

**Village of Waynesville
Council Meeting Minutes
December 20, 2021 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, December 20, 2021.

Mayor Isaacs called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Roll Call – 7 present

Mayor Acknowledgements

Had a wonderful staff Christmas party and a huge thank you to Chief Copeland for an excellent job. Downtown Waynesville is still busy with the Christmas season. Also, still celebrating the Girls soccer team winning state.

Disposition of Previous Minutes

Ms. Dedden made a motion to approve the minutes for the Council meeting on December 6, 2021 as written and Mrs. Miller seconded the motion.

Motion – Dedden
Second – Miller

Roll Call – 7 yeas

Mr. Colvin thanked Ms. Morley for a good job writing the minutes and succinctly summarizing discussions and points of view.

Public Recognition/Visitor's Comments

Mr. Colvin asked Scott Teeters, 1900 Dryden Road, representing AES Ohio, if there is any changes or updates with AES the Village should be made aware of for the upcoming year. Mr. Teeters informed Council that AES has been concentrating on a 10-year sizable capital investment plan. Some projects that have been completed as part of this plan are the Gephart substation south of Social Row Road and rebuilding of the transmission lines to give a dedicated feed to the Village. This will help with reliability. New AMI meters will be installed for each household. Warren County should get the meters in 2025. This provides a communication infrastructure and allows meters to be read and turned off and on remotely. Mr. Colvin asked if there were any privacy concerns with the smart meters and if they are optional. Mr. Teeters stated that everyone will eventually get a smart meter and the communication is encrypted to help prevent hacking. He also elaborated that the new meters will add additional services for the customer, such as the customer being able to monitor usage, allow different rates for electric cars, and notify AES immediately of a power outage rather than depending on a customer to report outage.

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Old Business

Ms. Dedden presented Council members with proposed committee assignments.

Ms. Dedden made a motion to accept the Council committee assignments for 2022 and Mr. Blankenship seconded the motion.

Motion – Dedden
Second – Blankenship

Roll Call – 7 years

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Reports

Finance

The Finance Committee met on December 16, 2021. The next meeting is January 20, 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 will meet February 7, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. and the public is encouraged to attend. The meeting scheduled for January 3rd has been cancelled.

Special Committee Reports

MOMS will meet January 3rd at 3:00 p.m. The place will be determined, possibly the Township Building. Ms. Dedden suggested that the meeting take place on Main Street to be able to see the current light posts.

The Historic Preservation Board will meet January 17th at 6:00 p.m. to discuss previously submitted applications by Mr. Alexander.

Village Manager Report

- Mr. Alexander has been notified of the January 17th Historic Preservation meeting.
- The revised traffic study by Choice One has been given to Rep. Lipps. Plan to meet with him, Neil Tunison, Warren County Engineer, and ODOT to go over possibilities of installing a stoplight at Route 42 and North Street.
- Met with Jason from One Stop Signs and finalized the details of the sign in front of the Government Center.
- The sidewalk along Franklin is coming along. Dug Rite is doing a great job and will be making all the curbs ADA compliant.
- Provided a thank you letter to Groceryland, Acapulco, Village Restaurant, and McDonalds for their contributions to the Village staff Christmas party. Also, like to thank all the Council members for their contributions and attendance at the Christmas party. It meant a lot to the staff.
- Provided photos of the Maintenance Department installing the barricades for Christmas in the Village.
- Provided photos of Susan Johnson receiving award for 10-years of service. She has been a great asset to the Village and will be missed.
- Performing Arts building at the school is underway.
- Provided phone numbers of vendors that could attend the MOMS meeting to provide information on lamp posts.
- Provided photographs of the staff Christmas party.
- Wessler is still moving forward on water model and in contact with staff.
- Suggest Council members provide a bio to Jamie for the new web site.

Police Report

- December 17, there was a social media nationwide threat. Took precautionary measures with extra patrols and building walk throughs. Fortunately, nothing happened.
- Asking to be excused from the next meeting as I will be out of town.

Mrs. Miller asked when the Chamber would be removing the electrical boxes on the electric poles left over from Sauerkraut Festival. Chief Copeland responded that he has contacted the Chamber several times with requests to have these removed as he feels it is a liability. He has also contacted the electrician responsible for removing the boxes. Chief Copeland will ensure that the Special Events Permit issued next year for the festival will include a clause to have the boxes taken down a couple weeks after AES pulls the meters. Mr. Gallagher asked if the Village

would be liable if someone were to get hurt on the boxes. Mr. Forbes responded that if that were to happen, most likely everybody would get sued. He said he could draft a letter to the Chamber saying this was a public nuisance and if they are not taken down within a certain time period, the Village will do it and charge the Chamber for the service. At this time, Council agreed to have Mr. Forbes draft a letter.

Mr. Lauffer asked Chief Copeland about the final cost for the electronic sign in front of the Government Building. The final cost was 40K, 4K less than originally quoted. The sign will match the brick and stone in the building and the lettering will be brown to also match.

Mrs. Miller asked if Council should give the MOMS Committee a budget for the lights downtown to ensure they do not pick out lights that are overbudget. Ms. Morley stated that the Finance Committee decided to appropriate 150K for the project at the last Finance meeting.

Mr. Colvin asked if the only option is a traffic light at Route 42 and North Street. Chief Copeland stated that at one point ODOT suggested making Route 42 a 2-lane road with a roundabout. However, he does not think this is a good option to take a 4-lane highway back down to a two-lane highway. Rather, he feels a traffic light with a delayed signal would be sufficient.

Financial Director Report

- There is a current bill in committee at the state legislature to increase the Village's contribution for police officers to Ohio Police and Fire Fund from 19% to 26% over the course of several years. Please contact representatives to not support this bill.

Law Report

None

New Business

None

Legislation

First Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions

None

Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions

Ordinance No. 2021-053

Authorizing the Village Manager to Enter into a Contract with Millennium Business Systems for Copier and Wide Format Printer/Scanner Devices

Mrs. Miller made the motion to adopt Ordinance 2021-053 and was seconded Mr. Gallagher.

Motion – Miller

Second – Gallagher

Roll Call – 7 yeas

Tabled Ordinances and Resolutions

None

Executive Session

None

Mayor Isaacs wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mr. Colvin asked Mr. Forbes if Public Works Committee could have had a meeting in January if Council members were yet to be sworn in. Mr. Forbes stated that technically a Council member stays in office until the replacement is sworn in. Therefore, Public Works could have had a meeting.

All were in favor to adjourn at 7:47 pm.

Date: _____

Jamie Morley, Clerk of Council