

**MINUTES
ORANGE VILLAGE COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 12, 2025
7:00 PM**

1. Council President Silver called the Council Meeting of February 12, 2025 to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll call

Members Present: Bilsky, Ullner, Vincent, Perry, Madden, Foster, Silver
Members Absent:
Others Present: Jud Kline, Mayor
Steve Byron, Law Director
Mike Roberts, Police Chief
Larry Genova, Fire Chief
Bob Zupan, Service Director
Dana Kavander, Treasurer
Brian Mader, Village Engineer
Anna Girardi, Council Clerk

4. A Motion to award the bid for the asphalt road repair program for 2025 to Ronyak Paving in the amount not to exceed \$799,545.00 was made by Mrs. Vincent seconded by Ms. Ullner.

Brian Mader, Village Engineer, stated there were six bidders. Estimate was \$865,000. Ronyak had the lowest and best bid. They did our asphalt program last year and recommends them. Mrs. Vincent asked if there would be any road closures, Mr. Mader stated there would not be any road closures.

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

5. A Motion to approve the expenditure to Linda Mullet, Commercial and Residential Cleaning LLC. for a total amount not to exceed \$16,200. for cleaning services for the administration, police, building and service departments for 2025 was made by Ms. Ullner seconded by Mr. Bilsky.

Chief Roberts stated they started cleaning for us last year and they do a great job and they are asking for a small increase due to a couple extra items that were added, due to this fact we are now over the Mayor's spending authority. He recommends we continue with the company.

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

6. A Motion to approve the purchase of a 2025 HV507 Dump Truck chassis from Rush Truck Centers for a total amount not to exceed \$116,083.61, which is part of the ODOT contract 023-24 was made by Mrs. Perry seconded by Mr. Bilsky.

Bob Zupan, Service Director, explained that this is a replacement for a 2005 truck. This is for the chassis only. He included the information concerning the build that will take place and be budgeted for in 2026 but we can't order the chassis without the understanding that we will need to build out the vehicle for use.

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

7. A Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for December, 2024 was made by Mrs. Vincent seconded by Mr. Silver.

Mrs. Kavander explained the Treasurer's report for December, 2024

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

8. A Motion to approve the Tax Administrator's Report for December, 2024 was made by Mrs. Perry seconded by Mrs. Vincent.

Mrs. Kavander explained the Tax Administrator's report for December, 2024

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

Mrs. Kavander explained the issue with the Flock camera system. She stated that at the end of 2023 there was a contract signed for Flock services for the years 2024-2028, without the knowledge of the finance department nor the Mayor's Executive Assistant. The payment was issued in 2024 that was within the Mayor's spending authority so the finance department thought it was an annual invoice and not a contract so they would not have looked for Council's approval. In 2025, the payment was over the Mayor's authority so the finance department questioned Council's approval and that is when the finance department found out about the contract signed in 2023.

There are procedures in place, but the step was missed whereby all contracts are to be sent to the Executive Assistant to the Mayor prior to signing to make sure Council approval is obtained, if needed. In addition, we had a new Mayor and several new department heads that were unaware a step had been missed. We are in the process of updating the procedures to include this step. It will then be sent out to all departments annually and when there is a new Mayor or department head. The procedure will include that all contracts/agreements go to the Law Director and Executive Assistant to the Mayor first before any signatures are obtained. The Law Director will approve the contract language and the Executive Assistant to the Mayor will determine if it is within the Mayor's spending authority or if it has to go to council for approval. The Executive Assistant will also send the contract to the finance department so they can make sure they have the paperwork necessary for processing and confirm the services are budgeted.

9. A Discussion of the Bills to be paid in the month of February in the amount of \$338,011.74 and additional January expenses in the amount of \$156,757.55.

10. Audience comments relating to agenda items only

William Goldman, 125 Murcott Circle

- Against marijuana dispensary in Orange Village
- Current resident and physician – in 1992, THC was at 4.5% - currently THC is over 30%
- Some edibles are at 90% THC
- Concern is the developing brains up to age 26
- Revenue for recreational vs medical different rules concerning taxation

- Marijuana mental health is an issue
- Book – Tell Your Children: The Truth About Marijuana, Mental Illness and Violence by Alex Berenson

Miki Beachler, 4420 Brainard Rd

- Asking why she thinks a dispensary is needed
- Just because it was passed does not mean we need to have a dispensary in the community
- There is a dispensary very close to us now
- Does not feel it is something we need

11. Old Business of Pending Legislation and Motions

A. ORDINANCE 2025-2

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 107, CONTRACTS, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF ORANGE VILLAGE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 2nd Reading

Mr. Silver explained that this current amount has been in place since 2000, the percentage increase does not even adjust with inflation.

B. ORDINANCE 2025-5

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE TREE CANOPY AND 20 YEAR CANOPY TABLE AS “EXHIBIT A” TO CHAPTER 1375 OF THE ORANGE VILLAGE CODIFIED ORDINANCES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 2nd Reading

12. New Business and Consideration of:

A. ORDINANCE 2025-6

AN ORDINANCE ENACTING NEW CHAPTER 743, MARIJUANA, OF TITLE ONE, BUSINESS REGULATION, OF PART SEVEN, BUSINESS REGULATION AND TAXATION CODE, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF ORANGE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. 1st Reading

Ms. Ullner stated that two council members commented that the residents voted for this. She stated the issue of a dispensary and marijuana usage are not the same. There is a dispensary available in Woodmere and our residents are able to go there to purchase items. Pepper Pike voted to ban dispensaries due to the proximity to the school. Orange Village also has Temple Emanu El. She stated there is a 35% increase in overdoses in children. She noted that Orange Village we will not allow a McDonald's or Burger King in the new development but we can have a dispensary?

Mrs. Vincent stated she is not supportive of the dispensary personally. Spoke to Attorney Andrew Makoski, Ohio Department of Commerce Division of Cannabis Control, regulates dispensaries only and they are neutral. Mr. Makoski explained the how, where and when.

Ohio has restricted it to not more than 300 across the state. All have been assigned to certain locations. The number in our county was capped in a 2 year period. A dispensary cannot be added to Cuyahoga county unless one moves out of the county and there is an opening. She felt it would be easier to reinstate the ban if we want to have a dispensary then adding a ban after someone would like

to move into the Village. Asked residents to please share your views with council.

Mr. Madden stated he feels that the legalization of marijuana is taking marijuana out of the hands of the black market. He feels that for the most part, the population did understand what they were voting for. He feels it is hypocritical to say we want it but not in my backyard.

Mrs. Perry stated that the people came out and voted to legalize marijuana. She feels it is not proper to ban a dispensary due to our personal feelings. She plans to vote no on this Ordinance. She stated Chief Roberts looked into other communities call volume that had dispensaries (8 of the 13). He stated there was nothing alarming in the reports.

Mr. Foster stated that he understand the issue with children. He asked if there was a law that the parents are responsible for the children. Mrs. Vincent stated that the children that are overdosing are not receiving the marijuana from the dispensaries. Ms. Ullner stated if a child is brought into the hospital for an overdose, Child Protective Services would be called. Chief Roberts agreed.

Mayor Kline stated there are so many other usage we can find for areas in the Village and he feels it is not something that we can pursue. He introduced anti-vaping legislation a few years ago, it was not pursued but he feels this is the same type of issue with the marijuana sales.

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

Jason Kiss, 28399 Pike Dr

- Member of the Arts and Culture Committee
 - o Co-Chair – provided an update of the committee
 - o Large group of residents with many talents
 - o Social media presence is first item they will be working on
 - Blue Sky account and will be adding a Facebook page to provides update
 - o Possible collaboration with Stagecrafters
 - o Sidewalk chalk with children/floral craft event/events in the summer
 - o Halloween house decorating contest – people can contribute to enter their home
 - o Chili cookoff for a fundraiser
 - o Holiday lighting ceremony
- Encourages anyone to attend – first Thursday of every month at Orange Village Hall

14. Comments by the Mayor

- Enews concerning Louis Bourroughs – Black History Month
 - o Recognize him for his artistic work
- Provided the state of the Village (see attached report)
- Paper Shredding is also on Friday from 9am until noon at Orange Service Department, 4680 Lander Road – 5 box/bag limit
- Happy Valentine’s Day on Friday
- President’s Day is Monday, February 17th – we salute our nation’s leaders. Please note that Village Hall will be OPEN and trash/recycling will NOT be affected. Trash will be picked up on Monday as usual

15. Comments by the Council President

- No comments

16. Committee Reports and Comments by Council Members

Bilsky

- Thanked everyone for their comments concerning marijuana and the dispensaries
- Very fortunate to have the wonderful services we have in Orange Village and thanked them

Ullner

- Pepper Pike tragedy – respect privacy of the family – son attended Orange High School
 - o Talk to your children
 - o *988 – available to anyone for mental health issues
 - o Look forward to working with Mayor Kline on the First Call program – bring mental health services to our residents on appropriate police calls and provide follow up
 - Mr. Silver asked about the timing on the program
 - Mayor Kline stated he spoke with the coordinator from Shaker Heights is setting up a meeting to discuss with neighboring communities
 - Spoke with Cuyahoga County’s Director of Community Collaboration to make this a county-wide endeavor and CVD to add the communities they provide services to
- Orange C.A.R.E.S. Committee Update
 - o Next meeting is March 11 at 7:00 p.m. at Orange Village Hall
 - o Kindness Boxes are currently going around the village, hopefully others will “pay it forward”
 - o May will sponsor a bike workshop and car seat installation

Vincent

- Thanked everyone for their participation in the Orange Centennial
- Thanked Anna for the Garage Sale and Orange for the Holidays Coupon Book
- Thanked Jason for sharing about the Arts & Culture Committee Update
 - o Destyni Green from the Orange Arts Center shared that they are hosting an emerging artist residency program
 - o Mother’s Day market to be held at May 10 at the Orange Schools campus
- In honor of Black History Month, Orange High School Male Minority Leadership is hosting film festival every Saturday this month
- International Night – February 20 at Moreland Hills Elementary
- OHS Lions Hockey Team – won championship – Baron Cup
- Orange Schools update
- Job Skills Class at Orange High School is helping families at Ronald McDonald House, they are looking for donations of prepackages, non-perishable snacks, cookies, snacks, fruit snacks, small water bottles and Ziploc bags between Feb 24 and March 10 at the High School
- Mayor’s Meeting with school board will be in the spring – all council members are invited to attend
- Last chance to use the Orange for the Holidays coupon

Perry

- Parks and Recreation Committee has been working on a new dog park and have been exploring locations

Madden

- What it means to be sustainable – what it means to him
 - o Seventh generation principle from Native American Gov’t
 - Inspiration for Ben Franklin’s work on the constitution

- The principle is that decisions about natural resources (energy and water) should be sustainable for seven generations into the future
 - Would like this to be a guiding principle
- Sustainability and Resilience Committee meeting
 - Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation, Carla Regener, Program Manager of Natural Resources spoke about maintaining water resources
 - Thanked everyone that came out to the meeting

Foster

- No comments


17. Adjournment of the Council Meeting of February 12, 2025

A Motion to adjourn the council meeting of February 12, 2025 was made by seconded by

Meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

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


Annamarie Girardi
Council Clerk


Brent Silver
Council President