

**Village of Waynesville  
Council Meeting Minutes  
April 21, 2025 at 7:00 pm**

Present:       Mr. Lyle Anthony  
                  Mr. Brian Blankenship  
                  Mr. Chris Colvin  
                  Mr. Zack Gallagher  
                  Mr. Troy Lauffer  
                  Mrs. Connie Miller

Absent:         Mayor Earl Isaacs

Village Staff Present: Jeffery Forbes, Law Director; Gary Copeland, Village Manager and Director of Public Safety; Jamie Morley, Finance Director and Clerk of Council

***CLERK'S NOTE-*** *This is a summary of the Village Council Meeting held on Monday, April 21, 2025.*

.....

President Pro Tempore Colvin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call – 6 present

Mr. Colvin motioned to excuse Mayor Isaacs from tonight's meeting, and Mr. Gallagher seconded the motion.

Motion - Colvin  
Second - Gallagher

Roll Call - 6 yeas

**Mayor Acknowledgements**

None

.....

**Disposition of Previous Minutes**

Mrs. Miller motioned to approve the April 7, 2025 meeting minutes as written, and Mr. Gallagher seconded the motion.

Motion – Miller  
Second – Gallagher

**Roll Call – 6 yeas**

.....

## **Public Recognition/Visitors Comments**

None

.....

## **Old Business**

None

.....

## **Reports**

### **Finance**

The Finance Committee met this evening, joined by Mr. Hough of Wade Insurance. The committee discussed employee health insurance and out-of-pocket employee costs. It was decided to present legislation to change the employee contribution from 15% to 5%. The decisions were centered on employee retention and remaining competitive with other police departments. Mr. Hough has agreed to meet with employees in the future to discuss insurance and have them become more part of the process. The next Finance Committee meeting will be May 19th at 6:00 p.m.

### **Public Works Report**

The Public Works Committee's next meeting is on May 5th, 2025, at 6 p.m. The public is encouraged to attend to learn more about the Village's ongoing and future projects.

### **Special Committee Report**

The MOMS Committee met this evening and discussed replanting trees on Main Street. The previous \$500 donations from the Village, the Chamber, and WMA will be used to purchase the new trees. MOMS is asking for an annual \$500 contribution from the Village. The Committee will have a follow-up meeting on May 5th at 5:00 p.m.

### **Village Manager Report**

- On April 16<sup>th</sup>, Chief Copeland met with ODOT. Unfortunately, they set back the start date for the Route 42 stoplight project. They will first start on the turn lanes and estimate that the project should be finished nine months after it starts.
- Chief Copeland completed a walkthrough for Franklin Phase I to fix any inconsistencies before a year had passed since completion. They will also fix some gator cracking and do some restoration work.

- Ordinance 2025-010 is on the agenda tonight to accept an easement with Harvest Baptist Church concerning Well 10.
- The MOMs meeting tonight went well, and they are asking for a \$500 contribution. Chief Copeland requested that the Council approve the contribution. He also said the Village will remove the remaining Bradford Pears along Main St in preparation for replacing the trees.
- Chief Copeland stated he will be gone Sunday – Tuesday for a Chief's conference.
- Photos of the high water during the most recent flooding along the Little Miami riverbank have been provided. There was minimal property damage.
- A letter from Sarah Mays of the Greater Dayton Mayors and Managers asking municipalities to oppose House Bill 28 has been provided.
- Ordinance 25-011 is an addendum to the current Rumpke contract setting prices for the next three years.
- Provided photographs of the Easter egg hunt sponsored by the American Legion. This event was a success and enjoyed by many children.
- A big thank you to Steve and Hillary Harvey for providing lunch for the employees.

## **Police Report**

- Officer Kirsch participated in a parade of safety vehicles for Eli's sixth birthday. Eli is battling leukemia and wants to become a police officer. 60 public vehicles participated in the parade.
- A flyer for the Annual Police Memorial on May 15<sup>th</sup> at 822 Memorial Drive has been provided for review.
- Officers have been fitted for new bulletproof vests. The vests will cost about 15K, but the Village will only be responsible for 3K of the total cost.
- Chief Copeland attended the Warren County Court's Annual Peer Mentor ceremony sponsored by Judge Loxley and Judge Tepe.

Mrs. Miller asked why residents from Maineville provided lunch for the employees. Chief Copeland responded that they are his neighbors and enjoy visiting the Village. They wanted to do something nice for the employees.

Mr. Colvin moved that the Village contribute \$500 towards the MOMS Committee, and Mr. Gallagher seconded the motion.

Motion – Colvin  
Second – Gallagher

**Roll Call – 6 yeas**

## **Financial Director Report**

- March has been reconciled, and reports have been provided for review.
- Representative Adam Mathews will attend the May 5<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.
- Wayne Township has asked the Village to help offset the cost of the tire portion of the Recycle Rally on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Ms. Morley stated that a grant from the EPA, which usually pays for this, has been pulled at the federal level. They are asking to divide the cost per capita between the Village of Corwin, the Village of Waynesville, and Wayne Township. The cost is usually between 6K and 8K. This is listed to be discussed under new business.

Mr. Colvin asked if Rep. Matthews is aware that Council would like to discuss HB 28. Ms. Morley explained that she included that in her invitation to Rep. Matthews.

## **Law Report**

None

Mr. Lauffer asked Mr. Forbes to elaborate on HB 28. Mr. Forbes stated that HB 28 removes a municipality's ability to place a replacement levy on the ballot. Currently, a municipality can put a renewal, new, or replacement levy on the ballot. He speculated that the point of HB 28 is that some feel a replacement levy is essentially a new levy. The wording replacement confuses voters, as they do not realize that a replacement will increase taxes; even though a replacement levy is the same millage, it will be calculated based on current property values, raising property taxes. Mr. Forbes stated that the key to successful levies is educating voters and explaining the levy to the public.

.....

## **New Business**

Mr. Colvin asked Ms. Morley to invite Michelle Teska, the new Ohio House Representative for the Village. He explained that he would like to meet her and learn about her policies and thoughts on the Convention of States.

At this point, there was a discussion on whether the Village should contribute to the tire portion of the Recycle Rally. Ms. Morley stated that the Village of Corwin and Wayne Township approved contributing. It was agreed that residents of the Village would not likely contribute many tires, but with short notice, it puts all municipalities in a bind, as it has been advertised.

Mrs. Miller motioned for the Village of Waynesville to contribute to the Recycle Rally tire collection, but not to exceed \$2,500 in the spirit of collaboration, and Mr. Gallagher seconded the motion.

Motion – Miller  
Second – Gallagher

**Roll Call – 5 yeas (Colvin, Gallagher, Miller, Anthony, Blankenship)  
1 nay (Lauffer)**

.....

## **Legislation**

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

#### **Ordinance No. 2025-010**

Accepting a Utility Easement for Well 10 on the Harvest Baptist Church Property and Declaring an Emergency

Mr. Gallagher moved to waive the two-reading rule for Ordinance No. 2025-010, and Mr. Lauffer seconded the motion.

Motion – Gallagher  
Second – Lauffer

**Roll Call – 6 yeas**

Mr. Colvin moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2025-010 as an emergency, and Mr. Gallagher seconded the motion.

Motion – Colvin  
Second – Gallagher

**Roll Call – 6 yeas**

#### **Ordinance No. 2025-011**

Authorizing the Village Manager to Execute an Addendum to the Contract with Rumpke of Ohio, Inc. and Declaring an Emergency

Mr. Gallagher moved to waive the two-reading rule for Ordinance No. 2025-011, and Mrs. Miller seconded the motion.

Motion – Gallagher  
Second – Miller

**Roll Call – 6 yeas**

Mr. Blankenship moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2025-011 as an emergency, and Mr. Anthony seconded the motion.

Motion – Blankenship  
Second – Anthony

**Roll Call – 6 yeas**

## **Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions**

None

“”

## Executive Session

None

All were in favor of adjourning at 7:36 p.m.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Jamie Morley, Clerk of Council