

4/25/2023

COUNCIL MEETING

New Richmond Village Council met in Council Chambers, 2nd floor, at 102 Willow Street, New Richmond, Ohio, in regular session on Tuesday, April 25th, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

Vice Mayor Prues opened the meeting with everyone standing and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice Mayor Prues asked for Roll Call of all Council with the following members responding:

Mary Allen <u>Yes</u>	Larry Prues <u>Yes</u>	Dennis Dalton <u>Yes</u>
Richard Feldkamp <u>Yes</u>	Jon Tharpe <u>Yes</u>	Ryan Woodruff <u>Yes</u>

Present in Council Chambers: Mayor Glenn Ewing/ Absent due to illness; Administration: Interim Village Administrator, Bob Lindhorst; Clerk of Council, Kelley Snider; Department Heads: Police Chief Eric Williams, and Fire/EMS Chief Tim Feldkamp Additional personnel: Scott Sollmann, Solicitor

Guests present (Resident): Donna Prues, Dave Cooper, Clermont County Sheriff Steve Leahy, Chief Paul Broxterman Pierce Twp and Clermont County Prosecutor Mark Tekulve.

(Zoom Conference Call) Joey Vogel, Sophie Woodruff/Village Residents, Sergeant Jason Mallott and Bobbi Phillips.

MINUTES:

Minutes of the **04/11/2023** Regular Council meeting were presented for approval.

Councilperson Allen motioned to approve the Minutes of 03/13/2023 Regular Council meeting with corrections; seconded by Councilperson Dalton, Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mary Allen <u>Yes</u>	Larry Prues <u>Yes</u>	Dennis Dalton <u>Yes</u>
Richard Feldkamp <u>Yes</u>	Jon Tharpe <u>Yes</u>	Ryan Woodruff <u>Yes</u>

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

- Dave Cooper: Congrats to the village for the piece of equipment to mow over the guard rail. He has reached out to ODOT in passed- was told its not their job. Asked about the 52 potholes. Per Councilperson Feldkamp US 52 is a Federal Highway. Heard that mowing on US 52 was \$15k. Village use to borrow a tractor but ended up purchasing a used one. We do get revenue from the State, gas tax and license plates. Local Government Fund was cut. Councilperson Allen thanked him for the compliment.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Village Administrator Bob Lindhorst

- Public Restrooms have been de-winterized and are now open, hours of operation 6:30am to 11:00pm daily. Street department will open in the morning Monday through Friday and the police Department will close during the week and open and close on the weekend.
- The water fountains at the dog Park are now operational.
- The Power Initiative Grant Application was submitted Wednesday April 19th to the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) for \$50K. In short it is a planning grant to recover from the closing of the Beckjord Power Station and the associated jobs, and tax revenue lost. The \$50,000 ARC POWER grant will be used to evaluate a possible Solar/Green Hydrogen facility on the Beckjord property and the associated benefits to the village.

- Meant with Dave Rose and Gary Blandon from Skippers and representing the village, was Councilperson Ryan Woodruff, Councilperson Richard Feldkamp, Fire/EMS Chief Tim Feldkamp, Police Chief Eric Williams, and myself. Dave Rose requested the meeting because of the letter that was sent on March 28, which stated the village did not have a current copy of their Liability Insurance and the village was also missing the operational plans for 2021 and 2022. Skippers did drop full coverage insurance which is concerning. The letter also stated that the current state of the licensed area is not satisfactory to the village. They did supply the information requested. After an hour of conversations what came out was, they did install (2) head cables, they are planning to get the (2) new spud poles in over next couple of weeks, will secure the door to head boat to hinder access, and hope to have the boat back in the water in 4 weeks.
- The ZBA committee held a meeting this past Saturday the 22nd regarding Rodrick Crousey, owner of New Richmond Distilleries, requesting a zoning ordinance variance for the property located on Washington Street, Parcel #260910.001, about putting an accessory structure on the aforementioned property when there is no primary structure located on the site at this time. The ZBA granted the variance. Minutes attached. The plans are to have Tasting/Sampling and Food Trucks, strictly retail. There was discussion as to this being the location of the first distillery in New Richmond.
- Councilperson Allen commended Bob with the Dumpster company. It was determined that the full dumpsters with household items were items left over from the previous owner. All dumpsters are staging for construction companies. Bob will continue to work with the new owner.

Police Chief Eric Williams

- 17 Traffic Stops, 2 Criminal Arrests, 15 Traffic Arrests, 7 speed and 8 other.
- Was able to secure 8 Tasers from Union Township
- Shout out to Sargent Jason Mallott and Officer Chris Beckman and Chris Pairin in regard to a gun theft and juveniles. Several arrests were made.
- Introduced Clermont County Sheriff Steve Leahy, Chief Paul Broxterman Pierce Twp and Clermont County Prosecutor Mark Tekulve. They will support New Richmond and they are committed to the village. We all work well together. Mr. Tekulve noted we made a better choice with hiring Police Chief Williams.
- Thanked everyone for the calls, texts, coming to the service for his mother.

Fire/EMS Chief Tim Feldkamp (Hand Out)

- Thanked Sheriff Leahy, Chief Broxterman and Prosecutor Mark Tekulve for attending the Council Meeting.
- Jim Serger: He has been doing a lot of work around the village. He has done a wonderful job – he has painted 50 hydrants just this week. If you see him, thank him.
- Had a Member, Stan Kinnard's wife pass away this passed weekend, Mary. They were married almost 60 years. Thursday evening is the Visitation and Friday morning is the service. The Social Fund will be supplying the meal after the service. Please keep their family in your thoughts and prayers.

Mayor Glenn Ewing: Absent/Illness

Vice Mayor Prues: Nothing to report.

Solicitor, Scott Sollmann: Nothing to report.

Clerk of Council, Kelley Snider: Nothing to report.

LEGISLATION read by Vice Mayor Prues

First Reading

Second Reading

Third Reading

- RES 2023-09 STRONGLY URGING THE OHIO GOVERNOR AND MEMBERS OF THE OHIO GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO RESTORE THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND TO PRE- RECESSION LEVELS

Councilperson Woodruff made a motion to pass RES 2023 09, Second by Councilperson Feldkamp

Mary Allen Yes Larry Prues Yes Dennis Dalton Yes
Richard Feldkamp Yes Jon Tharpe Yes Ryan Woodruff Yes

- RES 2023-10 URGING THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS THE STATE OF OHIO TO ENACT LEGISLATION TO FURTHER PROTECT THE CITIZENS OF THE VILLAGE OF NEW RICHMOND, OHIO FROM THE INHERENT DANGERS OF A TRAIN DERAILMENT ON THE TRACKS LOCATED AT NEAR OUR CITY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilperson Feldkamp made a motion to Pass RES 2023-10, Second by Councilperson Woodruff.

Mary Allen Yes Larry Prues Yes Dennis Dalton Yes
Richard Feldkamp Yes Jon Tharpe Yes Ryan Woodruff Yes

CALL OF MEMBERS:

Larry Prues – N/A

Dennis Dalton

- Rumors were going around that we were hiring a new Administrator. The Village is not hiring a new Administrator – we are happy with the Interim Administrator Bob Lindhorst. We do not need to make any changes. Bob is doing a fantastic job.
- Questioned the Speeding Signs on Front Street. There are more going one way than the other. Can we find a few more signs? Bob will investigate this.
- Template POWER Grant Support letter regarding Beckjord was handed out to all Councilmembers as deadline is coming soon. Councilperson Dalton will not be at the next meeting.
- Need a motion for Bob Lindhorst to sign MOU / memorandum for Delta Queen. New Richmond would be Delta Queens port. It will go up and down the Appalachian communities. This would mean we would distribute the funds. Liberty Landing will tie into this. This was presented to the Ohio Riverway – they were excited. Councilperson Prues noted that Captain Wagner, the Captain of the Delta Queen, had a home on Susanna Way and actual scoops from the boat sits along Susanna way. 99% of the repairs can be done while its in the water.

Councilperson Allen made a motion to allow Bob Lindhorst to sign MOU for the Delta Queen. Second by Councilperson Woodruff.

Mary Allen Yes Larry Prues Yes Dennis Dalton Yes
Richard Feldkamp Yes Jon Tharpe Yes Ryan Woodruff Yes

Richard Feldkamp –

- Skippers had a complaint about non patrons parking in their parking lot. Maybe get a sign that says “patrons only”. Will send Scott the most recently license agreement. We have only seen the 2020 license agreement.

Ryan Woodruff –

- The Clarks: Nothing has been done on their property. They are in violation.
- Jim Serger: He was hoping Jim would be at the meeting this evening to thank him. He is not a village resident,
- Dumpster Business on Front Street This property was sold by Andy Moran to a dumpster staging for construction, would take them to job sites, fill dumpsters, then take to Rumpke, then bring them to the site to have ready for next day. They put a 6–8-foot fence up. We could not find any regulations to say no to it going in next to El Barrill. Received a picture from a citizen sitting on patio which looks like household garbage and mattress. It seems it's not being used how they told Bob it was going to use. Councilperson Allen asked why they can't put on the other side. Planning Commission is looking at zoning and has not been modified recently. Not sure if we have legal recourse. This should have been dealt with upfront, not the new owners. Sympathetic with El Barrill at this point. Might need to discuss with Scott as to what can be done. Christine McAdams asked if there in place here at Village Hall to pick up packet for new businesses-they need to, show us a business plan. Can work side by side with business association. Kelley has been working on fee schedule – comparing them to other municipalities, just to stay consistent. Discussed our staff – we do not have a well-developed staff. City of Milford has every new business come into office and fill out packet. We should do the same. Councilperson Feldkamp asked if the dumpster is empty would it be a fire hazard. Fire Chief Feldkamp stated yes.
- Flood Gage Sign at Haussermann: The sign is broken and needs to be replaced. We need to acknowledge the 1937 Flood on the gage as its history.
- Inquired about signage facing the river – “welcome to New Richmond”, or something similar. Councilperson Tharpe will look into this as he works for a sign company.

Mary Allen –

- May 18th is the Ohio Riverway Summit
- Cincinnati Magazine - we will get 350 copies to place locally.
- Health Insurance is up for renewal – 3% - need to make a motion to pass on to employee or absorb the cost. Councilperson Dalton made a motion for the Village to Fiscal Officer Joel Gilpin to accept the terms and absorb the 3% increase.

Mary Allen Yes Larry Prues Yes Dennis Dalton Yes
 Richard Feldkamp Yes Jon Tharpe Yes Ryan Woodruff Yes

Jon Tharpe –

- Received a phone call about the flowers in front of Greenmound Cemetery. Volunteers are needed to take care of this. Will put a Facebook message out,

ORC 121.22 (G)(3) (Corrected Minutes)

Scott Sollmann requested a motion be made for Village Council to go into executive session in accordance with Ohio Revised Code § 121.22 (G)(3) to discuss pending or imminent litigation with the Village attorney.

Councilperson Alen made a motion to go into Executive Session, Second by Councilperson Woodruff.

Mary Allen Yes Larry Prues Yes Dennis Dalton Yes
 Richard Feldkamp Yes Jon Tharpe Yes Ryan Woodruff Yes

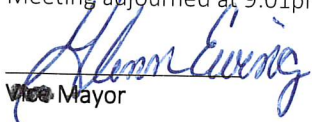
Councilperson Woodruff made a motion to come back from Executive Session at 8:59pm, Second by Councilperson Feldkamp.

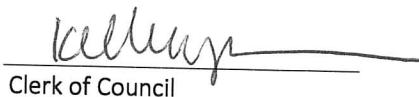
Mary Allen Yes Larry Prues Yes Dennis Dalton Yes
 Richard Feldkamp Yes Jon Tharpe Yes Ryan Woodruff Yes

Councilperson Dalton motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:40pm, seconded by Councilperson Woodruff, Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mary Allen Yes Larry Prues Yes Dennis Dalton Yes
 Richard Feldkamp Yes Jon Tharpe Yes Ryan Woodruff Yes

Meeting adjourned at 9:01pm.


 Vice Mayor


 Clerk of Council