

ZOAR VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING

March 11, 2025

The Zoar Village Regular Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Tom Klingaman at 6:08 pm.

Roll Call:

David Gannon	Present	Mark Gaynor	Absent
Jill Harshey	Present	Jeff Eadie	Absent
Kim Klingaman	Present	David Irwin	Present

A motion to approve the 2/11/2025 Regular Meeting minutes was made by Kim Klingaman and seconded by Jill Harshey. Roll Call: David Gannon- yes, Jill Harshey- yes, Kim Klingaman- yes, David Irwin- yes.

The following bills were presented for signature to be paid in March 2025:

ZOAR VILLAGE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Expenditures submitted for payment March 2025

1	AEP	500.10	Street Lighting
2	AEP	156.89	Community Center
3	Tom Klingaman	150.00	Salary March
4	Emily Hayes	450.00	Salary March
5	OPERS	108.00	OPERS March
6	Columbia Gas	246.66	Community Center
7	Tusc Cty Wtr Swr	49.65	Community Center February
8	Huntington Bank CC	321.57	Office supplies/Heblings/Fuel
9	Tusc. Co. Reg. Planning	33.02	Membership Fee 2025
10	Ohio Public Utilities Commission	35.00	Damage Prevention
11	Tusc.Co. Homeland Security&EMA	43.00	2025 EMA Contractual Agreement
12	ZCA	478.57	Dumpster Charges 2024 & Jan/Feb 2025
		2,572.46	

Motion to acknowledge receipt of financial statements and pay the monthly bills for March was made by David Gannon and seconded by David Irwin. Roll Call: David Gannon- yes, Jill Harshey- yes, Kim Klingaman- yes, David Irwin- yes.

Public Speaks:

Ann Ackerman, Lawrence Township Fiscal Officer, returned with the renewal of the Agreement between Bolivar Volunteer Fire Department, Lawrence Township, Village of Bolivar, and Village of Zoar. Due to 2 absent council members Ann was unable to present and will have to return at the next scheduled meeting for the contract to be reviewed and signed.

Fiscal:

Emily Hayes, Fiscal Officer, presented the information she was able to receive on the option to do budget billing. She stated that there was an option to do budget billing for Columbia Gas, with a standard budget plan of \$132 a month that was calculated by Columbia Gas based on the usage over the past 12 months, current rates, and projected costs. Emily also presented them with a print out of the last 12 months payments for council to review. For AEP there was no option for budget billing at this time as they are already currently enrolled in AEP Energy for a lower rate per kwh and would have to cancel that in order to be potentially eligible for budget billing per AEP website. AEP for the street lights also did not have an option for budget billing but there was a phone number listed to call for more information on potential options if council decided to go this route. Council to review and discuss again at the next meeting.

David Irwin stated he called AEP when the lights needed changed and stated that they changed the lights to LED without him asking for LED and he says that we are renting the light for more now that there LED than we were before. Emily also mentioned that they are still paying a little extra monthly for an issue that AEP brought up last July where they were having errors in their system and didn't charge the right tax for over a year prior. In July 2024, they reached out to the prior fiscal officer Patty Smith and explained the charges and broke them down for payment over the following 12 months.

Emily also mentioned to David Irwin that she saw he uses Speedway for fuel for the Village truck, as they used to have the WEX card for fuel there. But since we canceled the card, Emily recommend for David to try out the Bellstores gas station to see if the prices were any cheaper. This was because it was brought to attention that the speedway he used has been having issues with there sign price saying one thing and the pump the other. David stated he noticed that issue today as well and was willing to look into it. Emily also asked if there was an option for a county fuel pump in Tuscarawas County as there is one for Stark County. No one was aware this was even a thing and we will look into if its an option in Tuscarawas County.

Lastly, Emily brought up when she was talking with OPERS recently they had asked if we would like to change from the paper route to the online route. This would include the payment being an online payment, instead of a warrant. David Irwin was worried that there would be not be enough printed for a file, and Emily assured him there would still be things to be printed out to file. She also informed council that they received a questionnaire for a basic audit to be filled out by the fiscal officer and another was sent to the council president, Mark Gaynor.

Street Committee:

David Irwin asked the Mayor Tom Klingaman if he had any information on the cleanup day through Tusky Valley. Tom said he was just talking about that today but has yet to hear anything and will contact the school tomorrow for more information. Tom stated they normally do the cemetery and asked David if there was something else that he wanted done. David was questioning to see if they could do the hillside behind the event center. Tom stated he would have to figure out how many students were coming first and will be able to determine after. David said they would have to have more chaperones in order to split the kids between the two places. Tom restated he will have to call for more information and see if they can get to both places that day or get 2 crews for the day if possible.

David checked into a culvert up on Michael Lane that is in very bad shape. He knew this when they did the catch basins at the 660 property and it said it goes diagonally across the road. He got a quote to replace the culvert and called Matt Ritterback to follow up on emails and to have the township agree to replace the culvert if Zoar was to buy all the material that includes pipe, sand base, and the 304s on top. The quote David received was for \$5500. The township is willing to help as it is access to their road that continues up Michael lane. They would do materials and labor part, not including the asphaltting as that needs to settle for a while before being able to completed. David states his personal opinion is to have this done, as the steel that is currently there is rusted away. He stated the township said they would be available in the spring and would be able to put steel down for fire/EMS to still get through in case of emergency and keep the road open during the replacement process. David Gannon ask David Irwin to verify what it is that the township agreed to do, materials and labor and how much each of those individually cost/broken down. David Irwin was unsure stating that they didn't get that far in the process yet. Jill Harshey asked if that is what the \$5500 was for, and David Irwin stated that was to do everything to pay someone to do it. Mayor Tom Klingaman stated he met with Doug Bauchman on Friday about Dover Zoar Road and he was getting prices and help to stabilize the road, fix the culvert, and finish price. He is currently waiting for a return call for pricing and asked David Irwin if he can push off Michael Lane for a month as Dover Zoar Road is the priority right now. Tom stated it is a hazard to the township, county, and citizens and is high priority and in critical condition. David Gannon asked David Irwin to get a breakdown in the meantime from the township of the pricing. David Irwin stated more information will need to be gathered.

David Irwin also stated the oval sign coming into Zoar from Bolivar that says welcome to Zoar, will need the posts replaced as it is leaning and broke. He stated that he may have some or may need to purchase some. He also mentioned that West 5th St. is another area that will need to be asphalted and would like to look into the cost it would be to do the 2 block area. David stated he would look into a quote and see where they stand.

Safety Committee:

David Gannon read off the bargain hunter from the Lawrence township trustees meeting about the article mentioning the health department. He read a paragraph stating that the heath department would like to meet with the trustees to see if they can help with any other property issues. David Gannon stated he wondered if they would like to come and talk with them as well about there questions of properties in the area. Mayor Tom Klingaman asked Ann Ackerman who was still present if she had any information on the matter and she stated that it was 2 properties that the health department was helping with. She stated that they got involved when Matt Ritterback called them during the cleanup of one of the properties that had well heads that posed health concerns She stated that once a month the health department will come out to look at the properties and talk with Matt about the process. Ann stated for Emily to reach out to Martina at the township to get David the contact information for whom they speak with at the health department.

David also mentioned that he talked with the Road Patrol Captain of Tuscarawas County Sheriff's Office Travis Stocker and that he was very helpful. He stated that he put a monitor up on a pole to check the speed of cars on ST. RT. 212 at the south end for a week. He stated the report of 176 vehicles driving between 51-55 mph and 28 were over that speed. He stated that one was at 79 mph and that the heaviest time was from 12-6 PM. Several were stopped and given warnings and one was given a speeding ticket. David said they assured him they are now going to be paying more attention to the speeding issue and suggested that he reach out to Lieutenant Johnnie Maier at the New Philadelphia Command Post of Ohio Highway Patrol as well to assist in monitoring the area. David said he has yet to do so but will.

David said ODOT also informed him that they have no policy regarding any permission to modify or replace signs as long as they are within the village. He was then given the name of a company that the state uses, called TAPCO for signs. David contacted them and he got a quote for a sign that has blinkers with LED lights on it to draw more attention to it. The quote was for \$1823 and he gave a copy of the quote to the fiscal officer to for further consideration. Many council members stated that they have seen more patrol in the area lately.

Planning Commission, Historic Preservation Commission, and Event Center Building Committee:

PC:

Mayor Tom Klingaman stated that Lauren Marburger came to the planning meeting and pitched the idea of a park down at the old baseball field. She brought in a sketch of the design of the playground and also brought a grant option also. The playground was \$65,000 and the grant was only at 75% and had to prove that you could pay for it upfront and that 75% was best case scenario and could be a lot less. Tom stated that there is no one against the idea of a park, but Jill Harshey mentioned there are other issues such as insurance that needs to be looked into further. Doug Frautschy, village solicitor, also mentioned that there are laws on how much mulch/ rubber you need and further safety concerns.

Tom said they reupped there Tree City USA and that they are working with ZCA to have a potential Arbor Day Celebration during Maifest. David Irwin asked who gets the stickers for Tree City USA. Tom stated that the guy has the stickers and has been driving them around for years always forgetting to drop them off. David requested new stickers and he will clean the signs and put them up when received.

HPC:

Mayor Tom Klingaman gave an update since Mark Gaynor was not present and he was also at the meeting. He said that they approved a permit at the Gergley house for new siding called hardie board, like the siding recently put on the 151 Building, and for a back patio. Another permit they approved was for the sign at the Ice Cream shop called the Zoar Creamery, at the 151 Building hoping to be open April-ish. David Irwin asked for an update on another house that was going to do new siding but has not done so. Tom stated it was an issue because the grandson wanted to do the change but the property wasn't in his name and it needed his grandmothers' signature as she owned the home. They have not heard any further updates since this issue arose.

Event Center Building Committee:

Mark Gaynor was not present but Mayor Tom Klingaman stated that the Event Center is doing great.

Solicitor:

Doug Frautschy, village solicitor, updated that he has been corresponding with the lawyer for Corps of Engineers about the detachment of Dover Zoar Road. He said that we need two things from them, to sign a deed and that the village is going to pay for a survey and split the property into two parcels. One parcel to stay in the village and one parcel to be deannexed/detached. The part to be detached would have Dover Zoar Road on it, so the county would be the ones to then fix the road. He stated he tried to explain that to them and the other thing we would need from them is to sign a petition to deannex, because the Village can't do it on their own, you have to request it. Neither one of these things would cost them a dime and could both be done with a signature but he can't get them to understand what he is trying to get them to do. He stated they are just going back and forth with no movement. The lawyer from the Corps of Engineers stated that they don't own the road and Doug said both him and the map guy explained that it doesn't matter who owns the road, the road is inside the village and the road crosses their property. Doug said its within the jurisdiction of the village and they want to move some of there land outside of the jurisdiction of the village, but they are refusing to understand stating they can't help. Doug stated the lawyers that were there previously understood what they were discussing but now he is having to start over with the new lawyer present.

Additions to Agenda:

Emily Hayes presented questions for the Event Center Google business profile. She stated that since starting the business profile they have had 103 interactions in a little over a month. She stated they need a description of the website, any hours, photos, Q&A's, etc. Kim Klingaman stated to email both her and Mark Gaynor and they can get the information for us to

put on the Google business profile. Emily explained that the email has also yet to be changed on the website from the one that is redirecting potential renters saying it is an invalid address. She stated that she can add things to the profile and can add the website to the profile but can't do anything to the actual website as Mark runs the website for the village. Kim said it would be nice for the website and Facebook page to be cohesive as they currently are not. Emily to update Mark Gaynor via email about the questions needed for the profile.

David Gannon said that there are grants available for his potential road sign and asked for it to be given to Mark as well since he does the grants for the village.

Mayor's Notes:

Mayor Tom Klingaman stated he already addressed the Dover Zoar Road earlier. The generator at the Event Center is installed and was done by Weathermakers as the original guy backed out. The guardrail damage on the levy is on the list to be done and the check from the insurance has been received so just waiting on the them to be able to complete the job. David Irwin asked if the generator works and was told yes and that it tests itself once a bi-weekly. Tom said it runs on Tuesdays at around 12:45. David also asked who will be the one to service the generator and Tom stated they have not decided yet and that it will need an oil change at 25 hours and that he may be the one to do that as the installer said it was easy to do. Jill Harshey agreed and stated it is like a car engine. David asked how much oil it takes and what type of motor it is. Tom stated it is Generac oil that is a special blend, and that if the village doesn't do it then Weathermakers will.

Legislation:

Ordinance 2025-02: Third and Final Reading for contract with Village of Bolivar, Police Protection Services, at a rate of \$40 per hour. Motion to extend the contract was made by Jill Harshey and seconded by Kim Klingaman. Roll Call: David Gannon- yes, Jill Harshey- yes, Kim Klingaman- yes, David Irwin- yes.

Ordinance 2025-04: Third reading on an agreement with ODOT for maintenance of SR 212 through the Village. David Irwin said he's not really sure about this and would like to review the verbiage and check into it. Mayor Tom Klingaman and Doug Frautschy, Village Solicitor, stated that there is not much bargaining power here but will let David look into it if he feels so inclined to do so. Fourth reading requested at the next meeting.

Ordinance 2025-05: Second Reading for the renewal of the Agreement between Bolivar Volunteer Fire Department, Lawrence Township, Village of Bolivar, and Village of Zoar for Fire/EMS contract. This will be reviewed again at the next meeting as not enough council members present to Pass by Emergency.

Ordinance 2025-06: First Reading Police Levy Renewal

Ordinance 2025-07: First Reading General Levy Renewal

Next scheduled meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at 6 PM at the Event Center. Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by David Irwin and seconded by Kim Klingaman. Roll Call: David Gannon- yes, Jill Harshey- yes, Kim Klingaman- yes, David Irwin- yes.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:07 PM.

Emily Hayes, Fiscal Officer

Thomas Klingaman, Mayor

Date: _____