# **Bowerston Village Council**

# Regular Meeting Tuesday, October 14, 2025

Village Officials Attendance: Polly Wolfe, Jon Humphrey. Juliet Bryant, Chase Bryant, Janet Hanlon, Paula Beamer, Bart Busby, Jeremiah Warner, Jacquie Humphrey and JJ Ong.

Visitors: Cindy Slentz and Frank Masters, interested in joining council.

Call To Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call of Council: All present

**Public Comments None** 

Resignation of Council Member: Paula reported that she had received a letter of resignation from Juliet and read the letter to Council. Janet made motion to accept, Chase seconded.

Appointment of Council Members: Paula introduced Frank Masters and Cindy Slentz to Council as perspective council members.

Chase nominated Cindy for appointment, Polly seconded, unanimous. JJ administered the oath of office to Slentz, term expiring December 31, 2027.

Polly made motion to appoint Frank to Council, Janet seconded, unanimous. JJ administered the oath of office to Masters, term expiring December 31, 2025.

Jon nominated Chase as the new Council president, Janet seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.

Executive Session: Personnel 6:06 Janet made motion, Jon seconded. 6:12, back into regular session.

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee:

- 1. Addressed in Ordinance 2025-14
- 2. Chase reported that the committee had discussed pay raises for 2026.

Executive Session: ORC Section 121.22 (G) (1) to consider the employment of public employees. 6:14 Janet made motion to enter into executive session, Jon seconded, unanimous. 6:22, Chase made motion to resume regular session, Janet seconded, unanimous.

Jon made motion to approve contract with Bruce Beamer Jr for cybersecurity work, Janet seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.

#### **Utility Committee:**

1. Addressed in Ordinances 2025-11 & 12, 2025-15 & 16

Approval of regular September minutes: Chase made motion, Polly seconded, unanimous.

## Loan/Grant Status Reports:

1. In legislation section.

Pending and/or New Legislation:

- 1. Ordinance 2025-11, Cyber Security Policy, Jon made motion to suspend rules of three readings and pass as emergency measure, Polly seconded, unanimous. Chase made motion to approve ordinance, Jon seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.
- 2. Ordinance 2025-12, Correcting Late Fees for Utility Billing. Paula explained that the school had been sent 5 late notices and charged \$50, instead of just one, JJ has corrected the language in the ordinance. Janet made motion to suspend the rules of three readings and pass as an emergency measure Polly seconded, unanimous. Chase make motion to approve ordinance, Polly seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.
- Ordinance 2025-13, Authorizing Mayor to enter into RITA Agreement. Jon made motion to suspend rules of three readings and pass as emergency measure, Janet seconded, unanimous. Chase make motion to approve ordinance, Jon seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.
- 4. Ordinance 2025-14, Amending Employees Handbook, pay scale for 2026. Chase reported on the committee meeting regarding raises. Jon made motion to suspend the rules of three readings and pass as an emergency measure, Polly seconded, unanimous. Polly made motion to approve the ordinance, Cindy seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.
- 5. Ordinance 2025-15, Repealing 2022-06, Sewer Rates for 2026, first reading,
- 6. Ordinance 2025-16, Repealing 2022-03, Water Rates for 2026, first reading
- 7. Ordinance 2025-17, Utility rates for LJ Smith, 2-year time frame, allowing mayor to enter into this agreement. Jon made motion to suspend the rules of three readings and pass as an emergency measure, Chase seconded. Jon made motion to approve ordinance, Janet seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.
- 7. Resolution 26-2025, Amending Appropriations within fund 5101, Chase made motion to approve, Jon seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.

- 8. Resolution 27-2025, Amending Appropriations, \$1,000 to fund 5781, Jon made motion to approve, Frank seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.
- 9. Resolution 28-2025, Authorizing Mayor to enter into contracts for water distribution project. Paula explained that this is for the EPA. Janet made motion to approve, Polly seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.
- 10. Resolution 29-2025, Authorizing Mayor to enter into contracts for sanitary sewer project. Jon made motion to approve, Chase seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.
- 11. Resolution 30-2025, Authorizing Mayor to submit application to participate in OPWC program. Paula explained that this is for an OMEGA submission. Jon made motion to approve, Chase seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.
- 12. Paula requested approval for Fiscal Officer to certify matching funds for OPWC. Chase make motion to approve, Janet seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.

### Mayor's Report:

- 1. Attached, Frank made motion to approve, Janet seconded, unanimous.
- 2. Address mis-information on social media, Paula reported that there will be trick or treat as well as trunk or treat on Friday, October 31st. There had been inaccurate comments on social media.
- 3. Thank you to Derek and Michael Warner for hanging banners

## Village Administrator's Report:

- Attached, Jon made motion to approve Paula's report, Janet seconded, unanimous.
- A discussion took place regarding the work that Spectrum has been doing in the village. JJ to request schematics.

# Utility Clerk's Report:

1, Attached. Jon made motion to approve the report that was prepared by Paula, Polly seconded, unanimous.

# Income Tax Administrator's Report:

 Attached. This report was prepared by Janeen. Jon made motion to approve, Polly seconded, unanimous.

## Fiscal Officer's Report:

- 1. Attached. Janet made motion to approve, Polly seconded, unanimous.
- 2. Appointment to be RITA representative, voting power for the Village with RITA, Frank was appointed unanimously.
- 3. Appointment to be PEP representative. Jon was appointed unanimously.

### Solicitor's Report:

- JJ reported that the County deeds have been sent, he should have them back to us soon. JJ advised that the Village may sell these, without competitive bidding, after the deeds are received.
- 2. JJ reported on Janet's question from the September meeting, regarding pass through entities in the RITA contract.

#### Old Business:

1. Trick or Treat, or Trunk or Treat, October 31, 5:30 to 6:30.

#### Executive session Personnel

Polly made motion to compensate Jacquie the rate of \$200 of the former bi-weekly pay for income tax entry and management. A total of \$400.00 per month, to be paid once monthly, through the end of 2025. Polly made motion to approve, Frank seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.

#### New Business:

1. Discuss potential sale of garage. Paula reported that there is someone interested in purchasing the garage and that she had sought legal council regarding this. \$102,000.00 to \$113,000.00 was the estimate received but Paula would like to get at least one more appraisal. A discussion took place regarding where we would build a new garage, the former elementary property. Paula reported that once funding is in place it would take approximately 9 months to complete the project. Bart inquired if we could obtain funding after a building built. No. Paula inquired of JJ if selling the garage would have to be opened to competitive bidding. JJ will look into this, but he believes that it does.

Adjournment: 7:13 Frank made motion, Polly seconded, unanimous.

Fiscal Officer, Jacquie Humphrey

Mayor, Paula Beamer