

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Council

Meeting

GRAPHIC VILLAGE - CINCINNATI, OH

Form 6101

Held

September 19, 2022

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

SEPTEMBER 19, 2022

Called to Order:

President Conway called the Village of West Jefferson Council Meeting to Order and asked for a Roll Call at 7:01 P.M.

Roll Call:

Council Members: Samantha Cahill, Mike Conway, Linda Hall, Richard King, Jeff Patterson, Howard Wade, and Jennifer Warner.

Quorum Declare: 7 present, 0 absent.

Also attending were: Becky Arnott-Shipley, Finance Director; Mark Crosten, IT Manager; Chris Floyd, Chief of Police; Jimmy John Hall, Clerk of Council; Ray Martin, Mayor; John Mitchell, Public Service Director; and Kristie West, Zoning Official.

Prayer: Mayor Ray Martin.

Heavenly Father, we are so very thankful for so many blessings. As we think about them, we are even more thankful for you. Help us tonight as we talk about the business of this wonderful Village and its people. Help us in an orderly manner to be mindful of each other. We ask in Jesus Christ name alone. Amen.

Pledge of Allegiance: Mr. King.

I (we) pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

The Agenda:

Motion to Adopt the Agenda moved by Mr. Patterson and seconded by Mr. Wade.

VOICED VOTE AFFIRMED

Motion Carries 7/0/0.

The Minutes:

Motion to Approve the Minutes as Corrected of the September 6, 2022, Regular Meeting of Council moved by Ms. L. Hall and seconded by Mr. King.

VOICED VOTE AFFIRMED

Motion Carries 7/0/0.

Motion to Approve the Minutes as Corrected of the September 8, 2022, Emergency Meeting of Council moved by Mr. Wade and seconded by Ms. Cahill.

VOICED VOTE AFFIRMED

Motion Carries 7/0/0.

Motion to Approve the Minutes of the September 13, 2022, Special Meeting of Council moved by Mr. Patterson and seconded by Mr. King.

VOICED VOTE AFFIRMED

Motion Carries 7/0/0.

Committee Reports: None.

Department Reports:

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Report from Mayor:

Mayor Martin reported the Saturday Garrette Park celebration with Senator Bob D. Hackett was a great event. Next, the work for Westwood is underway. Also, this has been a productive year with the streets, parks and other infrastructure. Lastly, the Ohio Municipal League Conference is coming up.

Report from Director of Public Service:

Mr. Mitchell concurred with the Mayor's Garrette Park summary. Westwood Park's basketball courts are being used while other upgrades are being finished. Also, the pole foundations are beginning to be put in at Taylor Blair and Route 40. Additionally, the apparatus of some sort of pedestrian cross walk is under consideration. Lastly, a traffic count will be considered at Inwood and Route 40.

Mayor Martin added a thanks to Council for all their work they have added to these projects and events.

Mr. Mitchell added cameras in the park are still being considered as available power and internet access is studied for their use.

Report from Recreation and Special Events Manager:

Mr. Stanley reported the current flyer of events on the website is up-to-date. Next, the Fall Fest is coming up quickly and we need help. We've reached out to those needing to do community service projects too. We can take younger people with parental permission. Lastly, we are looking at changing the menu for the Fall Fest and adding things like chicken chili and apple cider.

Ms. L. Hall raised the question about a sufficient amount of food.

Mr. Stanley stated people show up and take six or seven other plates of food home. It is recommended to be at the event for food within the first hour.

Mr. Mitchell added the event organizers need to purchase more food and potential attendees is difficult to estimate.

Report from Director of Finance:

Ms. Arnott-Shipley reported the August financials are in the current Council Packets. Also, August Income Tax figures were down 5% over the last year but Income Tax for the year is up 7%. Next, budget workshops are coming up and are scheduled the 2nd and 3rd weeks of October. Each department has a budget worksheet. Also, revenue items over \$10,000.00 totaled \$412,525.31 with 102 receipts. Lastly, payment items over \$10,000.00 totaled \$305,592.15 with 76 payments.

Report from Chief of Police:

Chief Floyd reported the new police cruiser was ordered subsequent to the Emergency Meeting of Council on September 8, 2022. The delivery date is anticipated to be in May, 2023. The delay is systemic. For example, Columbus Police ordered 70 cruisers and were granted 20. Next, the Village is currently hiring for its police department. Applicants need a law enforcement certificate. Lastly, since the last meeting, there have been 92 traffic stops, 61 on Main Street, and 81 resulting in citations.

Report from Development Director: None.

Recognition of Clerk and Council:

Recognition of Guests:

Mr. Mark Pelphre talked about the continuity of construction between one section and another. The upcoming infrastructure project will leave out of the work the one block on Fellows Ave. between Garfield Ave. and Frey Ave. Why would the Village come back at a later date to work on this one block when it could be part of the entire infrastructure project. Please consider the continuity of this street in the overall plan.

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Mr. Mitchell responded with information concerning the nature of the grants the Village receives. First, the block in question is different than the rest of the Avenue. For that reason, it scheduled at a later date as it will cost around 1 million dollars. Second, if this amount was added to the grant application, then the Village will not be awarded the same. In the first place, it took three years to receive the grant for Westchester. In the second place, the grant application needs to be within a range that is an acceptable cost. In the third place, the Village shares the grants for larger projects, which rotates around about 3 to 5 years. So, the Village has to target this correctly.

Mr. Dean Bollinger stated there is a traffic issue on Fellows Ave. from the traffic light to Walnut St. First, the street is being treated like a car racing track. Second, the mufflers noise is a nuisance. The traffic signs are not preventing traffic violations. There appears to be no regard for the law and public safety. Neither did speed bumps help in former years. In conclusion, something should be done before a precious life is taken.

Mayor Martin added speed bumps and additional traffic signs are things the Village can look into to but there are requirements for their utilization.

Mrs. Paula Bollinger stated advocacy for the new park. Its wonderful to see people use the park. However, there are some problems. First, Kuehner Ave. is a one-way street. However, people are driving opposite of the signs and the law. The signs for traffic are being disregarded and there have been near accidents. There are also a lot of children with their families. Second, the equipment at the park is labeled for the age limit on certain pieces of equipment. However, people who are clearly older than allowed are using the equipment. Furthermore, at all hours of the night the park is being used, specifically the zip-line. Third, park attendees are using resident trash cans. There are park trash cans available. Please discuss these issues and provide a solution.

Mr. Dwain Bitcher reported on activities on his street. First, there is a problem with speeding vehicles on Fellows Ave. Some of these speeding vehicles have driven through Mr. Bitcher's front year, almost hit his car, and almost hit his home. Additionally, Mr. Bitcher's neighbor experienced the same issues. Second, some of these drivers are beginning to respond with aggression. Consequently, Mr. Bitcher has contacted the police with pictures and license plate numbers. Mr. Bitcher stated that the police never come to respond to his phone calls. Mr. Bitcher pleaded with Council and the Mayor to do something concerning this issue.

Chief Floyd responded to these concerning. First, the police are out there on Fellows Ave. Second, the speeds signs have to be placed in a spot that does not take away a parking spot. Third, the speed sign and camera send a text with the speed and the car. Chief Floyd said to Mr. Bitcher to please call the police office. Calling the police is not a bother for the department. Chief Floyd also stated the lives involved in this situation and others are very important.

Mr. Wade asked a question about the nature of speed cameras.

Chief Floyd responded to the speed camera concerns. The police do carefully follow through with the speed camera texts and pictures. Also, the speed bumps question is a discussion for the Public Service Director and Department. As the Mayor pointed out, there are even laws for their use.

Mr. Mitchell responded to a question about the reason(s) for the increase speeding. It is likely that the new surface is raising an interest or some people don't realize they are speeding. Also, the Public Service Department will look at signage and locations.

Multiple people commented signs do not seem to be working. The problem is located elsewhere... Furthermore, Council talked about additional mitigations to discourage and prevent speeding. Lastly, Council would like the Council Committees to discuss these issues with the various Departments Heads and Mayor.

Mr. William Mullett, Superintendent, discussed the upcoming Election Day Substitute Levy on the Ballot. First, thanks were addressed to Council. Second, the ballot language is a 'substitute levy.' This is a renewal of the Emergency Levy. So, this renewal will not be any new taxes. Second, a key part is the benefit for home owners of a 12.5% tax reduction. Third, this will generate about \$1,452,338.00 for the district and will be used for computers, buses, and salaries, just to name a few.

Old Business: None.

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New Business:

- A. **Resolution 22-076**, approving the amendment to the Site Plan and Landscaping for Exeter Timmons LLC, for parcel #16-00001.000, as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission on August 3, 2022.

Motion to Approve Resolution 22-076, moved by Mr. King and seconded by Ms. Warner.

Reading of Resolution 22-076, approving the amendment to the Site Plan and Landscaping for Exeter Timmons LLC, for parcel #16-00001.000, as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission on August 3, 2022.

Deliberations: President Conway opened up Council deliberations.

Mr. Bill Skebba, representing the property, explained the use of the parcel. The parcels use is being rearranged.

(Inaudible 1:08)

President Conway explained the shortening of the building and changing them around. Council is considering these changes for a possible future development.

Ms. Warner inquired about the location of a potential fueling station location.

(Inaudible 1:09; multiple conversations; no microphone)

Deliberations: President Conway closed Council deliberations to vote on the main motion.

VOTE YEA: Cahill, Conway, L. Hall, King, Patterson, Wade, and Warner.
VOTE NAY: None.
ABSTAIN: None.

Motion Carries 7/0/0

- B. **Resolution 22-078**, setting the Pay Rate for Full-Time Public Service Assistant Water Superintendent, James M. Muskera, at the Five-Year Level.

Motion to Approve Resolution 22-078, moved by Mr. Patterson and seconded by Ms. L. Hall.

Reading of Ordinance 22-074, authorizing a supplemental appropriation in the General Fund for payment to other political subdivisions.

Deliberations: President Conway opened up Council deliberations.

Mr. Mitchell explained the recent resignation of Mr. Alex Bishop and the need to hire that position.

Ms. Arnott-Shiple explained the years of service Mr. James M. Muskera previously had. Mr. Muskera has great mechanical knowledge with many years of experience.

Deliberations: President Conway closed Council deliberations to vote on the main motion.

VOTE YEA: Cahill, Conway, L. Hall, King, Patterson, Wade, and Warner.
VOTE NAY: None.
ABSTAIN: None.

Motion Carries 7/0/0

Additional Business: None.

Pay the Bills:

Motion to Pay the Bills moved by Ms. L. Hall and seconded by Mr. Patterson.

VOICED VOTE AFFIRMED

Motion Carries 7/0/0.

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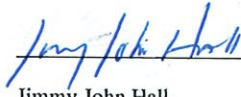
"Then and Now" Certificates over \$3,000.00: None.

Adjourn:

Motion to Adjourn at 8:19 P.M. moved by Ms. Patterson and seconded by Mr. Wade until 7:00 P.M. October 3, 2022, Regular Meeting of Council.

VOICED VOTE AFFIRMED

Motion Carries 7/0/0.



Jimmy John Hall
Clerk of Council



Mike Conway
President of Council

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