

Village of Kirkersville Council Meeting Minutes

September 4, 2024

Mayor Ashcraft called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Council in attendance: Holly Branham, Daren Coe, Mark Davis, Dave Engel, Jim Kincaid and Carrie Slone.

Also present: Fiscal Officer Shirley Roskoski and Solicitor Brian Zets

Agenda

It was moved by Kincaid, seconded by Coe to approve the agenda. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6: Branham, Coe, Davis, Engel, Kincaid and Slone. Nay, none.

Minutes

It was moved by Davis seconded by Branham to approve the minutes of August 7, 2024. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6: Branham, Coe, Davis, Engel, Kincaid and Slone. Nay, none.

Public Poll

Judy Casto said at the last meeting I asked about the drain by my property and Council member Coe said that it runs east and west. It doesn't, it runs north and south.

Mayor Ashcraft said you filled in the ditch line that is why it is not working properly.

Steve Malone said he wanted to verbally let council know that for 4 years or so I have been harassed for things that no one else goes through. You cannot allow a dictatorship like this. This is all coming from the leader of the community. The solicitor and zoning have endorsed towing my vehicles away. I have pictures of other cars that have flat tires. I have sold property on this side to 2 young men and I do not want them to be treated the way that I have. I don't want my cars towed away. Leave my stuff alone. I have offered to plow, work on cruiser, pay for patching when the village did not have any money.

Nate Green said the Water and Sewer District asked him to get the JEDD in place. He said this will be for the commercial and industrial districts. He will be back next month with legislation and some income projections.

Todd Ward said they have finished all the due diligence on the property. They have spent about \$950,000.00 on this site. The contract on the property was coming up at the middle of the month and the Emswiler family have been good to us. We decided to let the contract end. I am very positive that we will go back into a contract. If someone else contracts with them, then we will drop out.

Randy Stoll said he wanted to give an update on the projects for the wastewater plant. The WPCLF nominations are due at the end of September. We did not get a grant from the Department of Development. They had five rounds of it. The other option is a low interest loan at a 2-3% interest rate.

We've been chipping away at the wastewater plant getting a few things fixed. There are still some high-priced things that need to be prepared. We want to renominate the project with the EPA. This does not commit you to taking a loan or anything else with the project. You will not be eligible for any funds if you don't renominate. The other decision, do you want to continue using some of your reserves to chip away at this.

Mayor Ashcraft asked what is the most important project to be done down there.

Randy said the sand filters. I labeled them as high priority. One is the mechanical screen to remove trash from the wastewater flow. That's really important because there is a ton of trash that makes its way into the sewer plant. The second thing is the sand filters. Those need to be cleaned and inspected and replace the underdrains and put new sand in there. The last one is the affluent flow meter that would accurately measure the amount of wastewater coming out of the plant. Right now, the operators have to estimate it based on the pump run hours.

Mayor Ashcraft asked what would it cost to fix the sand filters.

Randy said \$120,000.00.

Council member Coe said \$343,000.00 would take care of the high priority.

Randy said the project will have to be bid out. I will need the nomination tonight in order for you to be eligible for next year's funds. Randy said you could bid the whole thing out to see what the bids come in at. The operators are telling us the sand filters are pretty bad and need to be done. We need to get the trash out of there.

It was moved by Kincaid, seconded by Coe to nominate the project to the EPA. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6: Branham, Coe, Davis, Engel, Kincaid and Slone. Nay, none.

Randy said if you wanted to act on it this fall we can put in the high priority things and get those done without using all of your reserve monies.

Randy said I forwarded a set of plans to council with the SW Licking Water District lines in it. One line crosses US 40 at one spot, it is parallel to the road right of way along 40 and then it crosses Outville Road. I believe it is subject to the village's right of way occupancy charge. It is a 16 inch line. There will be wells on both sides of town.

Mayor Ashcraft said they are not going to start those wells up until everybody is connected to the water lines that want it.

Todd Merry said there is a lot of confusion on when we can hook up.

Mayor Ashcraft said we had a meeting with them a couple of weeks ago. If there is a waterline in front of your house, which is on 40, east to west, and up to the school on 5th Street and to Flying J on the south. If you are in that area you can hook up at any time. You get your tap at no cost, the line to your house at no cost and a plumber hooks it up in your house at no cost. The first 2,000 gallons of water will cost you \$19.50 and it goes up after that. If you want to keep your well you have to get a plumber to do that and I think the District charges \$150.00 annually to inspect the backflow regulator. All the lines should be done by August of next year and you have 365 days at the completion of the project to hook up. If you don't hook up in that time frame it will cost you.

The project will be put out to bid and whoever bids on the project will take care of everything.

Randy Stoll said Mr. Malone was talking earlier about the car lot. I don't know if there is a property dispute about where the pins are but I can survey that for you.

Mayor Ashcraft said the solicitor said we need to get that surveyed.

Randy said it could be \$1,000.00 to \$2,000.00.

It was moved by Coe, seconded by Kincaid to pay up to \$2,000.00 for a survey. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6: Branham, Coe, Davis, Engel, Kincaid and Slone. Nay, none.

Randy said Mr. Mathews is here and there has been an ongoing problem with the sewer main that is east of the elementary school that runs down to the bottom where the field is. We have been out there several times and we had a camera through it. There is a clog and I am concerned that there might be additional problems with it. There are trees and brush that have grown up over the line. Terry and I have talked and those trees need to be removed. Mr. Mathews has a contracting firm that is working on the schools lateral currently and we spoke about his firm looking at the line and seeing if his firm could do some repairs in it.

Mayor Ashcraft said it is a clay tile. I have a price on getting those trees out.

Randy said that line is going to need attention. When it rains there is a lot of water coming into the sewer plant.

Mayor

Mayor Ashcraft said the fines for the month were \$368.00.

Streets

Mayor Ashcraft thanked Todd Merry for putting the flags up last week.

Todd Merry said the bypass is closing for two weeks so semis will be using Outville Road.

Fire Board

Council member Kincaid said that Todd Magers kind of stepped down and Jack Trenish is now the Fire Chief. Todd will be his assistant and will mentor Jack in his new position. Station 403 is close to being open. We are on track to be a little over 9,000 runs for the year.

Planning and Zoning

Council member Engel said they are waiting on the Solicitor for a mockup of the zoning code.

Finance

Council member Davis read the following fund balances:

General	174,914.51	American Rescue Plan	4,033.48
Street	57,682.70	Enfct. and Education	80.00
State Highway	32,250.52	Court Computer Fund	648.86
Drug LawEnfct.	3,964.11	Sewer Operating	400,236.45
Indigent Drivers	400.00		

For a total of \$674,210.63

Legislative Actions

Second Reading – Ordinance 03-2024 – An Ordinance to reappropriate funds for current expenses and other expenditures of the Village of Kirkersville, State of Ohio, during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024 and declaring an emergency.

It was moved by Kincaid, seconded by Engel to suspend with the rules. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6: Branham, Coe, Davis, Engel, Kincaid and Slone. Nay, none.

It was moved by Engel to pass Ordinance 03-2024 as an emergency. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6: Branham, Coe, Davis, Engel, Kincaid and Slone. Nay, none.

Tabled - Second Reading – Ordinance 04-2024 – An Ordinance prohibiting the construction, installation, and operation of small solar facilities within the Village of Kirkersville.

Council member Coe said which brings up a point the way it was written is small solar facilities that would eliminate residential homes. We were looking at large industrial solar farms as opposed to not wanting to restrict residents from having solar.

Brian said the definition comes from the revised code. That is why I used that.

Council member Coe said are interpretation of what a small was as opposed to a solar farm was residential use also.

Brian said this is designed for anything using less than 50 megawatts.

Council member Engel said the zoning board talked and we felt that we wanted to provide the residents an opportunity to put solar panels on their house or their yard if they wanted to but not to put in a large commercial thing.

Brian said there is no other regulation through the revised code. It would be a zoning regulation then.

First Reading – Ordinance 05-2024 – An Ordinance authorizing the payment of the invoice received from Jeffrey R. Bing and declaring an emergency. It was moved by Kincaid, seconded by Coe to suspend with the rules. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6: Branham, Coe, Davis, Engel, Kincaid and Slone. Nay, none. It was moved by Kincaid, seconded by Coe to pass Ordinance 05-2024 as an emergency. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6: Branham, Coe, Davis, Engel, Kincaid and Slone. Nay, none.

First Reading – 06-2024 – An Ordinance to reappropriate funds for current expenses and other expenditures of the Village of Kirkersville, State of Ohio, during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024 and declaring an emergency. It was moved by Kincaid, seconded by Engel to suspend with the rules. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6: Branham, Coe, Davis, Engel, Kincaid and Slone. Nay, none. It was moved by Kincaid, seconded by Engel to pass Ordinance 06-2024 as an emergency. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6: Branham, Coe, Davis, Engel, Kincaid and Slone. Nay, none.

First Reading – Resolution 07-2024 – A Resolution accepting the amounts and rated as determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor and declaring an emergency. It was moved by Kincaid, seconded by Engel to suspend with the rules. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6: Branham, Coe, Davis, Engel, Kincaid and Slone. Nay, none. It was moved by Engel, seconded by Coe to pass Resolution 07-2024 as an emergency. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6: Branham, Coe, Davis, Engel, Kincaid and Slone. Nay, none.

Bills

It was moved by Branham, seconded by Davis to pay the bills in the amount of \$14,117.23. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6: Branham, Coe, Davis, Engel, Kincaid and Slone. Nay, none.

Old Business

Kathy Rosterfor said I am on the sewer board and I know money is tight will all these other problems. We have three people on the board. If we get estimates on what the repairs cost does council make the decision on the cost or does the board.

Mayor Ashcraft said council will vote on this and you will get a copy of what was approved.

New Business

Mayor Ashcraft said he has a quote in the amount of \$2,700.00 to cut down the trees over the sewer line. It was moved by Engel, seconded by Davis to approve the \$2,700.00 to cut down trees over the sewer line. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6: Branham, Coe, Davis, Engel, Kincaid and Slone. Nay, none.

Council member Branham asked to decide what day to have trick-or-treat on. After a brief discussion it was moved by Branham, seconded by Davis to hold trick-or-treat on October 31

from 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6: Branham, Coe, Davis, Engel, Kincaid and Slone. Nay, none.

Public Poll

Dave, from the House of Worship Church. We have been here for three years and are blessed to be a part of the community. We have heard that our next door neighbor is opening a business that we do not like. We would like to bring in a mobile home for Sunday School.

Mayor Ashcraft said he would have to talk to the zoning officer. He said I do not know what is going in there.

A resident said it is going to be convenience store.

Todd Merry said the field next to my house has been mowed and is there a way to control the water from Loop Road to my driveway.

Mayor Ashcraft said I will get someone to look at it.

Adjournment

There being no further business, it was moved by Engel, seconded by Coe to adjourn. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6; Branham, Coe, Davis, Engel, Kincaid and Slone. Nay, none. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Fiscal Officer

Mayor