

08-22-2023

COUNCIL MEETING

New Richmond Village Council met in Council Chambers, 2nd floor at 102 Willow Street, New Richmond Ohio, in regular session on Tuesday, August 22, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

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

Mayor Ewing asked for Roll Call of all Councilmembers with the following members responding:

Mary Allen Yes

Larry Prues Yes

Dennis Dalton Yes

Richard Feldkamp Yes

Jon Tharpe Yes

Ryan Woodruff Absent

Present in Council Chambers:

Mayor Glenn Ewing

Administration: Interim Administrator Bob Lindhorst, Clerk of Council Kelley Snider

Department Heads: Police Chief Eric Williams

Solicitor: Solicitor James J. Barbieri for Scott Sollmann

Guests present in Council Chambers

(Residents) Kurtis Boggs, Donna Prues, and Commissioner David Painter

(Zoom) Bobbi Phillips, Sophie Woodruff

COMMUNICATIONS:

None

MINUTES

Minutes of the 08/08/2023 Regular Council meeting were presented for approval.

Councilmember Prues motioned to approve Minutes of the Regular Council meeting, seconded by Councilmember Dalton, 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 Absent

Executive Session:

I move that the council go into executive session in accordance with Ohio Revised Code § 121.22 (G)(1) to discuss the employment and compensation of a public employee.

Councilperson Allen made a motion to go into executive session, second by Councilperson Dalton.

Mary Allen Yes

Larry Prues Yes

Dennis Dalton Yes

Richard Feldkamp Yes

Jon Tharpe Yes

Ryan Woodruff Absent

Councilperson Dalton made a motion to come back from Executive Session, second by Councilperson Allen.

Mary Allen Yes

Larry Prues Yes

Dennis Dalton Yes

Richard Feldkamp Yes

Jon Tharpe Yes

Ryan Woodruff Absent

COMMITTEE REPORTS

~~Personnel and Finance/ Chair: Mary Allen~~

Levy Planning

We started the meeting with Miscellaneous Discussion on the levy. We discussed Matt Carey's suggestions and developed a task list to be completed by the end of September 2023. Fiscal Officer Joel Gilpin shared the graph and visual aide for our communications. Chief Tim Feldkamp said he and Chief Eric Williams had provided some photographs to Matt for the website. A detailed list of levy planning information is at the end of this summary.

Police Department

Chief Williams stated he wants to hire Kirk Begue as a part-time officer starting August 25, 2023, at \$18.00 per hour. He'll serve the normal six-month probation.

Councilperson Allen made a motion to hire Kirk Begue as a part-time police officer starting August 25, 2023, at \$18.00 per hour and serving a six-month probation. Second by Councilperson Prues.

Mary Allen Yes

Larry Prues Yes

Dennis Dalton Yes

Richard Feldkamp Yes

Jon Tharpe Yes

Ryan Woodruff Absent

EMS/Fire Department: Chief Feldkamp had no personnel issues to share during the meeting.

Fiscal Officer: Fiscal Officer Joel Gilpin didn't have any Finance matters to share during this meeting.

Village Administration: Interim Village Administrator, Bob Lindhorst, has received a number of applications for the Street Dept. Lead and has begun conducting interviews.

Task List - 2023 Police & Fire/EMS Levy

1. Insert the letter (Joel Gilpin's version) that's on the website into the utility bill envelopes (Joel talk to Bobbi)
2. Yard Signs
 - a. Create the content (Joel and Tim)
 - b. Identify the best supplier (Joel and Glenn)
3. Town Hall Meetings
 - a. Create list of potential questions and answers (Mary)
 - b. Prepare handouts for attendees (Larry, Joel, and others)
 - c. Create Agenda (drafted during 8/21/23 meeting by all attendees)
 - i. Welcome and introductory comments (include limit on the number of questions per participant)
 - ii. Key points we want to share with the audience.
 - iii. Q&A
 - d. Ask Kelley to communicate a Public Town Hall Meeting to discuss the levy for 6:00 – 6:45 p.m. prior to the two October Council Meetings (Bob talk to Kelley)
 - e. Conduct the Town Hall Meetings (All – Planned)
4. Web site creation – Matt Carey (Tim and Eric)
5. Create election day handouts or something that can be handed out whenever (Mary)
6. Prepare a personal note and send it along with our letter on the website (Mary will send to a number of people – others will consider doing this)

Matt Carey's suggestions during the August 7, 2023, Personnel & Finance Committee Meeting:

1. Establish a group of community influences.
2. Make sure our communications.
 - a. Justify the need.
 - b. Advise where all the money goes.
 - c. Depicts breakdown of the taxes on the property tax bill and point out just what the Village receives from the individual tax bills.
 - d. Highlight they pay property tax on the assessed value, not actual value, of their homes.
3. We should create a website and a Facebook page, and we should all point to that vs. trying to educate everyone on the message to be shared.
4. We should use "Facebook live."
5. Reminded us that the Village can't pay for promotional material. Individual residents and councilman, as residents, can
6. We should consider placing inserts in resident's doors.
7. We should consider creating a polling handout for use on election day in November.
8. We should review Monroelevy.com and springfieldlevy.com to insights into what they did.
9. We should be clear in our message who our Police, Fire and EMS Departments provide services to and emphasize there isn't much mutual aid readily available, should we not have adequate services.

Councilperson Allen's initial list of potential Town Hall audience questions:

1. What do you do with all the money you already have in the budget?
2. Why don't you cut costs vs. just ask for more money?
3. I thought we already have a police and fire levy? What's that money being used for?
4. What do you do with the RITA money?
5. If you're short of money, why did you give raises?
6. Why can't you use the money you're spending on Liberty Landing?
7. Why can't you just get more grants?
8. According to the news, Clermont Co. property taxes will increase with the upcoming assessment. Won't you get more money with that?
9. What are you going to use the additional money for?
10. If passed, how long will it be before you ask for more money?

Safety Rules and Laws // Chair Ryan Woodruff

Discussion on items of concern were brought up. Specifics include the process in which we approve events. The department heads were asked to provide input on what their areas of concerns were as they related to community events. There was also discussion on fees that should be charged for these events as there is cost to the village at different levels in planning and operations.

Another topic was proposing a fee schedule for vacant residential and commercial properties. Chairman Woodruff indicated that the Planning Commission was working to develop legislation to bring to SRL Committee. There was also discussion on where the Planning Commission was as it pertained to Zoning Regulation updates and Zoning for drug rehab centers and dispensaries.

There was also an open discussion at the end of the meeting on the need to step up our village maintenance to enhance the overall appeal and look in the village. It was mentioned that all of our services help to enhance the overall vibe in the community. The importance of all services working in harmony and as efficient and effective as possible would benefit one another when the need arises for community support and funding.

DEPARTMENT HEADS

Village Administrator Bob Lindhorst:

- Received one RFQ (request for qualifications) for Liberty Landing Ph2 which was KZF, we will need a resolution awarding KZF with the contract for providing Professional Consulting Engineering Design Services to develop construction plans for project.
- Received an email from Desmond with the Clermont Community Development Office stating that the Commissioner's Office is requesting a resolution from Council amending our 2020-02 resolution to include the new Hamilton Street Project instead of the Augusta Street Project. The resolution is ready for tonight.
- PFAS in the news
In 2020 OEPA test all water plants for PFAS, including our plant at that time, the action level was >70 parts per trillion. We were below detectable limits on 5 of the six compounds and tested 11.6 parts per trillion for PFOS. In 2022 OEPA again tested and the results we were again below detectable limits on 5 of the compounds' and tested 6.86 parts per trillion PFOS.
As it stands right now the OEPA is proposing a threshold of 4 parts per trillion and they are in the process of getting public opinion before making it a regulation which could happen by the end of 2023 if there are no legal challenges. Once regulated there will be a grace period to become compliant

which could be a year or two.

- The village has been proactive with the help from Environmental Engineering in securing \$300K in grant funding for engineering and planning. Once regulated and during the grace period there will be nominations for construction monies.
- Received a zoom meeting invite (along with Councilpersons Dalton and Prues) from Madison Knight with the Governor's Office of Appalachia and CT Consultants. It has been mentioned in previous council meeting we had lost 143 Engineers as our planner and CTC was being assigned to us, after several weeks of no communication Larry and Dennis make a trip to Columbus which appears to have been a successful trip.
- Motion needed for the Street Closure fore Fall Fest October 28th.

Councilperson Prues made a motion to close Front Street at Walnut up to Susanna and up Western to Washington Street. Second by Councilperson Dalton.

Mary Allen Yes

Larry Prues Yes

Dennis Dalton Yes

Richard Feldkamp Yes

Jon Tharpe Yes

Ryan Woodruff Absent

Police Chief Eric Williams:

17 citations, 8 speed, 2 criminal and 6 other.

Thanks to Council for the hiring of Kirk Begue. He has 27 years total experience.

RF Feedback on double fines on the speeding. If brought to court, can mayor court here it? Chief Williams will get with Solicitor Scott Sollmann.

Fire/EMS Chief Tim Feldkamp: / Nothing to report.

Mayor Glenn Ewing / Nothing to report.

Clerk of Council, Kelley Snider / Nothing to report.

LEGISLATION

RES 2023-20: Resolution Authorizing Amendment of Resolution 2020-02 to Provide Authority to Mayor and/or Interim Village Administrator to Change the Project for which the Clermont County CDBG FY 2020 Subrecipient Grant Agreement Attached as Exhibit 1 to Resolution 2020-02 was Previously Awarded from Augusta Street Improvements to Hamilton Street Improvements and Pass as Emergency.

Councilperson Dalton made a motion authorizing Amendment of Resolution 2020-02 to Provide Authority to Mayor and/or Interim Village Administrator to Change the Project for which the Clermont County CDBG FY 2020 Subrecipient Grant Agreement Attached as Exhibit 1 to Resolution 2020-02 was Previously Awarded from Augusta Street Improvements to Hamilton Street Improvements and Pass as 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>Absent</u>

RES 2023-21: Resolution Authorizing Mayor and/or Interim Village Administrator to Enter into a Professional Services Agreement by and between the Village of New Richmond and KZF Design for the Liberty Landing Phase 2 Project and Pass As Emergency.

Councilperson Dalton made a motion, authorizing Mayor and/or Interim Village Administrator to Enter into a Professional Services Agreement by and between the Village of New Richmond and KZF Design for the Liberty Landing Phase 2 Project and Pass As Emergency second by Council person 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>Absent</u>

CALL OF MEMBERS:

Larry Prues: Nothing to report.

Ryan Woodruff: Absent / Prior work commitment.

Richard Feldkamp – When we get more people in audience, they will want to know about tax increases - Councilperson Allen noted the Town Hall meetings coming up in October 10th and October 24th from 6-645 before each council meeting.

Jon Tharpe / Nothing to report.

Mary Allen

- August 28 at 9am the Ohio Riverway Executive Committee met Appalachian Grant and to discuss if New Richmond wants to be involved.
- October 26th in Madison Indiana will be the Annual Summit for Ohio Riverway – more info to come.

Dennis Dalton – Looking into a Vacancy Ordinance for vacant building spur economic development.

Councilmember Prues made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 pm; seconded by Councilmember Dalton, Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mary Allen Yes

Richard Feldkamp Yes

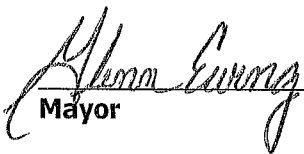
Larry Prues Yes

Jon Tharpe Yes

Dennis Dalton Yes

Ryan Woodruff Absent

Meeting adjourned at 8:29 pm


Mayor


Clerk of Council