

**Village of Waynesville
Council Meeting Minutes
April 4, 2022 at 7:00 pm**

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

Absent: Mr. Zack Gallagher

Village Staff Present: Jeff Forbes, Law Director; 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 Monday, April 4, 2022.

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

Roll Call – 6 present

Mr. Colvin made a motion to excuse Mr. Gallagher and Mr. Blankenship seconded the motion.

Motion – Colvin
Second – Blankenship

Roll Call – 6 years

Mayor Acknowledgements

None

Disposition of Previous Minutes

Ms. Dedden made a motion to approve the minutes for the Council meeting on March 21, 2022 as written and Mr. Colvin seconded the motion.

Motion – Dedden
Second – Colvin

Roll Call – 6 years

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Public Recognition/Visitor’s Comments

David Nation, 120 Victoria Place, representing the Museum at the Friends Home addressed Council with a follow-up on the Lockup being donated to the organization. An inspection has been completed on the Lockup and it did reveal active termites. Mr. Nation said they were not too bad. The Board has decided to move forward with the assumption of the Lockup with plans to have this building serve as a community event center for residents. Mr. Nation asked Council to consider a few terms for the transfer of the property. He stated that the Museum Board is asking that after four years the Lockup is owned by the Museum free and clear. Also, if for unforeseen circumstances the Museum can no longer maintain the Lockup and has to give the property back, the Museum would be reimbursed for any funds invested in the structure of the building from the proceeds if the Village sells the Lockup. Mr. Nation stated several donors are willing to contribute to the Museum for the preservation of the Lockup but not if there are any stipulations past four years. Mr. Nation assured the Museum will not change the outside of the building. Furthermore, he asked if the Museum could have a fundraising event at the end of April at the Lockup.

Mr. Forbes stated the next step would be for him to draw up a contract including the provisions provided by Mr. Nation. Once this is done, both parties can look over the drafted agreement and see if this is acceptable or needs updates.

Chief Copeland suggested leasing the Lockup to the Museum for a dollar until the deeding process is done. Mr. Nation replied that several donors have suggested they had no interest in donating to the Museum to refurbish the Lockup unless the Museum owns the building. Chief Copeland said having the fundraiser there then presents a liability issue. Mr. Lauffer explained the Museum can get a one-day liability policy listing the Village as an additional insurer. Mr. Nation stated that would be no issue as they do that for the Christmas Home Tour.

Mr. Forbes stated that there is another meeting in April and Council and the Museum can review the proposed contract and move forward from there.

Mr. Colvin expressed concerns about refunding the Museum if the Village were to reassume ownership of the Lockup. Mr. Nation assured him that the receipts submitted for refund would only be for the maintenance of the infrastructure. Mr. Colvin asked if there should be a limit value for reimbursement. Mr. Nation stated that the Museum does not have much money and would not be spending 100s of thousands of dollars on the Lockup. Mr. Forbes clarified that the reimbursement would only be if the Village sells the property, and the reimbursement of receipts would come from the sales.

Mr. Forbes said he would read through the paper presented by Mr. Nation with conditions from the Museum Board to be worked into a draft for the transfer of the Lockup. Hopefully, an actual document will be ready for discussion at the next Council meeting.

Mr. Nation stated that the Museum has strongly considered the responsibility of maintaining the Lockup and has no intention of not following through. Mr. Colvin reiterated that the intent of gifting the Lockup to the Museum is to respect its history by giving it to an organization that will celebrate the history of the building.

Pat Edgington, 143 Fourth Street, wanted to say thank you to Chief Copeland and Officer Denlinger for helping enforce code requirements with rental properties around her. Both were very helpful and did a nice job helping clean up the area in her neighborhood.

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Old Business

None

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Reports

Finance

The Finance Committee will meet Thursday, April 21, 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 Works met this evening and went over ongoing and future projects. The next meeting will be on May 2, 2022 at 6:00 p.m., and the public is encouraged to attend.

Special Committee Reports

None

Village Manager Report

- The Village website is up and running.
- One of the garage doors has been delivered and installed on the cold barn. Still waiting on parts for the other door.
- Included the water and sewer rates survey done by the City of Piqua. Waynesville was the 9th least expensive out of 64 municipalities.
- Planning storage bins for materials to be readily available for water breaks, restoration, and street repairs. This will make it easier and quicker for repairs and will save the Village money in the long run.
- Ordinances on tonight’s agenda for the 2023 OPWC projects on Franklin and Third to collaborate with Wayne Township. If the Village qualifies, the State will pay 70% of the project. The collaboration will give the Village more points. The Township is agreeing to pay up to 25K for the purchase of new fire hydrants. This will help the fire department as it will help keep the hydrants uniform and all will have a quick release.

- Discussed in Public Works about purchasing an Incline Vac for the Water Department. There was an appropriation for just an exerciser, but upon research adding the vac would allow the machine to do many more things in the Village. This will be used to exercise valves, clean out valves and meter pits, jet out storm sewers, look for lead services, and many more uses. The American Rescue Plan grant money can be used to purchase this and an EPA reimbursement grant is also available.
- The Village's contract with Rumpke needs to be renewed. There is an ordinance on the agenda for another three-year renewal addendum. There was about a \$2.25 price increase per household. Rumpke explained this was due to the rising cost of fuel, labor, and trucks.
- The Maintenance Department has been cleaning the curbs and tops of the storm drains with the new leaf vac.
- Both Public Works and the Finance Committee discussed refurbishing the Main Street light posts. The Finance Committee asked to have ordinances drawn up to refurbish the current poles and replace the bulbs with LEDs. There is also an ordinance stating Council's intent to set aside 60K a year to save to be able to eventually replace the lights. Since 2020 the Village has spent \$3,800 on electrical repairs on the Main Street lights.
- The new electronic message board is down due to the windstorm last week. Working with One Stop Signs to get a new part installed.
- Received a refund check for \$596.66 from Roccina Niehaus of Wood and Lamping for Village properties that have been declared exempt from property taxes.
- Completed the United States Department of Commerce 2022 Census Government Survey.
- Grand opening and ribbon cutting on April 14th at 4 p.m. at Loveless Edge Boutique at 98 S Main Street.
- Will be on spring break for the next meeting and ask to be excused.

Police Report

- March dispatched calls for service, Code Enforcement report, and Mayor's Court report have been provided for review.
- Lt. Bledsoe will be attending phase II of the STEP program from April 11-15.

Mr. Colvin stated that two recommendations came out of Public Works to have ordinances prepared for the storage bins and Incline Vac.

Mr. Lauffer asked Chief Copeland why the plans for the storage bins were to be only 2 blocks high. Chief Copeland stated that this would add another 6K to the project. Mr. Lauffer stated that he felt two blocks would not be sufficient and thought would the Village end up paying more, in the long run, to add another block layer later. Ms. Dedden recommended an ordinance to be written up for the storage bins to be three blocks high and to discuss it at the next meeting.

Mr. Lauffer asked what exactly an Incline Vac was. Chief Copeland explained there are shut-off valves throughout the water system. The valves allow the Water Department to shut off water to certain areas for routine maintenance and water breaks without shutting off entire streets or blocks. The Village paid about 30K two years ago to have a company exercise the valves. This should be done regularly so that when the valves need to be used, they work. The machine will allow the Water Department to exercise the valves on a schedule and be recorded within the GIS. The machine has a slow start which helps prevent the breaking of the valves. The machine will also have a vacuum to clean out meter pits and valve boxes that get full of rocks and debris.

Financial Director Report

- The Rumpke renewal is an increase of \$2.25 per household. Looked over the past four years and the Village charges approximately \$.50 over what Rumpke charges the Village. Would recommend keeping the charge for trash to the residents to about \$.50 more than what Rumpke charges the Village to keep the trash fund healthy. Currently, there is about an 80K cushion in the fund.

Mr. Colvin asked about Ms. Crockett's report which says the Village could absorb the increase from Rumpke. Ms. Morley stated that the Village cannot afford to not increase the rate as Rumpke is increasing the trash rate by \$2.25 for every household. However, the fund should remain healthy if the Village charges the residents at least \$.50 over the Rumpke rate. Ms. Morley said that Council should consider an ordinance as soon as possible as the Village will only be charging residents \$16.59, and Rumpke will be charging the Village \$18.25 as of June 1, 2022. This will quickly eat into the Village's reserves for the trash fund.

Ms. Edgington stated that she believes Rumpke is the best trash company in the area and the employees go above and beyond. She said she would gladly pay the increase. Ms. Morley stated that she rarely hears complaints about Rumpke's service and many residents call to compliment the company.

Law Report

- Asked to address some questions about the Open Meetings Act/Sunshine Law. These laws only apply to public bodies. The MOMS Committee is a merchant association and not a public body, therefore their meetings are not bound by the Ohio Open Meetings Act. The two Council members are assigned as liaisons and serve to coordinate cooperative efforts between Council and the organization.

- These rules only apply to meetings of public bodies. Three things that define a public meeting:
 1. Prearranged time and place
 2. Discussion of business
 3. Majority of members are present
- One on one conversations between Council members are fine. Unless they are on the same committee and discussing committee business.
- Ad hoc committees are fine, such as the Short-Term Rental Committee, as long as the rules are followed - the meetings are advertised, open to the public, and minutes were taken.

Mr. Lauffer asked if Council members are allowed to attend the Finance and Public Works Committee meetings but are not on the committee. Mr. Forbes stated that one can argue that the meeting then becomes a Council meeting because you have a majority of Council at the meeting. However, by law, the meetings are open to the public. One could say that the Council member is attending as a resident, but it is in their best interest to allow the committee to discuss business and not participate. Mr. Forbes suggested that if all members of Council plan to attend the committee meetings, then just have working sessions of Council. Mr. Colvin stated he thought standing committees were defined by the Charter. Mr. Forbes stated that the Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals are not committees but boards and commissions and those are defined by the charter.

New Business

Ms. Dedden made a motion not to object to the renewal of liquor permits within the Village and Mr. Lauffer seconded the motion.

Motion – Dedden
Second – Lauffer

Roll Call – 6 yeas

Legislation

First Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions

Resolution No. 2022– 009

A Resolution Expressing Council’s Intent to Dedicate Certain Funds for The Replacement of Lampposts on Main Street

Mrs. Miller made a motion to have the first reading for Resolution 2022-009 and Ms. Dedden seconded the motion.

Motion – Miller
Second – Dedden

Roll Call – 6 yeas

Ordinance No. 2022-010

Authorizing The Village Manager to Enter into a Contract with Ohio Valley Painting Company in an Amount Not to Exceed \$12,944 for the Refurbishing of Light and Street Sign Poles

Ms. Dedden made a motion to have the first reading for Ordinance 2022-010 and Mrs. Miller seconded the motion.

Motion – Dedden
Second – Miller

Roll Call – 6 yeas

Ordinance 2022-011

Amending The Schedule of Fees and Charges for the Village of Waynesville Regarding Conditional Use Permits, Variances, Replacement of Meter Lids, Street Light Fees, and Water Meters

Ms. Dedden explained that the fees for both a conditional permit and a variance were changed from \$200 to \$250. The price of a new water meter is changing from \$255 to \$325. Also adding a fee for a replacement lid for water meter pits for \$50. On page 7, the street light utility is being changed from \$2.30 to \$2.40.

Ms. Dedden made a motion to have the first reading for Ordinance 2022-011 and Mr. Blankenship seconded the motion.

Motion – Dedden
Second – Blankenship

Roll Call – 6 yeas

Ordinance No. 2022-012

Authorizing The Village Manager to Enter into a Cooperative Agreement with Wayne Township Related to the Third Street Water Main Replacement and Street Resurfacing Project

Mrs. Miller made a motion to have the first reading for Ordinance 2022-012 and Mr. Colvin seconded the motion.

Motion – Miller
Second – Colvin

Roll Call – 6 yeas

Ordinance No. 2022-013

Authorizing The Village Manager to Enter into a Cooperative Agreement with Wayne Township Related to the Franklin Street Water Main and Street Improvements, Phase I Project

Mrs. Miller made a motion to have the first reading for Ordinance 2022-013 and Mr. Colvin seconded the motion.

Motion – Miller
Second – Colvin

Roll Call – 6 yeas

Ordinance No. 2022-014

Authorizing A Health Insurance Plan for Village Employees and Declaring an Emergency

Ms. Dedden explained that this is the first reading, and the ordinance will need to be passed as an emergency at the next Council meeting to ensure health insurance is in place for employees. This is a renewal of the current health insurance.

Ms. Dedden made a motion to have the first reading for Ordinance 2022-014 and Mr. Blankenship seconded the motion.

Motion – Dedden
Second – Blankenship

Roll Call – 6 years

Ordinance No. 2022-015

Authorizing The Village Manager to Enter into a Contract with PCI Services Related to Main Street Light LED Refurbishment

Mr. Colvin made a motion to have the first reading for Ordinance 2022-015 and Mrs. Miller seconded the motion.

Motion – Colvin
Second – Miller

Roll Call – 6 years

Ordinance No. 2022-016

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

Ms. Dedden made a motion to waive the two-reading rule for Ordinance 2022-016 and Mr. Blankenship seconded the motion.

Motion – Dedden
Second – Blankenship

Roll Call – 6 years

Mr. Colvin made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-016 and declare an emergency and Mr. Blankenship seconded the motion.

Motion – Colvin
Second – Blankenship

Roll Call – 6 years

Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions

None

Tabled Ordinances and Resolutions

None

Executive Session

None

All were in favor to adjourn at 8:34 p.m.

Date: _____

Jamie Morley, Clerk of Council