

VILLAGE OF PIKETON
MARCH 17, 2025
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Billy Spencer, Mayor, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present:	Jennifer Chandler	Victor Brushart
	Ralph Douthitt	Cristy Shanks
	Dennis Foreman	Ryan Clemmons

Others present: Jim Nelson, Police Chief and Cheryl King Fiscal Officer/Administrator

MINUTES

A motion was made by Victor Brushart to approve the minutes for the February 18, 2025 meeting. A second was made by Ralph Douthitt. Chandler-yes, Douthitt-yes, Foreman-yes, Brushart-yes, Shanks-yes, Clemmons-yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Dennis Foreman to approve the fines and forfeitures. A second was made by Ryan Clemmons. Chandler-yes, Douthitt-yes, Foreman-yes, Brushart-yes, Shank-yes, Clemmons-yes. Motion Carried.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Mayor welcomed Laila Kelley a sophomore at Piketon High School who is attending Shawnee and is here to observe as part of her class.

The Mayor also welcomed Stephanie Rowe and Daniel Ratcliff of Reach for Tomorrow and currently located at the Square in the Partnership for Domestic Violence building. The Mayor explained he has met with both ladies and they would like to explain their mission to council Daniel said she is the CEO and Founder of Reach for Tomorrow for 9 years; beginning as a help me grow program. Since then, they have realized that there is not a lot of mental health services. There were contacted by the Partnership about 2 and half years ago because they lost their funding. Daniel explained that they realized that substance use was a symptom of the trauma the women had been through. What they could offer that was not possible at the partnership was mental health counseling. Stephanie pointed out that the women don't receive their services until after they have completed the substance abuse program. Both ladies explained the program in detail. Council asked how they are funded and they explained through billed insurance; Medicare and Medicaid. Clemmons asked after completing the program; are they allowed to walk out and stay in this town and both ladies said no. Chief asked if this is a program that is through the courts or a volunteer program and Daniel explained it can be both. The Mayor said one of the things he asked them about was if there was drug recovery and that is not part of their program. They are interested in leasing the building on the corner from Ralph Williamson. The ladies explained they do not want conflict with the Village or Council and that is why they came to the meeting tonight. Daniel said they have been there for over a year and a half with this program. The Mayor asked Chief if there had been any problems and chief stated only when it was domestic violence and their boyfriends/spouse were looking for them. There was more discussion and a motion was

made by Ryan Clemmons to approve the program being located at the corner of West and Third Streets providing that the Mayor speak with the neighbors and they do not have any issues with them being located there then council will re-evaluate after 18 months. A second was made by Victor Brushart. Chandler-yes, Douthitt-abstained, Foreman-abstained, Brushart-yes, Shanks-yes, Clemmons-yes. Motion Carried.

COMMITTEES

Finance- Douthitt stated the bottom line looks good; waiting to hear more of the water and wastewater treatment plants. Kent gave an update saying everyone is working toward a final contract and will hope to have finalized next week. The Mayor said there is a meeting Wednesday so hope to know more then. Ordinance 2025-01 was presented Permanent Appropriation for 2025. The Mayor explained the only difference from the temporary was \$291.23 which is money left from Covid. A motion was made by Ralph Douthitt to approve Ordinance 2025-01. A second was made by Dennis Foreman. Chandler-yes, Douthitt-yes, Foreman-yes, Brushart-yes, Shanks-yes, Clemmons-yes. Motion carried.

Police & Fire- Victor Brushart-nothing new

Utilities- Ryan Clemmons asked if there is a plan for the hill and the Mayor said yes; the pipe has been clogged that was ran a few years ago; and then he also said this year he plans to do spot paving. Chandler reminded that the 629 program is a potential source to fix that area and that Kent and Rick have both worked on that project.

Streets & Sidewalks – Cristy Shanks- nothing new

Subdivision-Dennis Foreman-nothing new

Community Development-Jennifer Chandler- the Mayor said the Village is not going to have Wings and Strings this year as it is not well attended and \$15k is a lot to spend when he and Dennis have talked and they may like to try a couple day event in the future. The Christmas tree also blew over this year at the end of the season and is not salvageable so unless we get a donation of tree there will not be a Christmas Tree. Since we will not be doing those things, the Mayor stated we have purchased a Vermeer XL1000 wood chipper and staff will be trained on how to safely use it tomorrow and said it is a tool that we really need. We will not be able to have fireworks this year because we have lost the location and the school.

MAYORS REPORT-

The Mayor presented Resolution 2025-01 Authorizing the Mayor to advertise and accept bids for the construction of a new raw water line, new wells and the rehabilitation of two existing wells. A motion was made by Jennifer Chandler to dispense of the second and third readings for Resolution 2025-01 and a second was made by Dennis Foreman. Chandler-yes, Douthitt-yes, Foreman-yes, Brushart-yes, Shanks-yes, Clemmons-yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ryan Clemmons to approve Resolution 2025-01 and a second was made by Victor Brushart. Chandler-yes, Douthitt-yes, Foreman-yes, Brushart-yes, Shanks-yes, Clemmons-yes. Motion carried.

The Mayor presented Resolution 2025-02 authorizing the Mayor to award and execute a contract for the construction of the new raw waterline, new wells, and rehab of existing wells.

A motion was made by Ryan Clemmons to approve Resolution 2025-01 and a second was made by Victor Brushart. Chandler-yes, Douthitt-yes, Foreman-yes, Brushart-yes, Shanks-yes, Clemmons-yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ryan Clemmons to dispense of the second and third readings for Resolution 2025-02 and a second was made by Dennis Foreman. Chandler-yes, Douthitt-yes, Foreman-yes, Brushart-yes, Shanks-yes, Clemmons-yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Victor Brushart to approve Resolution 2025-02 and a second was made by Jennifer Chandler. Chandler-yes, Douthitt-yes, Foreman-yes, Brushart-yes, Shanks-yes, Clemmons-yes. Motion carried.

PAY BILLS

A motion was made by Victor Brushart to pay the bills and any that are due before the next meeting. A second was made by Jennifer Chandler. All in favor, Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Dennis Foreman and a second was made by Victor Brushart to adjourn the meeting. All in favor, meeting adjourned.

Jennifer Chandler

Victor Brushart

Ralph Douthitt

Cristy Shanks

Dennis Foreman

Ryan Clemmons

All formal actions of the Village of Piketon concerning and relating to the adoption of resolutions and/or motions passed at this meeting were adopted in a meeting open to the public, in compliance with the law, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.