

**MINUTES  
ORANGE VILLAGE COUNCIL  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING  
AUGUST 7, 2024  
7:00 PM**

1. Call the Special Council Meeting of August 7, 2024 to order at 7:04 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll call

Members Present:       Bilsky, Ullner, Vincent, Foster, Madden, Perry, Silver  
Members Absent:  
Others Present:         Jud Kline, Mayor  
                              Steve Byron, Law Director  
                              Mike Roberts, Police Chief  
                              Patrick O’Callahan, Police Lieutenant  
                              Larry Genova, Fire Chief  
                              Bob Zugan, Service Director  
                              Anna Girardi, Council Clerk

Changed the order of the agenda

4. A Motion to confirm the appointment of Michael Roberts as Orange Village Police Chief was made by Mr. Silver seconded by Mrs. Vincent.

Mayor Kline provided Chief Roberts’ background as a police officer. He has been a police officer since 1994 and joined Orange Village in 2001. He has held every role at the Orange Village Police Department.

Ms. Ullner stated this turnout for Mike is a huge testament to the person he is. She thanked his family for loaning us their husband/father. Speaking for all of council to the men and women in blue, we will always support you and we have your back.

Mrs. Vincent seconded everything Ms. Ullner stated. Mrs. Vincent stated Mike has always been a friend and thanked him for all he has done for Orange Village and he will continue in the future.

Kathy Mulcahy, 3861-1 Lander Road, former Mayor privilege to hire and work with Chief Roberts and watched him grow to become a role model and leader for Orange Village. Congratulations!

Ayes:                 Bilsky, Ullner, Vincent, Foster, Madden, Perry, Silver  
Nays:                 None

Mayor Kline administered the Oath of Office to Chief Roberts.

Chief Roberts thanked everyone for this opportunity. Thanked Mayor Mulcahy and Chris Kostura and is grateful to work at the police department. Thanked his wife and family for supporting him especially his wife. Thanked the dispatchers, always find a partner with him. Thanked Orange Village police officers and explained that he will support them. If you work for your people, your people will work for you. Thanked everyone for their support and for being here today.

5. Janet Keeler, PhD, Director, Community Development, Cuyahoga County Board of Development Disabilities – provided information on the department and the assistance they provide including to over 20 Orange Village residents. They also offer annual grants.

Mr. Bilsky asked who they typically engage with to figure out the projects they support – the most interactive. 4 grants per year; arts & culture, sports and recreation, libraries and accessibility space.

Mayor Kline very familiar with the Board, his wife served 26 years as the director of Children’s Services in the Lake County Board. He feels it is very important to pursue avenues and embrace it. Ms. Ullner thanked her for the work she does.

6. A Motion to approve the Special Council Meeting Minutes of July 3, 2024 was made by Mrs. Vincent seconded by Mr. Foster.

Ayes: Bilsky, Ullner, Vincent, Foster, Madden, Silver  
Abstain: Perry  
Nays: None

7. A Motion to approve the Council Meeting Minutes of July 10, 2024 was made by Mrs. Perry seconded by Mr. Madden.

Ayes: Ullner, Vincent, Foster, Madden, Perry, Silver  
Abstain: Bilsky  
Nays: None

8. A Motion to ratify the settlement of, and Consent Entry in, *KJI Group LLC v. Orange Village Council*, Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Case No. CV – 24 – 997846 2024 was made by Mr. Silver seconded by Mrs. Vincent.

Mr. Byron explained the reasoning behind the ratification of the settlement. This is to state that the settlement that council was on board with the settlement.

Ms. Ullner stated she is opposed to the variance for the property. She is against the motion to settle the lawsuit. There is nothing in the motion that is not accurate.

Ayes: Bilsky, Vincent, Foster, Madden, Silver  
Abstain: Perry  
Nays: Ullner

9. A Motion to approve the Settlement Agreement and Release of All Claims in the case of *Theopolis Williams, III v. Lt. Patrick O’Callahan, et al.*, Case No. 1:22-cv-01799, United States District Court, Northern District of Ohio, Eastern Division 2024 was made by Mr. Silver seconded by Mr. Foster.

Mr. Byron explained the information concerning the settlement agreement.

Mr. Silver stated that all of council has Lt. O’Callahan’s back. Ms. Ullner echoed the sentiments adding we appreciate your service. Mrs. Vincent thanked him and fellow officers for putting you life on the line every single day.

Ayes: Bilsky, Ullner, Vincent, Foster, Madden, Perry, Silver  
Nays: None

10. Audience comments relating to agenda items only

Jim Boyle, 31399 Fairview Drive

- Officers of Orange Village are vital to the well being of all
- Can’t agree in reverse to settle something, all decisions must be made in open meetings

- Stated you cannot ratify a court order
- The consent decree the Law Director signed – it must be voted on variant
- Can't vote on same project per the Charter without substantial changes
- Litigation of ethical violation stated by Mr. Byron – if that is true, it needs to be reported

John Loftus, 4231 Lander Road

- Not against developing the property - objective to see that the Village maintains the master plan
- Put together fact sheet to the best of his ability
  - Statements made were from the KJI Group website
  - Wanted to make sure the KJI Group is bonded
- Settlement agreement not authorized in public
  - Court ruling, put the project back on track
- Village newsletter provided pros of the project – looks like a campaign document
- Consider your actions

11. Old Business of Pending Legislation and Motions

- None

12. New Business and Consideration of:

**A. ORDINANCE 2024-14**

AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT AND IMPLEMENT THE PROCEDURES UNDER CHAPTER 5722 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE TO FACILITATE THE REUTILIZATION OF NONPRODUCTIVE LAND SITUATED IN THE VILLAGE OF ORANGE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

Mayor Kline stated this legislation allows Orange Village to acquire property through our own Land Bank directly from the courts.

Mrs. Perry asked if the property can be developed. It could be resold. Mr. Madden did not understand the Ordinance wording, Mr. Byron stated that he will send more information to Council explaining the Land Bank.

**B. ORDINANCE 2024-15**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 933.01(B) TO REVISE THE FEES TO BE CHARGED TO RESIDENTS AND NON-RESIDENTS FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, REPEALING CERTAIN ORDINANCES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

Chief Genova stated this fee is if we go on an ambulance call and we do not transport we will charge. He stated that the insurance companies are beginning to pay for this type of call where the patient refuses or is not transported to the hospital and this will allow us to collect the fee.

13. Audience comments relating to matters which advance the good of the Village

Amanda Kurland, 150 Valencia Circle

- Congratulated Chief Roberts and Orange Village for getting Mike Roberts as Police Chief

14. Comments by the Mayor

- Congratulated Chief Roberts on his new position – valuable officer and leader, looking forward to working with him in the future
- Opponents to the New Song Church rezoning – confrontations in hallway and parking lot – should be neighbors and acting responsibly without intimidating behavior. We need to live collectively and treat each other with respect and consideration. Everyone is entitled to their opinion. Asking going forward that they act with decorum to allow a fair discussion for our community.
- House fire on Brainard Road – expressed appreciation to the Fire, Police and Service Departments. Thanked the Orange Village community for their assistance helping others
- Artisan and Farmers Market is August 17
  - o Coloring contest
- Park Closure – roadwork on Pike and Oxford Court
- Survey closed – excited to see the results

15. Comments by the Council President

- Congratulated Chief Roberts
- Inquired about the Miles Road waterline installation
  - o Mr. Zupan stated that he spoke with Solon and it will be coming to the planning and zoning
  - o Applied for a 50/50 grant for roadwork – we were awarded for Miles Road – anticipate paving Miles in 2026 after the waterline is installed
  - o Miles Road waterline is going from the Bedford Hts/Warrensville corporate line to Harper Road

16. Committee Reports and Comments by Council Members

**Bilsky**

- Congratulated Chief Roberts
- Echoed what the Mayor stated about the confrontations and asked everyone to be mindful in the way we act

**Ullner**

- Congratulated Chief Roberts
- Thanked Anna for the Party in the Park - appreciated all the work and thought the drone show was cool
  - o Suggested move the event to September when school is in session
  - o Drone show would not be that late at night
- New Song Church property public hearing – disrespectful behavior – shouting is not respectful
  - o We are all neighbors and it is not necessary
- House fire – thanked our firefighters that do not hesitate to put their lives on the line
  - o Coordinated with the Kiwanis to provide items for the family
    - This is that type of behavior she would like to see from others
- All members of council should be as transparent as possible
  - o She believes all members should revisit how things are done
    - Notices council ratifies items after the fact
    - Feels items should be brought to council in advance and feels someone should be responsible for this – how she is used to operating
  - o Virtual meetings in the hands of the Council President
    - Ms. Ullner made a motion to instruct the Law Director to amend the Ordinance that the remaining council members will vote to determine if a member of council would be able to vote virtually seconded by Mr. Bilsky.

Ayes: Bilsky, Ullner, Vincent, Foster, Madden, Perry, Silver

Nays: None

**Vincent**

- Thanked everyone for listening and she did go through the proper channels to be allowed to attend/vote virtually
  - o Never missed a council meeting – had made these plans prior to the special council meeting being added
- Congratulations to Chief Roberts
- Thanked all who participated in the Kiwanis Rummage Sale – made \$21,000+ to help children in our district and all over the world
- Thanked all who participated in the Orange Artisan and Farmers Market – the next market dates are scheduled for August 17 and September 7<sup>th</sup>
  - o Hoping to do it weekly next year
  - o Looking for a few musicians to perform (volunteer)
- Orange Schools update – the next Board of Education meeting is August 12 at 6:00 p.m.
- Planning and Zoning update –
  - o First potential company at Omni – Orthodontist – preliminary
  - o August 14 public hearing – ATM at the plaza on Chagrin Blvd
- Unleashed dogs in the park – please remember that all dogs must be leashed
- Fire on Brainard – wonderful family and the support from the community speaks volumes about what our community is all about

**Foster**

- Thanked everyone for coming – public discourse is very important
- Congratulated Chief Roberts

**Madden**

- Congratulated Chief Roberts

**Perry**

- Congratulated Chief Roberts
- Heard concerns that the newsletter is biased
  - o Council used to have an opportunity to add a column
  - o Is a vehicle council members can use to provide a report
    - Could be brought back
    - Anna will allow council to add items to the newsletter
    - Mayor Kline stated there are bi-monthly electronic newsletters and anyone is able to add an article

17. Adjournment of the Special Council Meeting of August 7, 2024

Council President Silver made a motion to adjourn the Special Council Meeting of August 7, 2024 seconded by Ms. Ullner. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

  
Annamarie Girardi  
Council Clerk

  
Brent Silver  
Council President