

**VILLAGE OF PEMBERVILLE
COUNCIL MEETING
January 21, 2025**

Mayor Bailey opened the January 21, 2025, Council meeting at 7:00pm with a prayer and the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call: Present at the scheduled meeting of the Council were Angel, Kirkbride, Mazur, Rahe, Rollins Titkemeier. Others present were Solicitor Robert Kuhlman, Chief Vaughn, Eric Campbell, Denny Henline, Hunter Hefflinger, Joe and Josh Finfera, Owen Lawless, Nicholas Agee, Dean Krukemyer, Kim Long, Bob Schacht. Melody Siebenaler, and the Clerk.

Mayor deviated from the agenda to allow the Board of Public Affairs to provide an update on their departments. Dean Krukemyer stated that the north electrical substation has been updated. The water tower is proceeding, and installation is on target. Krukemyer stated that there was a water break on Maple and Bond St over the weekend.

Krukemyer stated that the next focus will be waterline replacements on the tree streets. Engineering has been completed for Pine and Main.

Long added that BPA is looking at bids for logging approximately 60 acres of Village property for 1 possibly 2 new wells. Long stated that the logging could generate close to \$59,000 for the general fund.

Rahe asked for an update on timeclocks. Rollins stated that the Personnel Committee is still working through that and are looking at potential options.

Minutes: Angel moved, and Mazur seconded to approve the minutes from the January 7, 2025, meeting. Motion passed 5/6 vote. Angel-yes; Mazur-yes; Rahe-yes; Titkemeier-yes; Rollins-yes; Kirkbride-abstain.

Treasurer's Report: Rahe moved, and Kirkbride seconded to approve the bills in the amount of \$3,336.43. Motion passed unanimously.

ORDINANCE 1685: 2025 WAGE ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING MUNICIPAL EMPLOYMENT POSITIONS, DEFINING DUTIES AND PROVIDING FOR THE COMPENSATION THEREOF. 3rd READING.

Rahe moved and Angel seconded to approve Ordinance 1685. Motion passed 5/6 vote. Rahe-no; Angel-yes; Rollins-yes; Titkemeier-yes; Mazur-yes; Kirkbride-yes.

Rahe stated that she is not in favor of the wage ordinance while we are asking to increase the income tax rate. The clerk explained that most raises are not coming from the General Fund. Clerk stated that the Police budget is 50% of the General Fund and therefore, the income tax levy will help support the police department. Rollins added that the Personnel Committee agreed to move the full-time officer to salary to help alleviate overtime pay and that this will reduce the police budget that is within the General Fund by approximately \$5,000.

ORDINANCE 1686: AN ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF PEMBERVILLE COUNCIL AMENDING SECTION 32.002 PURPOSE OF TAX RATE, OF CHAPTER 32, INCOME TAX, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF PEMBERVILLE, CHANGING THE RATE OF TAX LEVIED ON INCOME FROM 1% TO 1.5% EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2026. 2nd READING.

RESOLUTION 794: A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE WOOD COUNTY, OHIO BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO PLACE UPON THE BALLOT AT THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON MAY 6, 2025, THE QUESTION OF INCREASING THE RATE OF PEMBERVILLE MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX FROM 1.0% TO 1.5% COMMENCING FOR THE TAX YEAR BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2026. 2nd READING.

Police Activity Report: Activity report provided. There were no additional comments or questions regarding the report.

Mayor:

Mayor welcomed Mr. Kuhlman back.

Mayor stated that committee assignments are the same as 2024.

Mayor stated that there is a Zoning Board of Appeals meeting this Thursday and next Thursday at 6:00pm

Mayor discussed the income tax levy and potential cuts if it does not pass. Mayor explained that the police utilize 50% of the General fund's budget and she does not want to see the Village lose that service because we will never get a police department back. The income tax increase will generate approximately an additional \$300,000, which will help support the expenses generated by the police department.

Council Reports:

Rollins:

Records and Retention Committee: Rollins stated the committee met on January 7th to continue working through files. Rollins stated that the committee will meet again on January 31st to continue working through old files.

Personnel & Finance Committee: Rollins stated the Personnel & Finance committee met and discussed the police wages and potential cuts from the general fund. Rollins stated permanent appropriations were discussed. Rollins stated that currently townhall does not have any water due to frozen pipes and therefore the office staff will be working from home tomorrow.

Titkemeier:

Planning Commission: Titkemeier stated Planning Commission has no report.

BPA: Titkemeier stated BPA is currently meeting and therefore nothing to report.

Rahe:

Rahe asked how Council was going to promote and educate the Village residents regarding the income tax levy. Mayor stated that they will have approximately 2 months before election to provide the residents with information.

Streets, Sidewalks, Lands & Building: Rahe stated streets met on January 9th. Rahe stated that the Walnut St public bathrooms had a huge mess recently. Rahe mentioned the letter sent to businesses regarding snow removal.

Rahe discussed the lease for the mowers for 2025. Clerk will sign the continued agreement proposals and send over to John Deere. Rahe stated that Committee minutes are posted to the website if anyone is interested in reading them.

Mazur:

Park and Rec: Mazur stated the next Park and Rec meeting is January 27th at 10:00am

Kirkbride:

Cemetery: No report

Tree Committee: Kirkbride stated that the committee met on January 13th and worked on updating the Tree Ordinance. Kirkbride stated that there were 50 trees recently planted. Kirkbride stated that the tree in memory of Marge Cox will be planted as the Arbor Day tree located at townhall. Arbor Day celebration will be April 25th. Kirkbride stated that there is a request to trim back the tree near the splash pad. Kirkbride stated that the next committee meeting will be on February 24th and will continue working on the updated Tree Ordinance.

Angel:

Safety Committee: Angel stated the committee met and discussed the police budget. Angel stated that the next Safety meeting will be February 10th at 4:45pm.

Eric Campbell:

Guests:

Denny Henline addressed Council regarding his helper Hunter Hefflinger and the work he has performed helping residents clean up their properties. Henline would like Council to provide a thank you letter to Hunter for all his volunteer efforts on cleaning up these properties.

Mayor Bailey adjourned the meeting at 8:10 P.M.

*Audio recording of the meetings is available upon Public Records request.