

**Village of Waynesville  
Council Meeting Minutes  
September 19, 2022 at 7:00 pm**

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

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, September 19, 2022.*

.....

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

Roll Call – 7 present

**Mayor Acknowledgements**

None

**Disposition of Previous Minutes**

Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve the minutes for the Council meeting on September 6, 2022 as written and Ms. Dedden seconded the motion.

Motion – Miller  
Second – Dedden

**Roll Call – 7 years**

.....

**Public Recognition/Visitor's Comments**

Chief Copeland introduced Jerry Ferris from the Military Order of The Purple Heart Department of Ohio Honor Guard. Mr. Ferris led the Honor Guard in the presentation of colors. After the presentation of colors, Mayor Isaacs presented Mr. Ferris with a proclamation proclaiming the Village of Waynesville a Purple Heart Village. Mr. Ferris stated the Purple Heart Organization is one that no one wants to be a member of, but all the members have served and

continue to serve. He is pleased the Village of Waynesville is now attached to the Purple Heart Trail and the special recognition the award bestows on the Village. Mr. Ferris then presented Mayor Isaacs with a plaque commemorating this day. To end the ceremony the honor guard handed out Purple Heart challenge coins to Council.

Chief Copeland and Council thanked the Purple Heart Organization for the ceremony and were honored to now be a Purple Heart Village.

Mayor Isaacs acknowledged other guests as part of the ceremony as James Smith, Mayor of South Lebanon, and John Agenbroad, Mayor of Springboro. He also acknowledged his brother Eugene Isaacs, a fellow veteran.

Jim Smith, Mayor of South Lebanon, presented Mayor Isaacs with a special commemorative coin from the South Lebanon Veterans' Memorial. He stated that Mayor Isaacs has attended and supported many veteran functions.

Jason Linville, 241 N. Third, stated he and his family have lived at this property for over a year. He stated his neighbor's furnace is extremely loud and runs constantly. He claimed it keeps him and his family up all night and is so loud, the walls vibrate. Mr. Linville said he has spoken with his neighbor and offered to pay to replace it, but his neighbor is unresponsive. He has reported the noise to the police and has spoken to several officers about the problem. He is seeking guidance from Council on how to proceed as the current situation is unbearable.

Mr. Gallagher asked how far the furnace was from Mr. Linville's house and if there was a buffer. Mr. Linville responded that it was about 30 feet from the home and there are bushes to help mute the noise. Chief Copeland stated that Sgt. Denlinger is assigned to the case and will be in contact with the homeowners to see if a solution can be mitigated between the neighbors.

Gus Edwards, 6050 Clarksville Road, addressed Council on behalf of the Wayne Township Fire Department. He wanted to inform Council of the placement of a 1.8 mill renewal levy on the November 2022 ballot. This renewal is for five years and is primarily for capital equipment replacement. This will not increase taxes.

Furthermore, Mr. Edwards stated that a committee was formed to research the continued service delivery issues and projected shortfalls in the Fire Fund revenue. On the recommendation of the committee, the Trustees unanimously voted to place an additional 2.0 mill levy on the November ballot for five years. This will support current and future staffing needs. Mr. Edwards stated that due to the rising costs of supplies, increase in emergency runs, and a staff shortage, it was deemed the best solution was to hire six full-time firefighters. Mr. Edwards added that if the levy is not passed the fire station may be required to brown out shifts or equipment, which means that another local fire station may have to be dispatched to emergencies. He also said that staffing a volunteer and part-time station has become increasingly difficult, most part-time staff have been hired on full-time at other stations and several have retired. The fire station staff has decreased from 58 to 30 over the past couple of years.

Mr. Gallagher asked how much more would residents have to pay on property taxes with the new levy. Mr. Edwards said that a resident's house that has a true value of 160K, would see about a \$120 increase on their property taxes, about \$70 per 100K of true valuation.

At this time, Diane Colvin, Wayne Township Trustee, addressed Council and stated that there is a short PowerPoint presentation on the Township's website for anyone that would like more information.

.....

**Old Business**

None

.....

**Reports**

**Finance**

There will be a Special Council meeting this Thursday, September 22 at 5:00 p.m. Council is expected to go into an executive session to discuss the employment of public employees. The Finance meeting will directly follow the Special Council meeting.

**Public Works Report**

Public Works will meet on October 3, at 6:00 p.m. and the public is encouraged to attend.

**Special Committee Reports**

The Parks and Rec Committee met this evening. Guests included Mr. Edwards from Wayne Township and Ana Garafolo from Wayne Local Schools. The Committee got a better understanding of Bicentennial Park. The committee will meet again on October 17 at 6:00 p.m. and plan to have the Village Manager show parcels that could be possible future parks.

**Village Manager Report**

- Appreciate the Puple Hearts Organization for attending tonight's meeting and presenting the colors.
- Miami Valley Painting is completing the painting of the Main Street lampposts and they look nice.
- Strawser Construction has completed micro surfacing 12 roads throughout the Village and believe the residents will be happy with the results. Thank you to Mr. Edwards for the recommendation.

- Thank you to Council members Troy Lauffer, Joette Dedden, and Mayor Isaacs for attending the ribbon cutting at Jamie Gabbard's new real estate office.
- Provided for review the proposed renewal contract from Miami Valley Lighting.
- Michael from Choice One and myself will be meeting with the ODOT Safety Committee to go over the proposal for a stoplight at Route 42 and North Street. There are 14 projects the committee is considering funding.
- The Street Department has begun painting yellow curbs around the Village.
- Thought the Village hired a new water operator, unfortunately, he went back to his old employer after three days. Interviewed two more candidates and have a second interview with one to tour the facilities. I also contacted Winelco to provide a quote to be the Operator of Record and provide the minimum hour requirements. The price was about 18K. This does not include meter changeouts, water breaks, or anything like that. The Village would still need a water employee to handle these things.
- SmithCorp repaired and did some crack sealing on Miami and Edwards to finish up the OPWC Phase III project.

## **Police Report**

- A huge thank you to Donna Bellman for providing the staff with cupcakes left over from the Veteran's Court graduation.
- Looking at hiring a new police officer as Officer Logan has a tentative offer for Knox County Sheriff's Office. The Special Council meeting will address talking about hiring another full-time police officer. One more police officer would fully staff the department and not have to rely on reserve officers.
- Attended the Veteran's Court graduation. Judge Loxley thanked Council for allowing him to speak with them at the last meeting. Also, would like to thank Mr. Blankenship for volunteering his time to be a mentor for the Veteran's Court docket.

Mr. Colvin asked when Hearth Warming for the Holidays is going on in the Village. Ms. Morley responded that it is November 4-6. Mr. Colvin asked if anyone wanted to volunteer and put the wreaths up along Main Street. At this time Ms. Dedden asked if there was a liability if a volunteer gets hurt. Mr. Forbes stated there is not if the volunteers sign a waiver. It was decided to meet on Saturday, October 22 to put the wreaths up.

## **Financial Director Report**

None

## **Law Report**

None

## **New Business**

Mr. Colvin shared he received a request from Dr. Byers to declare September 2022 a Drug-Free Pain Management month. Mr. Forbes pointed out that this was the last meeting in September and would not be possible.

## **Legislation**

### **First Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions**

None

### **Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions**

None

### **Tabled Ordinances and Resolutions**

None

## **Executive Session**

None

Mr. Colvin made a motion to adjourn, and Mr. Gallagher seconded the motion. All were in favor to adjourn at 8:09 pm.

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

---

Jamie Morley, Clerk of Council