

November 12th, 2019

COUNCIL MEETING

New Richmond Village Council met in Council Chambers in regular session on Tuesday, November 12th, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. **Present Council Members:** Mary Allen, Paul Vanderbosch, Melanie Slade, Gary Skeene, Becky Ploucha
Administration: Mayor Ramona Carr; Village Administrator Greg Roberts; Solicitor, Scott Sollmann; Clerk of Council Theresa Leigh **Department Heads:** Fire/EMS Chief Vince Bee; Police Chief Mike Couch

Absent: Richard Feldkamp (on vacation)

Also attending:

Keith Dufau
Jonathan Millhouse
Frank Renn
Jordan Meinking
Glenn Ewing
Joe Vogel
Jake Rose
David Rose
Charlie Scott
Tom Wulker
Nancy Swats
Minta Colvin
David Vornholt

Mayor Carr opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Visitors:

Keith Defau – Keith would like to make known Councilmember Vanderbosch’s actions on social media and ask him to explain his comments related to a woman veteran. (Clerk’s note: A hard copy of said post by Paul Vanderbosch was supplied to Council for review and is available at the Administration Building upon request.) Keith went on to say someone representing our town in this manner should be dismissed. Mayor Carr and Councilmember Allen agreed Councilmember Vanderbosch’s comments toward this woman were disrespectful.

Frank Renn – Frank thanked everyone who supported and voted for him in the last Ohio Township Trustee election. If anyone has any question for Frank he’s more than happy to talk with him or her.

Jordan Meinking – Jordan shared information about the New Richmond Police Officers Association (NRPOA) being a 501(c)(3); established to provide families within our community assistance during the holiday season. Most notably, the New Richmond Police and Fire departments joined together to create *Shop with a Hero* (formerly known as *Shop with a Cop*) for the children at Christmas time.

Joe Vogel – Joe thanked the Village for all the support the Village gave him during the past 20 years – 20 great years - he’s owned the marina and restaurant. With that, he introduced the new owners of Skipper’s: David and Jake Rose.
David and Jake Rose – Dave and Jake are looking forward to running a restaurant and marina on the river. They have great plans for Skipper’s and thanked Joe for offering to teach them the ropes of owning a place on the river.

Minutes of the October 22nd, 2019 Regular Council meeting were presented for approval.

Comments: Councilmember Allen (1) noted Tom Wulker’s last name was misspelled as “Walker” in the Attendance section and (2) asked that Council members are referenced in the Council Minutes using the “Councilmember + *Last Name*” naming convention as opposed to simply their first name.

Councilmember Allen motioned to approve Minutes of the October 22nd, 2019 Regular Council meeting; seconded by Councilmember Slade.

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| Mrs. Slade: yes | Mr. Vanderbosch: yes |
| Mr. Feldkamp: absent | Ms. Ploucha: yes |
| Mr. Skeene: yes | Ms. Allen: yes |

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT - Greg Roberts, Village Administrator reported on the following:

- Ryan Homes is gearing up to sell 76 new homes in the Union Station subdivision and have applied for a permit for their model home. Weather permitting, they anticipate completing the model by the end of the year. Greg asked Council for a motion to give Ryan Homes permission for a sign on Union Square Park land advertising the new homes they will be building in the Union Station subdivision.

Councilmember Skeene motioned to give Ryan Homes permission to have a sign on Union Square land advertising the new homes they’re building; seconded by Councilmember Allen.

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| Mrs. Slade: yes | Mr. Vanderbosch: yes |
| Mr. Feldkamp: absent | Ms. Ploucha: yes |
| Mr. Skeene: yes | Ms. Allen: yes |

- The Stormwall Project on Bethel-New Richmond Rd. is complete. Due to the arrival of winter weather and the shutdown of the asphalt plants, the paving project between Watkin’s Hill and the sharp curve by the apartments will be re-scheduled for this Spring. Greg Roberts is checking with several contractors regarding the repair of the dip located at the base of Bethel-New Richmond Rd.; this work will be done as soon as possible.
- The Village has been awarded an \$8000. Clermont County Park District Grant which will be used to replace the roof on the shelter in Union Square Park on Caroline Street.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (*Provided below is a synopsis for each report; to obtain a full copy please visit the Administrative office.*):

Personnel & Finance Committee Report from meeting held November 4th, 2019

- Fiscal Officer Lynn Baird proposed creating a separate bank account – an escrow account – for the Police Dept. currency. New legislation will be put in front of Council tonight for review and emergency passage.*
- The Personnel & Finance Committee reviewed all checks and electronic payments for the month of October 2019; we need a motion to pay these bills.**
- Village Administrator Greg Roberts received a few inquiries about the seasonal worker position but no applications. Due to the time of year, he'll suspend his search until the spring.
- Police Chief Mike Couch briefly explained the handling of confiscated money, vehicles etc. in the instance when a New Richmond police pursuit continues into another police department's jurisdiction.
- Fire/EMS Chief Vince Bee is planning to submit a grant application for the Bureau of Workers Comp (BWC) for two lift systems and one lift cot.

Items voted on at the November 12th, 2019 Council meeting, as requested during the Personnel & Finance Committee report:

* Mayor Carr asked for a motion to suspend the three reading rule for Resolution 2019-16 A RESOLUTION CREATING THE POLICE EVIDENCE ROOM CURRENCY FUND and declaring an emergency.

Councilmember Allen motioned to suspend the three reading rule for Resolution 2019-16: A RESOLUTION CREATING THE POLICE EVIDENCE ROOM CURRENCY FUND and declaring an emergency; seconded by Councilmember Skeene.

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| Mrs. Slade: yes | Mr. Vanderbosch: no |
| Mr. Feldkamp: absent | Ms. Ploucha: yes |
| Mr. Skeene: yes | Ms. Allen: yes |

Motion did not pass.

** Councilmember Allen motioned to approve paying the bills of October 2019; seconded by Councilmember Skeene

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| Mrs. Slade: yes | Mr. Vanderbosch: yes |
| Mr. Feldkamp: absent | Ms. Ploucha: yes |
| Mr. Skeene: yes | Ms. Allen: yes |

Safety, Laws & Rules Committee report from meeting held November 4th, 2019: *Councilmember Vanderbosch (Chair) misplaced his Safety, Laws, Rules Committee notes; if located, he will report at the next Council meeting scheduled for November 26th*

Public Works/Parks/Recreation Committee report from meeting held November 4th, 2019:

- Greg Roberts reported a *Riverfront Park Project* enhancement proposal was submitted to the Clermont County Port Authority for fiscal year 2020; we should hear by the end of the year whether it has been accepted or not.
- Councilmember Allen asked Greg if we could look into possible pavement options to improve Skipper's entry and parking area; Greg said he would look into this.

Comments made at the November 12th, 2019 Council meeting after the Economic Development Committee report:

Councilmember Vanderbosch asked if the Riverfront Park Project proposal was a grant or a capital budget proposal. Greg Roberts clarified it was a capital budget project proposal.

Economic Development Committee report from meeting held 11-12-2019

- David Vornholt provided an update on NROBA activities
- The "Welcome to New Richmond" brochures will be updated with new Mayor/Council names as well as new demographic information.

Comments made at the November 12th, 2019 Council meeting after the Economic Development Committee report:

Councilmember Allen mentioned the Economic Development Committee, along with other groups in New Richmond, will focus on promoting New Richmond as a brand.

DEPARTMENT HEADS

Police Chief - Mike Couch: Chief Couch reported on the past month's police activity which included 1 felony arrest, 3 DUI arrests and 2 stolen car recoveries. The Chief also reported calls-for-service are up 41% from this time last year.

Fire Chief - Vince Bee: Chief Bee reported the Fire/EMS Department has had 669 total details to date. The Chief also thanked the New Richmond Police Officer who reported the Riverhills Bank fire for his quick actions and went on to say he should be commended as he prevented what could have been much worse damage to the bank.

Ramona Carr, Mayor: Mayor Carr appointed Tom Wulker to the Board of Zoning Appeals as replacement for Richard Parker, who has moved from the Village.

Mayor Carr read a proclamation expressing our deep appreciation for Ray Perszyk's many contributions to the Village and its citizens and extended to his family our sincere sympathy upon his passing.

Scott Sollmann, Solicitor:

Theresa Leigh, Clerk of Council: Theresa reported the following government property would be disposed of if there were no objections from Council: Four (4) office chairs from the Police Department and five (5) office chairs from Council/Administration – all in various states of disrepair.

LEGISLATION

First Reading:

RESOLUTION 2019-16 A RESOLUTION CREATING THE POLICE EVIDENCE ROOM CURRENCY FUND

**See above. A three-fourth (¾) majority vote not met on motion to suspend the three reading rule for Resolution 2019-16 & motion did not pass.*

RESOLUTION 2019-17 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2020 TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS

RESOLUTION 2019-18 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF A REQUEST FOR ADVANCE OF PROPERTY TAXES PAID IN 2020 TO THE CLERMONT COUNTY AUDITOR

RESOLUTION 2019-19 A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE VILLAGE OF NEW RICHMOND POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICY MANUAL

Second Reading:

Third Reading:

CALL OF MEMBERS:

Paul Vanderbosch – Nothing to report

Mary Allen – Councilmember Allen thanked both the Fire/EMS department and the Police Department for the October Safety Day event.

Becky Ploucha – Councilmember Ploucha asked Greg Roberts if we have an appraisal for the ballfields yet. Greg said we do not.

Gary Skeene - Nothing to report

Richard Feldkamp – Absent

Melanie Slade - Nothing to report

Comments from audience:

David Vornholt: With Veterans Day yesterday, David wanted to honor a veteran from our own community, Art Hilhorse. Art was a quiet man and the Village's auto mechanic. What many did not know; he served in the Army and while stationed in the Philippines was captured and became a prisoner of war for 4 ½ years. He told David, "I never allowed myself even once to think I would not be going home." Home being our wonderful Village.

Executive Session:

Councilmember Skeene motioned that Council, with the Village Solicitor, go into executive session in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 121.22(G) (3) to discuss pending litigation at 7:49 p.m.; seconded by Councilmember Allen.

Mrs. Slade: yes

Mr. Vanderbosch: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: absent

Ms. Ploucha: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Roll call was taken and a unanimous vote to enter into executive session occurred.

Councilmember Skeene motioned to return from Executive Session to Regular Council at 7:55 p.m.; seconded by Councilmember Ploucha..

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| Mrs. Slade: yes | Mr. Vanderbosch: yes |
| Mr. Feldkamp: absent | Ms. Ploucha: yes |
| Mr. Skeene: yes | Ms. Allen: yes |

Councilmember Skeene motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m.; seconded by Councilmember Slade.

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| Mrs. Slade: yes | Mr. Vanderbosch: yes |
| Mr. Feldkamp: absent | Ms. Ploucha: yes |
| Mr. Skeene: yes | Ms. Allen: yes |

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Mayor

Clerk of Council