

**Village of Waynesville  
Council Meeting Minutes  
April 15, 2024 at 7:00 pm**

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

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

*CLERK’S NOTE- This is a summary of the Village Council Meeting held on Monday, April 15, 2024.*

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

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

Motion – Isaacs  
Second – Gallagher

**Roll Call – 5 yeas**

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**Mayor Acknowledgments**

Mayor Isaacs said Franklin Road is looking good. The contractors should be striping soon.

At this time, Mayor Isaacs presented Kitty Crockett a proclamation declaring this day Kitty Crockett Day. This is to thank her for 8 years of service. Mayor Isaacs and Council thanked her for her dedication and successfully handling the Village’s finances.

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**Disposition of Previous Minutes**

Mr. Colvin motioned to approve the Council minutes as written for the April 1, 2024, Council meeting, and Mrs. Miller seconded the motion.

Motion – Colvin  
Second – Miller

**Roll Call – 5 yeas**

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**Public Recognition/Visitor’s Comments**

Warren County Sheriff Simms presented Council with the 2023 year-end report. He stated this would be his last report as he is retiring after 46 years of police service, 16 as sheriff. Sheriff Simms explained to Council that the department has added more drones to their inventory bringing the total up to three. These are used for surveillance, finding missing children or adults, and evidence collection. The department has also seen an increase in the requirements for School Resource Officers. They have added 4 more over 4 years. The funding is split between the county, school district, and Sheriff’s Office. The new jail has been in use for two years and is fitting the county’s needs well. This was a 5 million dollar facility that is fully paid off. Furthermore, the Warren County Swat Team was recognized for their outstanding efforts with an Ohio Tactical Award due to the handling of an escaped inmate hostage situation.

Mayor Isaacs asked when Sheriff Simm's last day would be. Sheriff Simms replied that it would be the end of the year. Barry Riley will be running to replace him and indicated that he would like to continue to attend Council meetings.

Mr. Colvin asked if the Village should pass any legislation to regulate drones. Sheriff Simms responded that the sheriff drones have special privileges but are still bound by search warrants and are limited on where they can be used. The Ohio ORC governs the use of drones. Mayor Isaacs asked if the drone operators needed a pilot’s license. Sheriff Simms said that they are licensed and have undergone special training as specified by the FAA.

Council thanked Sheriff Simms for his update and wished him a happy retirement.

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**Old Business**

None

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**Reports**

**Finance**

The Finance Committee will meet on Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

## **Public Works Report**

The next Public Works Committee meeting will be on May 6, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

## **Special Committee Reports**

Parks & Rec met this evening to discuss the plans for the new park at the library and how the Committee could support Bicentennial Park.

The MOMS Committee is scheduled to meet April 29, 2024 from 6:00 to 7:00.

The Planning Commission will meet on April 29, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. to further discuss solar panel codes.

## **Village Manager Report**

- Franklin Road has been repaved. The grindings from this were used to even out the road to the maintenance barn and should help keep the dust down. Fed Excavating rolled out the road and will return once it warms up to roll it again.
- Chief Copeland wished Ms. Crockett all the best and a happy retirement. He added that she did a fantastic job.
- Franklin Phase I is almost completed. It has been a long process, but this is to be expected when dealing with an older system because you never know what to expect until the street is opened up. The road striping should be completed tomorrow.
- Completed the quarterly report for the Third Street grant.
- SmithCorp has finished replacing the laterals on the South end of the street, and the new storm lines have been installed.
- Still waiting to hear if the Village was awarded the grant for Fourth Street.
- Stephen Koontz, the Village's second water operator, left employment for another job opportunity. Jack Kilburn has been hired. He has 7 ½ year's experience and a Class II Water Operator License.
- Thank you to Mayor Isaacs for updating the nameplates outside of all employee's offices.
- A copy of the Piqua annual water rate has been provided for review. The Village came in 7<sup>th</sup> out of 69 municipalities for providing the least expensive water and sewer.
- Brian Keith and Jack Kilburn changed the chlorine injectors which are done quarterly. They have also gone around town and uncovered valves that have been asphalted over.
- Provided an invite to the grand opening of Bentley's Pawsome Resort to be held on May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4:00 p.m.

**Police Report**

- The Dispatched Calls for Service and Mayor’s Court Month End reports for March have been provided for review.
- Thank you to Sheriff Simms for providing the year-end report. Barry Riley will be a good replacement.
- Provided a flyer with MOMS and Chamber events throughout the year.
- Thank you to Zack Gallagher for providing first aid packs. They have been stocked with first aid essentials. Each patrol vehicle has been equipped with one. In addition, the maintenance barn and government center has one in case of an emergency.
- April 27, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. is Drug Take Back Day.
- The staff enjoyed the solar eclipse.

**Financial Director Report**

None

**Law Report**

- Mr. Forbes confirmed that a license is required to fly a drone commercially or recreationally which is obtained through the FAA. The regulations for drones are controlled at the state level. Mr. Forbes further elaborated that some municipalities regulate drones over public lands.

Ms. Dedden asked what if a drone is flying over your house. Mr. Forbes replied to call the police. Chief Copeland stated that the department has received these calls before, but it is not always easy to find the operator.

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**New Business**

The Department of Commerce has asked if the Council would like to request an objection to the renewal of any currently held liquor licenses. Chief Copeland stated there is no reason for objection. Ms. Morley added that she had just received the same request for the new license for Mami Finas. No Council member had any objections to the renewal and the new liquor licenses.

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**Legislation**

**First Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions**

**Ordinance No. 2024-015**

An Ordinance Authorizing the Waiver of the Partial Water of Certain Water Fees

Ms. Dedden motioned for the first reading for Ordinance No. 2024-015, and Mr. Gallagher seconded the motion.

Motion – Dedden  
Second – Gallagher

**Roll Call – 5 yeas**

**Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions**

Ordinance No. 2024-013

An Ordinance Authorizing the Transfer of Money from the General Fund (1000) to the Police Levy Fund (2901) and from the Water Fund (5101) to the Water Capital Fund (5701)

Mr. Gallagher motioned to adopt Ordinance 2024-013, and Mrs. Miller seconded the motion.

Motion – Gallagher  
Second – Miller

**Roll Call – 5 yeas**

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**Tabled Ordinances and Resolutions**

None

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**Executive Session**

None

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All were in favor of adjourning at 7:45 pm.

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

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Jamie Morley, Clerk of Council