

**Regular Meeting  
Council of the Village of Antwerp  
April 9, 2025**

Mayor Jan Reeb called the regular meeting of the Village of Antwerp Council to order at 5:30 P.M.  
Council members present: Dean Rister, Bill Boylan, Jason Franks, and Bryan Smith

Also attending: Administrator Brian Davis, Fiscal Officer Kevin Hornish, Police Chief George Clemens and Solicitor Brandon Grigsby.

Guests and observers: Barry Hook, Gayle Rister, Jerry Stanford, Ethan Thomas-VanKirk, Taylor Stieblinz and Haydyn Lengacher

- Motion made by Rister, seconded by Boylan, to excuse Bryce Steiner from the meeting. 4 Yeas, 0 Nays. Motion Carried and Approved

Council reviewed the March finance statements, bank reconciliation and R.I.T.A. report.

- Motion made by Boylan, seconded by Franks to accept the March Financial Statements and Bank Reconciliation statement as presented. 4 Yeas, 0 Nays. Motion carried and approved.

**VISITORS**

Visitors attended as guests only.

**EMS REPORT**

EMS Coordinator Ashley McDougall did not submit a report.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Smith informed council that the personnel committee had received 10 applications to fill the open council seat. Smith and Franks conducted interviews on 3 separate occasions with the applicants. Smith asked for a member of council to entertain a motion to move to executive session to discuss employment of a new council member prior to the close of the meeting.

**FISCAL OFFICER REPORT**

**EMERGENCY READING OF ORDINANCE 2025-06:** An ordinance adopting a new procedure for Village Water Billing.

Administrator Davis informed council about the ordinance and that it would take effect on the July billing.

- Motion made by Boylan, seconded by Rister, to suspend the rules regarding three readings. 4 Yeas, 0 Nays. Motion carried and approved.
- Motion made by Rister, seconded by Boylan, to adopt Ordinance 2025-06. 4 Yeas, 0 Nays. Motion carried and approved.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Reading OF ORDINANCE 2025-04:** An ordinance authorizing the mayor to enter a new contract for Mayor's Court Clerk with Victoria Clemens.

- Motion made by Franks, seconded by Rister, to adopt Ordinance 2025-04. 4 Yeas, 0 Nays. Motion carried and approved.

**3<sup>rd</sup> READING OF RESOLUTION 2025-05:** An ordinance to Amend Section 5 of Ordinance 2013-30 to raise the fee assessed to landowners who fail to comply with a notice of violation as to lawncare.

Boylan asked if the language contained within the ordinance would cover grass as well as weeds. Solicitor Grigsby clarified that the language contained within the ordinance would also apply to tall grass as well as long weeds.

- Motion made by Rister, seconded by Boylan, to adopt Ordinance 2025-05. 4 Yeas, 0 Nays. Motion carried and approved.

**3<sup>rd</sup> READING OF RESOLUTION 2025-07:** A resolution authorizing the village administrator to make an expenditure more than \$75,000.00 for engineering related to the Water Plant Project.

- Motion made by Rister, seconded by Franks, to adopt Resolution 2025-07. 4 Yeas, 0 Nays. Motion carried and approved.

#### **POLICE REPORT**

Clemens provided a written report showing fifty-nine calls for service, twenty-eight total offenses and twenty-six ticketed offenses for the month of March. Clemens answered questions from council on the report. Clemens asked for a member of council to entertain a motion to move to executive session to discuss pay and compensation of an employee to the close of the meeting.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Smith asked about the link on the website to allow for the payment of village utility bills. Administrator Davis informed council that the link is now on the active and working to allow residents to pay bills online. Davis also mentioned that he and utility billing clerk Straley are actively working to get the mass alert system working properly, as some number of subscribers are having issues.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Admin. Davis informed council that the Ohio EPA had awarded the Village a grant of \$15,000.00 to remove and close well #2 that is no longer in use. He has a quote to complete the job at an amount less than the grant total so the funds from the grant should be sufficient to complete the project.

Jeff Cook spoke with Davis requesting that one block of Stone St., from Main St. to Erie St., be renamed to Bourbon St. The only properties that would be affected by this street name change are currently owned by Jeff & Todd Cook. Davis asked solicitor Grigsby to draft an Ordinance for the Zoning Board to approve prior to council's consideration and presented the draft ordinance to Bill Boylan to take to zoning.

Davis submitted a request to the Ohio Department of Development to utilize the remaining grant funds from the water tower rehab project for new water meters and is waiting for a reply.

Davis again informed council that the software utilized for online payment of utility bills is now active and on the village website. Utility consumers can either pay with a credit card or a direct debit from your bank account.

Davis informed council that once the county commissioner(s) sign the annexation paperwork on the parcel of land for the development, he will work with Zoning to correct the maps and have that area zoned as B2.

Tim Copsey has notified admin. Davis that he had secured a donation from a family for the new street, and they would like the street named "Meyer Ave." Solicitor Grigsby is going to work with the CIC to transfer the property from the CIC to the village to accept the donation via ordinance.

Davis spoke with Ryan from Zen Leaf on the purchase of the old motel. He informed Ryan that he would have to work with zoning to rezone the property to B2 to utilize the property for a parking lot. Davis put Zen Leaf in contact with Zoning Inspector Dunlap to get this process started.

#### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Reeb gave the mayor's report. The Village received \$2232, the County Indigent Driver Fund received \$33, and the State of Ohio received \$805 for a grand total amount collected through Mayor's Court of \$3070.00.

Solicitor Grigsby also noted that prior to executive session that he would need the motion for executive session to also include attorney client privilege for possible pending litigation.

- Boylan made a motion, seconded by Smith, to move to executive session under O.R.C. section 121.22 (G) (1) to consider the appointment, employment and compensation of a public employee as well as O.R.C. section 121.22 (G) (3) for a conference with the village attorney concerning a dispute involving the public body that may be subject to pending litigation. 4 Yeas, 0 Nays. Council moved to executive session at 5:58 p.m.

Council returned to open session at 7:02 p.m. with no action taken.

- Rister made a motion, seconded by Franks, to have Solicitor Grigsby review the Ohio Police and Fire Drop Program and the employee handbook so he could advise and recommend to council how to proceed with the possible payout of sick leave for George Clemens. 4 Yeas, 0 Nays.

Grigsby will present recommendations to council at the next council meeting.

Dean asked to open nominations to fill the vacant council seat under O.R.C. 731.43(A)(1). Smith nominated John Ganger. Franks nominated John Devore. Bill Boylan also wanted to nominate John Devore.

- Rister made a motion, seconded by Smith, to close nominations. 4 Yeas 0 Nays. Nominations were closed.

Council took a vote for John Devore to fill the vacancy. 3 Yeas and 1 Nay.

Council then voted for John Ganger to fill the vacancy. 2 Yeas and 2 nays.

Following the vote with lack of full majority council continued discussion on the two nominees. Following additional discussion, Rister again asked to open nominations to fill the vacant council seat under O.R.C. 731.43(A)(1). Bryan Smith nominated John Devore.

- Franks made a motion, seconded by Rister, to close nominations. 4 Yeas, 0 Nays.

Council voted on John Devore to fill the council seat vacancy. 4 Yeas, 0 Nays. Smith will inform all applicants about council's decision and Mayor Reeb will set a time with Mr. Devore to be sworn in to fill the vacancy.

- Motion made by Franks, seconded by Smith, to adjourn the meeting. 4 Yeas, 0 Nays. Motion carried and approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:17.

MAYOR

Jan Reeb

FISCAL OFFICER

Jim A. Smith

DATE

5/14/2025