

**Village of Waynesville
Council Meeting Minutes
August 15, 2022 at 7:00 pm**

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

Absent: Ms. Joette Dedden

Village Staff Present: Jeff Forbes, Law Director; Jamie Morley, Clerk of Council

***CLERK'S NOTE-** This is a summary of the Village Council Meeting held on Monday, August 15, 2022.*

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

Roll Call – 6 present

Mrs. Miller made a motion to excuse Ms. Dedden from tonight's meeting and was seconded by Mr. Blankenship.

Motion – Miller
Second – Blankenship

Roll Call – 6 years

Mayor Acknowledgements

None

Disposition of Previous Minutes

Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve the minutes for the Council meeting on August 1, 2022 as corrected and Mr. Colvin seconded the motion.

Motion – Miller
Second – Colvin

Roll Call – 6 years

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Public Recognition/Visitor's Comments

Judge Fischer and Judge Loxley updated Council on current issues that are affecting Warren County Court. Judge Loxley first addressed Council and explained that he is responsible for Area I of Warren County consisting of the northern half, which includes Waynesville, and Judge Fischer is responsible for Area II consisting of the southern half of the County. The first issue Judge Loxley spoke about is the proposed bail reform on the ballot this November. He explained that a change in 2020 directed how judges could consider setting bail by only allowing judges to consider whether the person would show up for their next hearing. The ballot initiative, if passed, would be a constitutional amendment and allow judges to also consider public safety and history when setting bail. Judge Loxley also spoke to Council about the Veteran's Court Docket. This was set up as a mentoring program to help veterans get the help they need. Judge Loxley stated that Councilman Blankenship has served as a peer mentor for this program since its inception in 2015. It is a 1 ½ year program offering four phases of rehabilitation. There are currently 16 veterans on the docket with graduation planned for three individuals on September 7 at 10:00 a.m. This program has shown to be effective in reducing the recidivism rate.

Mr. Colvin asked what the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) listed on the slide handout referred to. Judge Loxley explained that the Warren County Court does not cover all of Warren County as Lebanon, Mason, and Franklin have their own court system. The MOU allows for veterans that are put on probation in these court systems to be allowed to transfer the probation to Warren County to be able to participate in the Veteran Court program. Mr. Colvin asked if the program is unique to Warren County. Judge Loxley responded that there are about 500 Veteran Treatment Courts (VTC) nationwide and 29 in the state of Ohio, two in Warren County. The whole idea of the program is to rehabilitate veterans. Mr. Lauffer asked about the success of the program. Judge Loxley said to measure the effectiveness of a specialized docket can be difficult, but there has been shown a reduced rate of recidivism for those who graduate from the program.

Judge Fischer introduced himself and continued to address current issues facing the court. He stated that the court sentences many individuals to complete drug and alcohol or mental health assessments. It has been very hard to get people to complete these court-assigned assessments. The joint Clinton-Warren County Mental Health Board has received a grant to staff someone in the courthouse that will evaluate individuals before they even leave the courthouse. This staff member can connect individuals with treatment options and does follow-ups. This helps hit the recovery sooner and helps individuals get the help they need. Judge Fischer also acknowledged the court is still transitioning into a new case management system. Most of the bugs have been worked out. He also stated that with the new jail, Warren County Court has been able to take over the old sheriff's office. This was a much-needed expansion; offices before were very cramped. Judge Fischer said that along with the Veterans Docket there is a Success Docket. This specialized docket is a mental health docket and tries to get individuals the help and treatment needed. There were four graduates this year, one of the graduates is helping Clinton County set up a similar specialized docket and a previous year's graduate has returned as a peer mentor for individuals in the program. Judge Loxley stated current community outreach programs, Warren County Courts love having students come for a visit. There have been several school groups come for a tour and the court has hosted mock trials.

Mr. Gallagher asked if Waynesville Schools could come for a visit. Judge Loxley stated he would welcome the visit.

Mr. Colvin asked about a bullet point on the handout mentioning a grant obtained by Representative Scott Lipps. Judge Loxley answered that in 2016, Representative Lipps helped the court obtain a \$100K grant to go towards wrap-around services for the specialized dockets. This funding could be used to help support individuals in the programs pay for items such as housing, food, and even help with reinstatement fees for licenses. Of the \$100K, only \$11K is left and expected to be used this fiscal year.

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Old Business

None

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Reports

Finance

The Finance Committee meeting for August 18, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. has been cancelled.

Public Works Report

Public Works will meet on Tuesday, September 6, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. The public is encouraged to attend.

Special Committee Reports

The Parks and Rec Board met this evening. The next meeting will be on September 19, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Village Manager Report

None

Police Report

None

Finance Director Report

- Wanted to inform Council of the BZA meeting on August 24, 2022 to build a detached garage that is seeking a variance for the size and height. The Village does own property that abuts this property.
- There is an ordinance on the agenda to create a separate fund for settlement money from the OneOhio Opioid suit. The Village has received \$438 for this year and should continue to receive compensation annually for the next 17 years.
- There is also an ordinance to roll over the 2-year CD.

Law Report

None

New Business

Legislation

First Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions

Ordinance No. 2022-036

Establishing the OneOhio MOU Fund (Fund 2903) and Declaring an Emergency

Mrs. Miller made a motion to waive the two-reading rule for Ordinance 2022-036 and Mr. Gallagher seconded the motion.

Motion – Miller
Second – Gallagher

Roll Call – 6 yeas

Mr. Colvin made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-036 as an emergency and Mr. Gallagher seconded the motion.

Motion – Colvin
Second – Gallagher

Roll Call – 6 yeas

Ordinance No. 2022-037

An Ordinance Authorizing the Disposal of Obsolete, Unneeded and Unfit for Public Use Personal Property Pursuant to R.C. 721.15

Mr. Colvin asked if this was a yearly thing or done as needed. Ms. Morley replied that it is done as needed. She elaborated that staff tries to group several items on one ordinance so there are not several ordinances declaring surplus. Mr. Forbes said usually when the Village purchases new equipment the old equipment is declared surplus in the purchase ordinance in order to trade in the old equipment. This current ordinance is not for trade-in or connected to the purchase of any new equipment.

Mr. Gallagher made a motion to have the first reading of Ordinance 2022-037 and Mrs. Miller seconded the motion.

Motion – Gallagher
Second – Miller

Roll Call – 6 yeas

Ordinance 2022- 038

An Ordinance Authorizing the Finance Director to Transfer Investment Funds (2 Year CD) and Declaring an Emergency (CD Rollover)

Mrs. Miller made a motion to waive the two-reading rule for Ordinance 2022-038 and Mr. Blankenship seconded the motion.

Motion – Miller
Second – Blankenship

Roll Call – 6 yeas

Mr. Colvin made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-038 as an emergency and Mr. Gallagher seconded the motion.

Motion – Colvin
Second – Gallagher

Mr. Gallagher asked why this needed to be an emergency. Ms. Morley stated that the current CD has matured, and this is to roll the funds into a new CD as soon as possible to start gaining interest. The current rates are fairly good compared to the last CD rollover and the rates change weekly.

Mr. Colvin asked Ms. Morley to explain to the public why investments are so important to Village's finances. Ms. Morley stated that when Ms. Crockett assumed the duties of Finance Director, she arranged for several investment opportunities for the Village. The Village currently has four \$250K 2-year CDs that are staggered to mature every six months. Ms. Crockett also arranged for the Village checking account to be a Sweep account. This allows the money in the checking account to earn interest instead of sitting idle. The first year Ms. Crockett made these updates, the Village netted approximately 80K in interest. Ms. Morley added that the past couple of years have not been as profitable, as the market has not been as good, but the Village is still earning interest where before the money was sitting idle.

Roll Call – 6 yeas

Ordinance No. 2022-039

An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution of an Energy Consulting and Management Agreement with Trebel, LLC and Declaring an Emergency

Mr. Gallagher made a motion to have the first reading of Ordinance 2022-039 and Mr. Lauffer seconded the motion.

Motion – Gallagher
Second – Lauffer

Roll Call – 6 yeas

Mr. Gallagher stated that he spoke with a representative from Trebel, Joe, and has a couple of items he would like Council to consider. First, Mr. Gallagher would like to entertain the possibility to reduce the length of the contract to three years instead of five. He also stated Joe assured him that Trebel will protect residents' privacy. Next, Mr. Gallagher went over Part D on page 2 and stated that originally Trebel was going to put the bids into a spreadsheet showing what each provider was going to offer and Trebel's recommendation. Mr. Gallagher said he asked Trebel to be able to see the actual bids and have bid transparency. Mr. Gallagher stated that Trebel eluded that they would allow Council to view these bids if asked. Mr. Gallagher asked Mr. Forbes about page 3, section D. Mr. Forbes stated this appoints Trebel to act on behalf of the Village as an agent only as it relates to the Aggregate Program and is standard contract language. Mr. Gallagher wanted to ensure on page 3, section D that this section only locks the Village into the contract but still allows for residents to opt-out of a contract with Trebel if desired. Mr. Forbes concurred with Mr. Gallagher's assessment and stated that the section on page 4 does not apply to the Village since the Village has not been in an aggregate program, so there is no previous contract to supersede. Mr. Gallagher stated that after speaking with Joe from Trebel, he understood page 15, Section A to mean that if Trebel ever receives a rate quoted equal to or lower than \$.085 per kWh and/or \$.65 per Ccf, Trebel has the authority to lock the rate in for the Village. This is due to quotes only being good for no more than a day and if Trebel sees a price drop they want to lock in for their client.

Mr. Colvin wanted to ensure that Wayne Township, Corwin, Harveysburg, and possibly Clinton-Massie Township would be put out to bid at the same time and that more potential customers would mean a better deal. Ms. Morley stated that she believes this would be the case. Mr. Gallagher said this is Trebel's goal to get everyone on the same cycle that would give more bidding power. Mr. Gallagher added that this was the biggest factor in why he thought Trebel would be the best choice for the Village.

Resolution 2022- 040

Resolution Approving Participation in Region 14 Governance Structure
Under the OneOhio Memorandum of Understanding and Declaring an Emergency

Mrs. Miller made a motion to waive the two-reading rule for Ordinance 2022-040 and Mr. Blankenship seconded the motion.

Motion – Miller
Second – Blankenship

Roll Call – 6 yeas

Mr. Forbes explained that this is another piece of legislation required as part of the OneOhio lawsuit settlement against the opioid manufacturers. The Village voted to participate in the Ohio wide municipalities lawsuit and agreed to the MOU and receive funds from the settlement. Part of the agreement was to divide Ohio into different regions and Waynesville is part of Region 14. Region 14 must establish a governing structure and bylaws as required by the settlement. This piece of legislation is purely for housekeeping purposes.

Mr. Colvin asked if this governing body would determine how the money will be spent. Mr. Forbes stated that the MOU already outlined that the money can only be spent relating to issues caused by or related to the opioid crisis, such as law enforcement or the purchase of Narcan. Mr. Forbes stated he believes each region's governing body will be determining how the money will be allocated.

Mr. Colvin made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-040 as an emergency and Mr. Gallagher seconded the motion.

Motion – Colvin
Second – Gallagher

Roll Call – 6 yeas

Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions

Ordinance No. 2022 - 032

Authorizing the Village Manager to Enter into a Purchase Agreement with the Waynesville Area Heritage & Cultural Center at the Friend's Home, Inc.

Mr. Colvin made a motion to have the first reading for Ordinance 2022-032 and was seconded by Mr. Gallagher.

Motion – Colvin
Second – Gallagher

**Roll Call – 5 yeas (Isaacs, Lauffer, Miller, Colvin, Gallagher)
1 abstain (Blankenship)**

Tabled Ordinances and Resolutions

None

Executive Session

None

All were in favor to adjourn at 8:18 p.m.

Date: _____

Jamie Morley, Clerk of Council