

06/27/2023

## COUNCIL MEETING

New Richmond Village Council met in Council Chambers, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, at 102 Willow Street, New Richmond, Ohio, in regular session on Tuesday, 06/27/2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Councilperson Woodruff: With the recent tragedies that has happened in and around our village the past view weeks on behalf of Council, we would like to have a moment of silence to honor Clayton, Hunter and Chase Doerman and Jacob Crawford.

Mayor Ewing 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 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

**Village Resident:** David Cooper, Lisa Tharpe, Donna Prues, Pastor Ethan Clay Thomas, Valarie Lipps, Bev Lewis, Steve Light

**Non Village Resident:** Christine McAdams/Business Owner, Michael Rantz, Gary Blanton/Business Owner, Diane Baker

**(Zoom Conference Call)** Kevin DeKrush, Iphone, Sherri Zorb, Iphone4, Robin Knecht, Rebecca, Carol, Brian C, Stacy's Iphone, Chris Wood, Arlene Dobrinic, Interested Party, Billie Feldkamp, Bonnie Rydzewski, Riley Wolf, M. Cartwright, Jess Coomer, Chris Sexton, Barb Davis, Trish Iphone, Kevin's Iphone, Connie Moore, Ann, Bakers Phone, Laura, Michelle Holman, Teresa, Chris Capato, Betsy Mitchell, NSH, Connie Rydzewski, NRFEMS Station, Jason Mallott, Marsha Delaney, Tom, Erin Hoskins, Zoom User, Michelle, Iphone, Sabrina Schnarrenberg, "Stinkin Boot", Mandy Jenkins, Karma, Susan Lucas, Ty, Zoom User, Cameron Pelzel, DJM, Lauren Godby, Melinda Maxwell, Crystal, Bobbi Phillips, Jeff Baxter, Zoom User, Ann, Rod, RD, Joe H, Don Marcello, Laura, Newfie, Tim, Jack Colston, Jr, John, Shawna, Patricia's Iphone, Katie Odell, Unknown, Ryan Ridgley, Chris, Nikki, Ryan P, Michelle Honaker, Mindy Horgan, Iphone 14, Justin Keely,

### COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Christine McAdams:

Festival has been approved July 1 and Jul 2. All food and craft vendors have been contacted, all but one is coming, and they will be refunded. Ran down the schedule for both days. More cash has poured in for the festival. Had several calls about the parade and from local law enforcements (100 people) with Mr. Feldkamp as the Grand Marshall. No outside beer sales as the Committee was unable to secure the permit. Per Christine it was failure on her part as president of the festival. DORA will remain open. Report given to Police Chief. Steve Light has paid for the security/police coverage in full. It should be a safe event.

It was confirmed we have the Acord for Rozzi's and working with Kramer Meyer for the festival Acord. Will have the Acord by COB Thursday. Christine sent all a personal apology. Councilperson Dalton thanked her for her efforts.

David Cooper:  
Complaint

Several houses - 948, 936, 956 and 970 on Old US 52 has grass that has not been cut, cars in yard, trash cans never taken off driveway. Councilperson Prues asked Bob Lindhorst if we authority to pay someone to cut grass and assess on taxes. Bob Lindhorst will look over Ordinance and will send violation letters.

Gary Blanton:

Asking about House Bill 669 to sell beer at top of hill. It would be part of DORA. Solicitor Scott Sollmann sees no issues. It must be an employee (it cannot be volunteers). This is on public property so we must make a motion to provide written consent. Councilperson Allen would like to see this suspended for Riverdays, Councilperson Prues noted to leave as is.

Councilperson Prues made a motion to give Mayor Ewing written permission, in temporary expanded area in accordance with House bill 669 for the remainder of the season. Second by Councilperson Dalton.

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|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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> |

#### MINUTES:

Minutes of the **06/13/2023** Regular Council meeting were presented for approval.

Councilperson Prues motioned to approve the Minutes of 06/13/2023 Regular Council meeting with corrections; seconded by Councilperson Woodruff, Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

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

#### COMMITTEE REPORT/PERSONELL AND FINANCE SPECIAL MEETING 6/28/2023

This additional meeting was primarily to continue discussing a potential tax Increase, but a few other areas were discussed.

##### Freedom Fest

Council was advised that Freedom Fest would be cancelled. Since we normally have something in New Richmond for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend, this was very concerning. There was discussion related what we thought we could do. No decision was made.

##### Finance - Fiscal Officer Joel Gilpin

Joel provided some financial information as background for the upcoming budget meeting scheduled for July 11, 2023.

Fire/EMS Department - Fire/EMS Chief Tim Feldkamp

Will have some personnel changes.

Police Department - Police Chief Eric Williams

Will have some personnel changes -will send Mary the information.

#### Miscellaneous Discussions

Councilwoman Prues sent Councilperson Allen a first draft of the communication to go to residents. Councilperson Allen also shared information she had prepared in 2016 when there was discussion about increasing the earnings tax. Members present reviewed the document Councilperson Prues provided and made some edits. Further review will be necessary, but we have good start.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

##### Village Administrator Bob Lindhorst

NR Development LLC, by HPA Development Group is requesting the performance bond be released for Regatta at Lights Hill Subdivision-Section 2, Block B be released. Choice One Engineering, NR Development did a walk through back in late February and a punch list was developed, 70 items were noted and recently completed. Will need a motion to release the aforementioned bond. The Bond was in the amount of \$67,649.92.

Councilperson Dalton made a motion to release the aforementioned bond. The Bond was in the amount of \$67,649.92. Second by Councilperson Prues.

Mary Allen Yes

Larry Prues Yes

Dennis Dalton Absent

Richard Feldkamp Yes

Jon Tharpe Yes

Ryan Woodruff Yes

Notification of Opportunity to participate or terminate in CBDG / Home Programs within the Urban County This had been reviewed by Scott, Joel and myself. We currently have an agreement with the county and the new supersedes the current agreement.

Gary Blanton and House Bill 669, Requesting permission to sell alcoholic beverages during village advents adjacent to their licensed area.

**Police Chief Eric Williams**

**Personnel Changes:**

Police Chief Williams asked that Officer Chapman and Officer Gillum to be removed from payroll effective 06/07/2023, they both left in good standing. Councilperson Allen made a motion to remove Officer Chapman and Officer Gillum from payroll effective 06/07/2023. Second by Councilperson Dalton.

|                             |                        |                          |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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> |

Police Chief Williams asked that Officer Young to be removed from payroll effective 06/09/2023, she left in good standing. Councilperson Allen made a motion to remove Officer Young from payroll effective 06/09/2023. Second by Councilperson Dalton.

|                             |                        |                          |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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> |

Police Chief Williams asked that Officer Heuer be removed as Part-Time status and placed on Full-Time status effective 06/30/2023 at the pay rate of \$21.54/hr. Councilperson Allen made a motion to remove Officer Heuer as Part-Time status and placed on Full-time status effective 06/30/2023 at pay rate of \$21.54/hr. Second by Councilperson Dalton

|                             |                        |                          |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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> |

27 contacts, 16 for speed, 5 criminal citations and 6 other.

Asked if anyone has questions regarding Freedom Fest. Still waiting on vendor placements in case of emergencies. Has reached out to the Sheriff Office and surrounding jurisdictions.

Councilperson Prues asked about recruitment success and working hard on getting levy in place. Recruiting is not going good.

**Fire/EMS Chief Tim Feldkamp**

**3 New Hires**

Hire Verta Tel Becker as Firefighter/Medic at \$20.50, 1 year probation, paying into Ohio Police and Fire effective July 12, 2023.

Councilperson Woodruff made motion to hire Verta Tel Becker at Firefighter/Medic at \$20.50, 1 year probation, paying into Ohio Police and Fire effective July 12, 2023.

|                             |                        |                          |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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> |

Hire Ryan Pickering and Bethany Disher as Part Time Fire Fighter/ Medic at \$17.15, 1 year probation, paying into Social Security, effective 6/28/2023.

Councilperson Allen made motion to Hire Ryan Pickering and Bethany Disher as Part Time Fire Fighter/ Medic at \$17.15, 1 year probation, paying into Social Security, effective 6/28/2023. Second by Councilperson Woodruff.

Mary Allen Yes

Larry Prues Yes

Dennis Dalton Yes

Richard Feldkamp Yes

Jon Tharpe Yes

Ryan Woodruff Yes

Cameron Pelzel gave notice and is moving to Florida. We wish him well.

Councilperson Allen made a motion to accept resignation of Cameron Pelzel as of 07/07/2023, he left in good standing. Second by Councilperson Allen.

Continue to pray and thoughts of families and first responders effected by the recent tragedies, it has been a rough couple of weeks.

Councilperson Feldkamp asked about the Explorer that he wanted to hire. Councilperson Allen sated we need to change the wording in handbook.

#### Section 402: Certification of Eligibility

##### Current

Individuals who have immediate family member who is an elected Village officials are not eligible for employment by the Village of New Richmond, Ohio. In addition, an individual who has a family member currently employed as a supervisor or department head is not eligible for employment within the department in which the employee is employed as a supervisor or department head.

This will not require the removal of an existing employee, whose family member is elected to office or who becomes a department head after an employee is hired. The Chief Personnel Administrator shall make a recommendation to the Personnel and Finance Committee who shall then consider this recommendation of the Chief Personnel Administrator and if they agree with the recommendation recommend to full council the individual for employment.

Councilperson Allen made motion to change verbiage to in village handbook to read ***"An individual who has a family member currently employed as a supervisor or department head is not eligible for employment within the department in which the employee is employed as a supervisor or department head. This will not require the removal of an existing employee, whose family member is elected to office or who becomes a department head after an employee is hired"*** in the village handbook, second by Councilperson Dalton.

Mary Allen Yes

Larry Prues Abstain

Dennis Dalton Yes

Richard Feldkamp Yes

Jon Tharpe Yes

Ryan Woodruff Yes

Hire Lucas Kroener as a Fire Fighter / EMT, at rate \$16.10, 6/27/2023 1 year probation, paying into Social Security.

Councilperson Allen made a motion to hire Lucas Kroener as a Fire Fighter / EMT, at rate \$16.10, 6/27/2023 1 year probation, paying into Social Security. Second by Councilperson Dalton.

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

**Mayor Glenn Ewing:**

Planning Commission: Michael Carr and Jason Ricketts are Alternates on the Planning Commission and need to be replaced by Brian Bailey and Erica Willis as the Alternates.

Councilperson Woodruff made a motion to replace Michael Carr and Jason Ricketts are Alternates on the Planning Commission and need to be replaced by Brian Bailey and Erica Willis as the Alternates. Second by Councilperson Prues.

|                             |                        |                          |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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> |

**Solicitor, Scott Sollmann:**

- Will request Executive Session at the end of this meeting.
- Councilperson Woodruff asked the status on the Clark property. Will have this filed by the end of the week.

**Clerk of Council, Kelley Snider:**

- Mandy Jenkins with Minuteman Press has offered to print our newsletter free of charge, in return we will give her free advertising.
- Shared Calendar: Will start putting all events on the shared calendar and "inviting" all councilmembers to accept events so they can stay in the loop.

**LEGISLATION read by Mayor Glenn Ewing**

**First Reading**

**RES 2023-14 - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF ALTERNATIVE METHOD OF APPORTIONMENT OF THE UNDIVIDED LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND (LGF) FOR CALENDAR YEARS 2024 THROUGH 2029**

Councilperson Woodruff made a motion to waive the 3-read rule. Second by Councilperson Dalton

|                             |                        |                          |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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> |

Councilperson Woodruff made a motion to pass as an emergency. Second by Councilperson Prues.

|                             |                        |                          |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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> |

**RES 2023-15** - A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NECESSITY FOR AN ADDITIONAL POLICE TAX LEVY IN EXCESS OF THE TEN-MILL LIMITATION FOR OPERATING EXPENSES AND REQUESTING THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO CERTIFY MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

Councilperson Dalton made a motion to waive the 3-read rule. Second by Councilperson Woodruff.

|                             |                        |                          |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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> |

Councilperson Allen made a motion to pass as an emergency. Second by Councilperson Dalton.

|                             |                        |                          |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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> |

**RES 2023-16** - A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NECESSITY FOR AN ADDITIONAL FIRE & EMS TAX LEVY IN EXCESS OF THE TEN-MILL LIMITATION FOR OPERATING EXPENSES AND REQUESTING THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO CERTIFY MATTERS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH

Councilperson Dalton made a motion to waive the 3-read rule. Second by Councilperson Woodruff.

|                             |                        |                          |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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> |

Councilperson Dalton made a motion to pass as an emergency. Second by Councilperson Prues.

|                             |                        |                          |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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> |

**RES 2023-17** - A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION WITH CLERMONT COUNTY, OHIO PURSUANT TO PROVISIONS OF THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1974, AS AMENDED AND DECLARING IT AN EMERGENCY

Councilperson Dalton made a motion to waive the 3-read rule. Second by Councilperson Woodruff.

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

Councilperson Dalton made a motion to pass as an emergency. Second by Councilperson Allen.

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

#### CALL OF MEMBERS:

Larry Prues –

- To Bob Lindhorst – Do we have clarification from the Garden Club in regard to the hangers. Will go down and get a count. They have been using banner hangers.
- Union Station Chicken situation has been addressed.

Dennis Dalton

- Councilmembers get paid, \$125 per week, must be at the meeting/or excused. Why can't we make that a Salary. Just thinking in future, not current - why would we not make that change – Councilperson Prues supports Councilperson Dalton. Councilperson Allen does not have a problem with going salary, which is \$3,000 gross. Will discuss at a later meeting.

Richard Feldkamp – Nothing to report.

Ryan Woodruff – Nothing to report.

Mary Allen –

- ORW Community Partners are sending prayers to us in light of the situation and the the Fire and EMS Departments.
- Nice Juneteenth program well attended.

Jon Tharpe – Nothing to report.

#### ORC 121.22 (G)(3)

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 and to invite John Deters.

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

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

Councilperson Dalton made a motion to come back from Executive Session at 8:20pm, Second by Councilperson Allen.

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



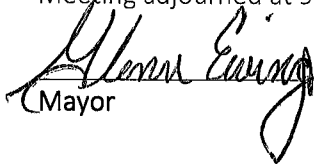
Councilperson Woodruff made a motion to allow the village to join the settlement agreement in regard to Contamination Litigation, Second by Councilperson Allen.

|                             |                        |                          |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 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> |

Councilperson Prues motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:40pm, seconded by Councilperson Woodruff, 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> |

Meeting adjourned at 9:01pm.

  
Mayor

  
Clerk of Council