

**Village of Waynesville
Council Meeting Minutes
June 17, 2024 at 7:00 pm**

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

Village Staff Present: Jeff 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, June 17, 2024.*

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

Roll Call – 6 present

Mrs. Miller made a motion to excuse Mr. Blankenship and Mr. Gallagher seconded the motion.
Motion – Miller
Second – Gallagher

Roll Call – 6 yeas

Mayor Isaacs called to order the Public Hearing for the 2025 Tax Budget at 7:04 p.m. There were no questions; the public hearing was closed at 7:05p.m.

Mayor Acknowledgements

Mayor Isaacs said that there still are a lot of things going on around town, but all the projects are coming along and looking good.

Ms. Dedden motioned to cancel the Council meeting scheduled for July 1, 2024 and Mayor Isaacs seconded.

Motion – Dedden
Second – Isaacs

Roll Call – 6 yeas

Disposition of Previous Minutes

Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2024 meeting and Ms. Dedden seconded the motion.

Motion – Miller
Second – Dedden

Roll Call – 6 yeas

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Public Recognition/visitor’s comments

Judge Loxley and Judge Fischer of the Warren County Courts presented their biennial report to Council. Judge Loxley informed Council that the court covers all of Warren County, minus Franklin, Turtle Creek, and Mason. It includes eight townships and ten municipalities, including Waynesville. Judge Loxley stated that traffic citations are down, which could be due to the low number of officers, but he added that this seems to be a trend across all the mayor’s courts. He said that the new distracted driving law took effect in the fall of 2023. Furthermore, Judge Loxley said that Ohio was the 50th state to make strangulation a felony in 2023. He also spoke about his Veteran’s Court Docket, which helps veterans reassimilate using mentorship. The recidivism rate is 11%, which is very good.

Judge Fischer told Council of other current issues facing the courts. He stated that there have been many changes at the State Legislature level that have to do with the expungement and sealing of records. This has helped many people get a second chance. He also informed Council that there will be a new Warren County Clerk of Courts in 2025. Furthermore, construction of the new court building is underway and should be completed in the fall of 2025. Judge Fischer discussed the SUCCESS Docket, which is a specialized mental health docket to help those with severe mental health or drug and alcohol addictions. The hope is to help remove the stigma surrounding mental illness and give those suffering a little extra help through education, employment, and transportation. This docket has had a lower recidivism rate. Judge Fischer also stated that Warren County Courts is involved in community outreach programs, such as government classes, mock trials, and job shadowing.

Mr. Colvin asked if there were plans to model a specialized docket for other counties. Judge Fischer explained that there are several other counties with specialized dockets, such as Brown and Adams Counties. Each docket is unique and serves the needs of each community. Chief Copeland recommended that if Council has a chance to attend a Veteran’s Docket graduation, they should attend.

Mr. Colvin asked Mr. Teeters if he could address Council about AES’s plans to update the electric system. Scott Teeters, 1900 Dryden Road, stated that AES is updating its system as it is 20 years old. In August 2024, a 3rd party will be hired to implement the updates.

Old Business

None

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Reports

Finance

The next Finance Committee meeting will be July 15th, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Public Works Report

Public Works was scheduled to meet on July 1st, but since the Council meeting was canceled, the next meeting will be August 5, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

Special Committee Report

MOMS will meet on July 15th, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

Village Manager Report

- Chief Copeland stated he was out of town last week.
- He is collecting quotes for the sidewalks along Main Street.
- Daniel from Design Homes will be meeting with Chief Copeland to discuss possible plans for a housing development on Thursday at 10 a.m.
- He received the retirement letter from Ms. Dedden.

At this time, Mayor Isaacs presented Ms. Dedden with a proclamation declaring it Joette Dedden Day and thanking her for her service to the Village of Waynesville. She will be missed.

Police Report

None

Financial Director Report

None

Law Report

Mr. Forbes stated that now that there is a vacancy on Council, the Charter states Council has 45 days to fill the vacancy, which is August 1st. Since there is no meeting on July 1st, Council will need to fill the position at the July 15th meeting. If it is not filled within 45 days, the Mayor has the right to appoint a new member to Council. Ms. Morley stated she would advertise the

vacancy and ask for applications to be submitted by July 10th for Council to review before the July 15th meeting.

New Business

Ms. Dedden stated that since July 4th falls on Thursday, she feels it would be nice to give the employees an extra day off.

Ms. Dedden motioned to give Village employees July 5th off with pay. Mr. Gallagher seconded the motion.

Motion – Dedden
Second – Gallagher

Roll Call – 6 years

Legislation

First Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions

None

Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolution

Ordinance No. 2024-019

An Ordinance Authorizing the Trade-In of Certain Firearms Declared to be Surplus Property

Ms. Dedden moved to amend Ordinance No. 2024-019 and declare an emergency, and Mr. Colvin seconded the motion.

Motion – Dedden
Second – Colvin

Roll Call – 6 years

Mr. Colvin moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2024-019 as an emergency, and Mr. Lauffer seconded the motion.

Motion – Colvin
Second – Lauffer

Roll Call – 6 years

Ordinance 2024-020

Adopting Chapter 114 of the Village of Waynesville Codified Ordinances Regarding Mobile Food Service Operations and Amending the Village Fee Schedule to Adopt the Related Permit Fee

Mr. Forbes stated that the blank amount for the fee needs to be filled in before the Council can consider adopting the ordinance. Mr. Lauffer added he is opposed to this ordinance and does not feel there is a legitimate reason to charge for food trucks. He asked Chief Copeland if there had been an issue with food trucks. Chief Copeland stated that there recently was an incident where

a food truck had people ordering in the street rather than on the sidewalk, which caused a safety risk. The police had to have the truck move. Mr. Forbes stated that Council needs to decide on 1) the amount to charge for a permit and 2) if they want to adopt the ordinance at all. Mr. Gallagher stated he thought the purpose of the fee was to account for administrative time, police services, and wear and tear on the streets. Mr. Gallagher asked how long the permit was for. Mr. Forbes responded that it is good for 30 days, but a truck can only be parked at one location for no longer than 72 hours.

Mr. Colvin stated that during the Finance Committee meeting, there was a discussion concerning food trucks under a Special Events Permit. These trucks are paying to be part of the event, and the event coordinators are collecting insurance and certificates for trucks. It was discussed that there is an exemption for the Sauerkraut Festival, should there be an exemption for all special events.

Chuck Dedden, 1549 Anthony Trace, believes food trucks should be required to get permits. What prevents a pizza truck from parking in front of a pizza parlor? Mr. Forbes stated that Chief Copeland can designate specific parking spaces, but the Village cannot interfere to protect businesses. Chief Copeland stated he would designate specific areas where a food truck could be set up.

Mrs. Miller moved to amend Ordinance No. 2024-020 to fill in the blank price with \$25.00, and Mr. Lauffer seconded the motion.

Motion – Miller
Second – Lauffer

Roll Call – 6 yeas

Ms. Dedden moved to amend Ordinance No. 2024-019 Exhibit A section 114.01 (C) to read “Mobile food service operations do not include vendors operating under any special event permit issued under section 94.120 of this Code”, and Mr. Gallagher seconded the motion.

Motion – Dedden
Second – Gallagher

Roll Call – 6 yeas

Resolution No. 2024-021

A Resolution Approving the 2025 Annual Tax Budget for the Village of Waynesville and Declaring an Emergency

Ms. Dedden moved to adopt Resolution No. 2024-021 as an emergency, and Mr. Colvin seconded the motion.

Motion – Dedden
Second – Colvin

Roll Call – 6 yeas

Executive Session

None

All were in favor of adjourning at 8:25 p.m.

Date: _____

Jamie Morley, Clerk of Council