Roll Call; Mrs. Huffman, yes; Mr. Nobbs, yes; Mr. Burden, yes; Mrs. Street, yes; Mrs. Warner, yes. Passed 5 yes, 0 no

HEARING OF CITIZENS:

Mayor Murphy addressed the group stating that some in attendance are here for the Cannabis Ordinance. The council will have to restart the process for an ordinance regarding Cannabis cultivators, dispensaries, and processors.

Mayor Murphy reminded the group there is still an ordinance in place Prohibiting Medicinal Cannabis Dispensaries.

Citizens asked what they can do. Mayor Murphy stated there is a process through the Board of Elections where citizens can petition for an ordinance to be placed on the ballot for the voters to decide.

With no further questions from the group, Mayor Murphy asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official. Mrs. Huffman moved to enter into Executive Session to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official, Mrs. Warner seconded, all in favor.

Executive Session

The Council entered into Executive Session at 8:11PM. Mayor Murphy declared the council out of Executive Session at 8:49PM.

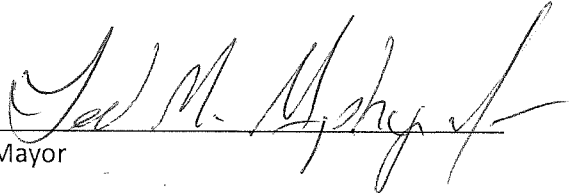
The public was invited to return to the meeting.

Mrs. Warner moved to approve the hiring of Stephen Rhodes as Part time police officer for \$20.00 per hour, Mrs. Street seconded. Roll Call; Mrs. Huffman, yes; Mr. Nobbs, abstain; Mr. Burden, yes; Mrs. Street, yes; Mrs. Warner, yes. Approved 4 yes, 1 abstain, 0 no

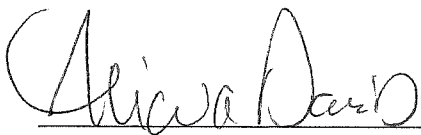
Mrs. Huffman moved to approve a \$1.00 per hour raise for Bart Stokes effective on the anniversary of his date of hire, Mrs. Street seconded, all in favor.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business Mrs. Huffman moved to adjourn the meeting, Mrs. Street seconded, all in favor. Meeting adjourned.



Mayor



Clerk

5-13-2025
Date