The Strasburg Village Council met in regular session on Tuesday, August 4, 2020 at 6:00 pm. Mayor Steve Smith presided over the meeting.

Members answering roll call were Liz Dreher, Kathy Burrier, Jeff Smith, Dustin Briggs, Martin Zehnder, and Don Wallick. Others present were Press Representative Barb Limbacher, and Jerry Schultz.

A motion was made by Don Wallick, seconded by Kathy Burrier, to approve the minutes from the July 21, 2020 council meeting. At roll call, the vote was as follows: Zehnder, abstain; Wallick, yes; Smith, yes; Dreher, yes; Burrier, yes; and Briggs, yes.

Mayor Steve Smith addressed council regarding an issue of an improper placement of a fence on a property on Cecilia Drive and the request from the property owner for reimbursement of the cost of the fence. Legal Counsel Richard Fox noted that he reviewed the building permits for the property owner and council held a brief discussion on the request. Fox noted that the original permit that showed the diagram of the fence had expired and that the new permit did not show a diagram of the placement of the fence. Fox noted that the property owner is responsible to know where their property line is and that he did this construction of the fence at his own risk. Fox noted that there are setbacks and a fence cannot be placed in the right of way and that the property owner should have known that there is a right of way when he purchased the property. Fox noted that in town the curb is not the property line. Mayor Smith noted that the fence stakes were special cut and cannot be returned. Mayor noted that the zoning inspector reports the permits to the Planning Commission but in the future would like to have the permits approved by the Planning Commission. Martin Zehnder suggested that if the mistake was made by the zoning inspector and the property owner, that we reimburse half of the cost. A motion was made by Martin Zehnder, seconded by Dustin Briggs, to reimburse half of the cost of the expense of the fence. At roll call, all members voted approval.

Mayor Smith addressed council on behalf of Village Administrator Ron Lambert regarding the approval to proceed with the engineering and preparation of bid specs by Engineer Don Dummermuth for the project of a waterline replacement on North Wooster Avenue that will include 77 service lines and tie ins. Mayor Smith noted that Lambert would like to get this project completed before ODOT paves Wooster Avenue in 2021. Mayor Smith noted that Lambert had suggested a low interest loan from OWDA for the project. A motion was made by Dustin Briggs, seconded by Kathy Burrier, to authorize Village Administrator Ron Lambert to contact Engineer Don Dummermuth to prepare bid specs for the waterline replacement project. At roll call, all members voted approval.

A motion was made by Kathy Burrier, seconded by Don Wallick, to approve payment of $ 75.00 for the membership fee for Mayor Steve Smith to the Mayors Association. At roll call, all members voted approval.

Mayor Smith addressed council regarding dead trees in the curb strips, properties in need of clean up and repairs, ideas for the green space property on Wooster Avenue, census workers in the village, and sanitizing equipment and touchless facets and flushers that could be paid for with the federal cares act funds.

Mayor Smith noted that we have issued a soliciting permit to a college student that is selling educational materials for at home schooling. Mayor Smith noted that our current permit only allows soliciting from 9 am to 5 pm and that he has been asked by residents to come back in the evening and is requesting that he be allowed to return to these homes after 5 pm. A motion was made by Kathy Burrier, seconded by Don Wallick, to authorize the Mayor to permit extended hours for soliciting on a case by case basis. At roll call, all members voted approval.

Mayor Smith and council held a lengthy discussion on improvements needed for the downtown and funds that could be used for a study that would cost between $ 15,000.00 to $ 30,000.00 and noted that they would also assist with obtaining grants for the improvements. A brief discussion was held on other improvements that need addressed including council chambers, police department office expansion, fire department building, and the future expansion of the sewer plant. Mayor Smith noted that he will reach out to officials from other municipalities to see what route they went to begin the process. Mayor Smith noted that the first step is the plan and the vision.

Safety – Chairwoman Kathy Burrier reported that the village received a grant in the amount of $ 2,700.00 from the Tuscarawas Community Foundation to put toward the purchase of three digital speed signs.

Council held a brief discussion on fall sports and Legal Counsel Fox noted that he will prepare criteria for the use of the park for fall sports per the guidelines of the Ohio Governor for the next council meeting.
ORDINANCE O-24-2020

Ordinance O-24-2020, An Ordinance zoning 5.997 acres owned by Stenwood Development, Ltd. And located on the south side of Dundee-Strasburg Rd, NW in the Village of Strasburg, Ohio, by granting the same an R-2 zoning classification, and declaring an emergency, was given its first reading by title only.

ORDINANCE O-25-2020

Ordinance O-25-2020, An Ordinance zoning 1.487 acres owned by Pine Ridge Investments of Strasburg, LLC and located on the north side of Dundee-Strasburg RD, NW in the Village of Strasburg, Ohio, by granting the same a B-2 Zoning classification, and declaring an emergency, was given its first reading by title only.

ORDINANCE O-26-2020

Ordinance O-26-2020, An Ordinance adding definition of “Corporation Stop” to section 2.01 of the adding new section 2.19 to the comprehensive ordinance regulating the use of the water and sanitary sewer systems for the Village of Strasburg, Ohio, was given its second reading by title only.

ORDINANCE O-27-2020

Ordinance O-27-2020 was given its first reading by title only. A motion was made by Kathy Burrier, seconded by Liz Dreher, to suspend the rules of the mandatory three readings. At roll call, all members voted approval. A motion was made by Kathy Burrier, seconded by Liz Dreher, to approve Ordinance O-27-2020, AN ORDINANCE HIRING DONNA REIGER AS A SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD FOR THE VILLAGE OF STRASBURG, OHIO FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. At roll call, all members voted approval and this ordinance shall take effect immediately.

ORDINANCE O-28-2020

Ordinance O-28-2020 was given its first reading by title only. A motion was made by Kathy Burrier, seconded by Liz Dreher, to suspend the rules of the mandatory three readings. At roll call, all members voted approval. A motion was made by Kathy Burrier, seconded by Liz Dreher, to approve Ordinance O-28-2020, AN ORDINANCE HIRING MICHELLE DICKERHOOF AS A SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD FOR THE VILLAGE OF STRASBURG, OHIO FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. At roll call, all members voted approval and this ordinance shall take effect immediately.

ORDINANCE O-29-2020

Ordinance O-29-2020 was given its first reading by title only. A motion was made by Jeff Smith, seconded by Don Wallick, to suspend the rules of the mandatory three readings. At roll call, all members voted approval. A motion was made by Jeff Smith, seconded by Don Wallick, to approve Ordinance O-29-2020, AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE BID OF DIRT DAWG ESCAVATING, LLC AS THE LOWEST AND BEST BID FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION OF OAK AVENUE, NW, BETWEEN SIXTH STREET AND SEVENTH STREET IN THE VILLAGE OF STRASBURG. At roll call, all members voted approval and this ordinance shall take effect immediately.

Legal Counsel Fox noted that he received information from Attorney Terry Seeberger regarding a petition from Farmers Exchange to join the JEDD and noted that we will hold a public hearing on September 15, 2020, regarding this petition. A motion was made by Jeff Smith, seconded by Kathy Burrier, to authorize Legal Counsel Fox to prepare an Ordinance to amend the JEDD map. At roll call, all members voted approval.

A motion was made by Jeff Smith, seconded by Kathy Burrier, to enter into an executive session at 7:24 pm to discuss a land purchase. Council reconvened into regular session at 7:33 pm. A motion was made by Jeff Smith, seconded by Martin Zehnder, to adjourn at 7:34 pm. At roll call, all members voted approval.

MAYOR STEVE SMITH  FISCAL OFFICER JENNIFER MAHONEY