

**Village of Mount Sterling Council
Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 23, 2015**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Charles Neff.

Attending the meeting: Mayor Charles Neff, council persons Rebecca Burns, Mary Lou Stiverson-Ratliff, Jim Davis, Lowell Anderson, Diane Spradlin and David Timmons. Joe Johnson, David Owens, Bonnie Liff, Dean Shipley of the Madison Press and citizens of the village.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The minutes of the November 9, 2015 meeting were accepted as written with a motion from David Timmons and a second from Rebecca Burns.

Mayor's Comments: Wish everyone a safe and nice Thanksgiving.

Public Comments:

Bob Little: Wanted to know what is involved in the bidding process, Rumpke contract. Joe advised there are 470 customers with a \$.50 raise. That comes out to \$200 plus. Cheaper to renew the contract than going out for bid.

Fred Brown: Spoke his opinion on the Mayor's raise. He was not for it.

Department Reports

Village Adm. The water plant came in 1 million 1 hundred dollars over bid. Redesigned the water plant. Goes out for bid 12/2, reopen bids on 12/22.
Tuesday at noon will have Thanksgiving dinner here, everyone is welcome. Have a safe holiday.

Committee Reports

Finance: No bills to pay at this time.

Streets: High St. is doing well. Pouring concrete tomorrow. Will be grinding streets down if weather holds out. Applied for a local government grant for Clevenger Avenue between Columbus and Main Streets. We are fourth on the list.

SJAD: Usual business. If you use the squad the insurance will write you the check. If you choose not to pay the squad, the squad has to eat the bill.

Pleasant Twp.: Meeting was on 11/16. Read and approved the minutes. Thanked everyone for voting for the levy. Cleaned up Alkire Cemetery, removed the old fuel tank.

Ordinances and Resolutions:

Ordinance No. 2015-13. An ordinance increasing the salaries of the Mayor, Administration and the Council Members of Mount Sterling, beginning the new term beginning January 1, 2016, and declaring an emergency. Third Reading.

A motion to table Ordinance No. 2015-13 was made by Mary Lou Stiverson-Ratliff with a second from Lowell Anderson. A voice vote was taken, all yes.

Resolution No. 2015-14: A resolution authorizing the Village of Mount Sterling to prepare and submit an application to participate in the Ohio Public Works Commission State Capital Improvement and/or Local Transportation Improvement program(s) and to execute contracts as required. Third Reading.

A motion to place on third reading was made by David Timmons with a second by Jim Davis. A voice vote was taken, all yes. A motion to adopt was made by Jim Davis with a second by Rebecca Burns. A voice vote was taken, all yes.

Ordinance 2015-15: An ordinance to amend section 880 of the codified ordinances of the Village of Mount Sterling, Ohio regarding municipal income tax and declaring an emergency. Second reading.

A motion to place on second reading was made by David Timmons with a second from Jim Davis. A voice vote was taken, all yes.

Ordinance 2015-16: An ordinance for the Village of Mount Sterling Budget and Appropriations for 2016 and declaring an emergency. First reading.

A motion to place on first reading was made by Jim Davis with a second from Lowell Anderson. A voice vote was taken, all yes.

Round Table:

Diane Spradlin: Spoke on Ord. 2015-13 (tabled). ORC has sections in it for raises of Council and Mayor. Read part of ORC 102.03. Contacted the Ohio Ethics Commission about the ordinance. They referred her to ORC. 731.13. Ordinance should not have been brought up. If it would have passed it would have been an illegal ordinance.

Mary Lou Stiverson-Ratliff: Never intended to vote for the ordinance because of what Diane said. Do believe the solicitor should have paid more attention. No way it was going to pass because of the ORC.

The Mayor didn't know there was a time frame.

David Timmons: Flag pole ceremony at the Madison Plains Elementary was great.

Diane: Complimented Joe and the guys on how good the front of town hall looks.

Rebecca Burns: Mt. Sterling Chamber of Commerce had an appreciation dinner at American Legion on Saturday. Served 360 dinners.

December 4: Tree lighting ceremony at the gazebo.

December 6: Community Center is having Christmas in the Village.

Adjourn: A motion to adjourn was made by David Timmons with a second from Rebecca Burns. All yes. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.