

**Village of Waynesville
Council Meeting Minutes
March 6, 2023 at 7:00 pm**

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

Village Staff Present: Jeff Forbes, Law Director; Chief Gary Copeland, Village Manager and Safety Director;

CLERK'S NOTE- This is a summary of the Village Council Meeting held on Monday, March 6, 2023.

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Mayor Isaacs called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call – 7 present
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Mayor Acknowledgements

None
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Disposition of Previous Minutes

Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve the minutes as written for the Council meeting on February 21, 2023, and Mr. Lauffer seconded the motion.

Motion – Miller
Second – Lauffer

Roll Call – 7 yeas
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Public Recognition/Visitor's Comments

Major Arrasmith, Warren County Drug Task Force, presented Council with the 2022 annual report. Major Arrasmith thanked Council for their continued support of the Task Force. He explained that the Task Force is a multi-jurisdictional unit, including local, state, and federal officers for Warren County, Wilmington, and Clinton County. Last year there were 437 new cases, 134 felony arrests, 86 misdemeanor arrests, and 1,914 traffic stops. He also stated that methamphetamine and fentanyl remain the biggest threat to the area. The Task Force seizures of methamphetamine increased by 50%. The Warren County Drug Task Force was 8th in the state for methamphetamine seizures, which has a lot to do with Warren County sitting between Cincinnati and Dayton. Mayor Arrasmith stated that overdoses for 2022 were down and deaths from overdose also decreased from 75 in 2021 to 45 in 2022.

Mr. Lauffer asked why the deaths were less this year and if Narcan is the reason for this decrease. Major Arrasmith agreed that Narcan may be part of the reason. Mr. Lauffer asked if there were stats for how many cases Narcan had been used. Major Arrasmith said they tried to get this statistic, but the reporting was not working.

Mr. Colvin asked if the funding at the Federal and State level were inconsistent. Major Arrasmith responded that it was. One year there may be a bump and the next year nothing. It makes it hard to budget. Mr. Colvin asked where the bulk of funding for the Task Force comes from and Major Arrasmith responded that it mostly comes from the local level.

Chief Copeland stated the Village contributed \$3 per resident this year, \$2 over the requested \$1. He also stated that they do a great job.

Mr. Lauffer asked if prescription drug abuse was up or down. Major Arrasmith responded that it is about the same. There are fewer fraudulent prescriptions being written, but stealing prescription drugs is up.

Council thanked Major Arrasmith for coming and for his service.

Kelly Miller and Curt Day, Waynesville Chamber of Commerce, requested help from Council to help limit merchants from selling certain items and setting up tables and booths outside of their shops as it is taking away from the vendors who have paid to be part of the Sauerkraut Festival. Mr. Day stated that there is a current ordinance that the Village will not issue garage sale permits or temporary business permits. Chief Copeland stated it is very hard to tell merchants what they can do on private property. The Village cannot regulate what businesses sell or where they sell on their property as long as it is legal. He also said that the Village does not issue garage sale permits on Sauerkraut weekend. Chief Copeland added that currently there are several merchants that have products on their porches year-round and the Village cannot tell them to stop this for one weekend. Mr. Forbes explained that the Village must abide by the zoning rules and if properties are zoned for business there is little the Village can regulate where and what they sell as long as it is not against the zoning rules. Mr. Forbes suggested that a possible avenue for the Chamber to pursue is to make sure that those individuals selling food have obtained a food service license from the Warren County Health Department. Chief

Copeland suggested contacting the Fire Chief about this, as he has the authority to inspect the booths and can shut them down for not having the appropriate permits and licenses. Ms. Miller asked about merchants setting up on the sidewalk. Chief Copeland stated that they are not supposed to do that as it is public property. Mr. Forbes suggested contacting Chief Copeland about questionable situations and he can help direct the Chamber whom they would need to contact. Chief Copeland agreed and suggested Chamber members go to the command center with concerns and the supervisor on duty will help out.

Chief Copeland stated that the Chamber and the Village will need to sit down and discuss the policing contract for the Sauerkraut Festival. He stated that officers make less than their hourly rate working the festival, and it is getting harder and harder to get officers to work because of this.

Joe Garrett from Trebel asked if Council will give Chief Copeland permission to sign a contract to lock in the price for the aggregate if it drops below a certain price. He said that electric rates are low and it would be best if the Village locks at a lower price now. He also stated that the prices are very volatile and change hourly, so it is best if Chief Copeland can sign if the price goes below a certain point.

Mr. Gallagher asked if Trebel would provide the bids to Council. He said that there are certain providers that are better to deal with on the consumer side and this may weigh in on the consideration of whom the Village selects. Mr. Garrett suggested that Dynergy and Energy Harbor are offering the lowest prices and he is fairly certain that they will have the best offer.

Mr. Gallagher asked when Mr. Garrett gets the price and arranges for Chief to sign the contract, could he send the contract over and give Council a chance to review it. Mr. Forbes stated that Council has already given Trebel the authority to enter into a contract on behalf of the Village if the price drops below 8. Mr. Forbes stated that Mr. Garrett is asking for Council to pass a motion to give Chief Copeland authorization to sign the contract when he needed.

Mrs. Miller made a motion to give Chief Copeland the authorization to sign a contract with Trebel and Ms. Dedden seconded the motion.

Motion – Miller
Second – Dedden

Roll Call – 7 yeas

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Old Business

None

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Reports

Finance

The next Finance Committee meeting will be on March 23, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. and all are invited.

Public Works Report

Public Works met this evening and will be meeting again on April 3, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. The public is encouraged to attend.

Special Committee Reports

The Parks and Rec Board will meet on March 20, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Village Manager Report

- EMH&T provided a proposal for the stoplight project at SR 42. The process of receiving bids has started for that project.
- The F550 leaf truck has been outfitted with a plow blade and will serve as a backup.
- Robert Faymon from RCAP met with Brian Keith and went over the Village's water system. Provided a flyer of the resources they offer.
- Emergency response trailer for water breaks has been organized and stocked.
- Ordinance tonight to enter into an agreement with Nimbus 3 for a cyber security audit and for them to make suggestions to make the system better.
- The Water Department reorganized and inventoried the Main Street water parts storage room.
- The Street Department continued spring cleaning of the government building.
- Warren County RPC did an assessment for Wayne Local Schools to see about future growth and how it would impact the school.
- A three-foot trench was put in for the electric for the future pad for the fuel tanks.
- Brian Sleeth from the Warren County Auditor has asked Council to change the Charter from a 75-day ballot deadline to a 90-day ballot deadline to follow suit with the ORC and other municipalities.

Police Report

- February dispatched calls for service, code enforcer report, and Mayor's Court month-end report has been provided for review.
- I, Lt. Bledsoe, and Sgt Denlinger attended Sovereign Citizen Training. This will be helpful during Sauerkraut Festival and traffic stops. The officers who attended the training will pass on the knowledge to other officers.
- On March 1st, Maimi Valley K9 Association made a surprise visit to Wayne Local Schools. Thank you letters have been sent to the officers for their service. Nothing was located.
- Dave Yost presented the 2023 CPT hours requirements. All officers will be required by the state to have 3 hours of school threat and safety training, 3 hours of legal updates, and 2 hours of arrest, search, and seizures. An additional 16 hours will also be required at the discretion of the Chief.

Ms. Dedden made a motion to have an ordinance prepared to place a charter amendment on the ballot to change the deadline from a 75-day ballot deadline to a 90-day ballot deadline and Mr. Colvin seconded the motion.

Motion – Dedden
Second – Colvin

Mr. Colvin asked Mr. Forbes if the ORC would supersede the charter. Mr. Forbes responded that no, the Waynesville Charter is what the Board of Elections goes by. He also said that this is not the first time this request has been made and only applies to the submission of the nomination petition to get on the ballot to run for Council. This would give Council less time to get petitions in, but it gives the Board of Elections much-needed time to prepare the ballots. Waynesville is the only municipality left in Warren County with the 75-day deadline. This would bring Waynesville in line with all other municipalities and state laws. Mr. Forbes stated that it is too late to get a charter amendment on the May ballot, so it would have to go on the November ballot. This November is a municipal election, so Council members would still have the 75-day deadline for this election. Mr. Forbes stated that charter amendments are governed by the Ohio Constitution and the Constitution says Council can submit charter amendments to the Board of Election to be placed on the ballot, but there is a window that this can be done and it is at least 60 days before the election but no more than 120 days. Mr. Forbes said that an ordinance cannot be passed until the 120-day window, which should be the second meeting in July. Ms. Dedden rescinded her motion.

Mr. Colvin asked if there are costs associated with the additional training for the police officers. Chief Copeland stated that not really as most of the training is done online.

Mr. Colvin asked about the recommendations from RCAP. He asked for elaborations on not being able to do well draws. Chief Copeland stated that draws are done when the motors are changed but currently there is no way to do this without pulling the motor. He will look further into this.

At this time Council took a 5-minute recess.

Mr. Colvin asked that he notices there have been better results since May 2022 in resolutions of code enforcement issues. Chief Copeland said that word has gotten out about having a code enforcement officer. He will also speak to Sgt. Denlinger to update the list and make sure they are marked if the cases are closed out.

Financial Director Report

None

Law Report

None

New Business

Ms. Dedden reminded Council that they are supposed to review the Rules of Council every year. She asked that Council look them over and make any notes for recommendations for changes and updates to review at the next meeting.

Legislation

First Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions

Ordinance No. 2023-011

Authorizing the Village Manager to Enter into a Contract with Nymbus3 Cybersecurity, LLC for an Onsite Cybersecurity Assessment and Declaring an Emergency

Mr. Blankenship made a motion to waive the two-reading rule for Ordinance 2023-011 and Mrs. Miller seconded the motion.

Motion – Blankenship
Second – Miller

Roll Call – 7 yeas

Mr. Colvin made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2023-011 as an emergency and Mrs. Miller seconded the motion.

Motion – Colvin
Second – Miller

Roll Call – 7 yeas

Resolution No. 2023-012

A Resolution Adopting the Permanent Appropriations for the Village of Waynesville for Calendar Year 2023 and Declaring an Emergency

Mr. Colvin made a motion to waive the two-reading rule for Resolution 2023-012 and Mr. Gallagher seconded the motion.

Motion – Colvin
Second – Gallagher

Roll Call – 7 yeas

Mr. Gallagher made a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-012 as an emergency and Mr. Blankenship seconded the motion.

Motion – Gallagher
Second – Blankenship

Roll Call – 7 yeas

Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions

None

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Tabled Ordinances and Resolutions

None

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Executive Session

None

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All were in favor to adjourn at 8:41 pm.

Date: _____

Jamie Morley, Clerk of Council

