

**Village of Waynesville  
Council Meeting Minutes  
February 22, 2022 at 7:00 pm**

Present: Mayor Earl Isaacs  
Mr. Brian Blankenship  
Mr. Chris Colvin  
Ms. Joette Dedden  
Mr. Zack Gallagher  
Mr. Troy Lauffer  
Mrs. Connie Miller

Village Staff Present: Chief Gary Copeland, Village Manager and Safety Director; Jamie Morley, Clerk of Council

*CLERK’S NOTE- This is a summary of the Village Council Meeting held on Tuesday, February 22, 2022.*

.....

Mayor Isaacs called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

Roll Call – 7 present

**Mayor Acknowledgements**

Attended the Warren County Municipal League meeting last Wednesday. Neil Tunison, Warren County Engineer, was the presenter and updated the league on ongoing and future roadway projects.

**Disposition of Previous Minutes**

Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve the minutes for the Council meeting on February 7, 2022 as written and Mr. Blankenship seconded the motion.

Motion – Miller  
Second – Blankenship

Roll Call – 7 yeas

.....

**Public Recognition/Visitor’s Comments**

None

.....

**Old Business**

Chief Copeland stated that at the last meeting there had been some discussion about donating the Lockup to the Friend’s Museum. Council had asked if the Museum could afford the upkeep and repairs the building needs or if the Museum would even want to take responsibility of the Lockup. Since the meeting, Chief Copeland has met with Mr. Blankenship and Mr. Prickett, both members of the Friend’s Museum Board. They along with an architect have inspected the Lockup and have estimated the building would require about 20-30K worth of repairs. The Museum Board has met and discussed the possibility of accepting the Lockup, but no formal proposal has been made. Chief Copeland suggested the Village consider leasing the building to the Museum for a period of six months for \$1 with an option of another six-month extension if more time is needed. This would allow the Museum time to research and apply for grants. The Museum would assume payments for the utilities and maintenance of the building while leasing the Lockup. The initial thoughts were that the Museum could use it for community events and meetings. Chief Copeland stressed that while the Village is looking at either donating or selling the Lockup, there has never been any intentions to tear down the building. The Lockup is a historical building with a lot of history. Mr. Blankenship stated that most of the Museum Board seems to be in favor of accepting the donation of the Lockup, but a final vote will need to be taken at the next meeting. Chief Copeland stated that the building is not in horrible shape and can be used as is for meetings, but repairs and upkeep does need to be done as with any historical building.

At this time, James Prickett of 374 Miami Street, addressed Council. He stated that the Museum has only had two weeks to consider accepting the responsibility of the Lockup. There is an emergency Museum Board meeting next Monday to discuss this, but two weeks is not a lot of time for such a huge decision. Mr. Prickett stated he loves the building and wants to see it restored and made available to the public.

Mr. Gallagher wanted to clarify that by the Village leasing and ultimately donating the building to the Museum, this would alleviate the cost of utility bills, maintenance of the building, and liability from the taxpayers. Chief Copeland agreed and stated he felt this was a win-win for both the Village and the Museum. He also feels this is the best option for the building to turn it over to the stewards of the history of the Village. He also stated that the Museum can take their time in deciding if they want to take ownership of the building. The consensus of Council was that they would like to see the Museum get the building and honor its history and stressed that at no time was there discussion to tear the building down.

Ms. Dedden stated Council had a special working session of Council tonight and went over the Rules of Council page by page. Council found no need for any updates or changes. Ms. Dedden did add that Council does have a legal question for Mr. Forbes to be asked at the next Council meeting.

.....

**Reports**

## **Finance**

The Finance Committee will meet this Thursday, February 24, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. in the small conference room at the Government Center. The public is welcome to join.

## **Public Works Report**

Public will meet March 7, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. and the public is encouraged to attend.

## **Special Committee Reports**

Mr. Lauffer will meet this Thursday at 1:00 with another lamppost vendor at 1:00 p.m. at his Main Street office.

There is a Historical Society Meeting sometime mid-March at Carriage Hill Retirement Home. Ms. Morley will get the details to Council.

Planning Commission has a meeting scheduled for March 1, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. to review three lot splits or replats.

## **Village Manager Report**

- The Lock Up was discussed this evening about leasing it to the Friend's Museum. The previous tenants moved out in December and the Street Department has not had a chance to clean up due to inclement weather. The building is in good shape, just needs a little clean up and would encourage anyone to schedule a walk through.
- Ordinance on the agenda tonight to renew the Village's insurance. There was an increase of \$1,421.00.
- The Government Center sign is moving right along. The company is doing a great job.
- The garage doors for the cold barn have been on backorder for several months and should be installed by March 22.
- Repaired a water line break on Fourth Street. While repairing the line a meter pit was moved from the street into the yard.
- Working with Cindy Menth from WMA on the dedication of the clock at the gazebo downtown. The clock is currently being repaired at the clock shop downtown. Wayne Township should be pouring a small slab for the clock to rest on.
- Thank you to Mr. Colvin for agreeing to write the article for the Wayne Township Newsletter.
- The Performing Arts Building at Wayne Local Schools is moving along.
- Received a thank you letter from Wayne Local Schools superintendent, Pat Dubbs, for the new sidewalk along Franklin.

He is appreciative the Village is helping kids stay safe while walking to and from school.

## **Police Report**

- Received a CPT (Continued Professional Training) check for \$3940 to be put back into the budget. This is required training for police officers.
- Thank you to Denny Adkins from Smokin BBQ for donating BBQ for all the workers during the inclement weather. It was appreciated.
- Opened an investigation concerning dogs being abandoned at the Government Center. I received a call on February 6 about a post on social media stating that there were abandoned dogs tied up at the Waynesville Police Department. After the call, it was discovered that two dogs were tied up to the post on the administrative side. The Village had no knowledge of the dogs, and they were left on the side of the building that is not frequented during the weekend. The dog warden was called to pick up the dogs and an investigation was initiated. Video showed the dogs being abandoned at approximately two p.m. on Saturday, February 5. Police contacted the suspect's family, who then called the suspect on speaker phone. Lt. Bledsoe heard her admit to abandoning the dogs. Pending charges have been filed against her for trespassing and animal endangerment.

Mr. Lauffer asked if police officers are just given the bare minimum training or is additional training offered. Chief Copeland stated that all the full timers get additional training. Lt. Bledsoe just attended STEP training. Sgt Denlinger will leave next week for first line supervision training and in the past has attended evidence tech school and firearms training. Officer Kirsch went last month for field training officers. The reserves do attend phaser, firearms training, CPT and sometimes free training offered by the County.

## **Financial Director Report**

None

## **Law Report**

None

## **New Business**

## **Legislation**

## **First Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions**

**Ordinance No. 2022-006**

Authorizing the Village Manager to Award Property and Liability Insurance Coverage for the Village of Waynesville and Declaring an Emergency

Mr. Blankenship made a motion to waive two-reading rule for Ordinance 2022-006 and Mr. Gallagher seconded the motion.

Motion – Blankenship  
Second – Gallagher

**Roll Call – 7 yeas**

Mr. Colvin made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-006 as an emergency and Mr. Lauffer seconded the motion.

Motion – Colvin  
Second – Lauffer

**Roll Call – 7 yeas**

**Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions**

None

**Tabled Ordinances and Resolutions**

None

**Executive Session**

None

All were in favor to adjourn at 7:53 pm.

Date: March 8, 2022

Jamie Morley  
Jamie Morley, Clerk of Council