**February 11th, 2020**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

New Richmond Village Council met in Council Chambers in regular session on Tuesday February 11th, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. **Present** Council Members: Mary Allen, Larry Prues, Melanie Slade, Richard Feldkamp, Gary Skeene and Becky Ploucha Administration: Mayor Glenn Ewing, Village Administrator Greg Roberts and Clerk of Council, Theresa Leigh Department Heads: Fire/EMS Chief Vince Bee and Asst. Fire Chief Tim Feldkamp; Police Chief Mike Couch and Sgt. Jason Mallott **Absent**: Solicitor Scott Sollmann absent due to prior work engagement

Mayor Ewing opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of the January 28th, 2020Regular Council meeting were presented for approval.

Councilmember Feldkamp motioned to approve Minutes of theJanuary 28th, 2020 Regular Council meeting; seconded by Councilmember Slade.

Comments: Theresa stated Jordan Meinking accepted a position with the city of Monroe, not Monroe Township as incorrectly noted in the 01-28-2020 minutes.

Mrs. Slade: yes Mr. Prues: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes Ms. Ploucha: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes Ms. Allen: yes

Visitors, including those wishing to address Council:

Ryan and Sophie Woodruff – 354 Hamilton St.

Adam Bird – Mr. Bird asked for our vote in the March 17th primary; he is running for State Representative 66th District. He promises to work just as hard for Brown County as he does, and will, for Clermont County.

Todd Wuerdeman – Mr. Wuerdeman assured Council he is working diligently to fix his 300 Susanna Way home damaged in the same storm that damaged Park National Bank. He asked Council if Park National Bank was going to re-open. Councilmember Feldkamp replied the bank is not going to re-open.

Bob Lees – Mr. Lees was happy to report business at Front Street Cafe has been good; January was the busiest month in the cafe’s history. Bob welcomed everyone to join him this upcoming Thursday evening for a ‘Support Our Schools’ fundraiser held at the cafe. Bob also wanted to share that the Clermont County Chamber of Commerce awarded Front Street Cafe with the *2020 Small Business Excellence Award*. Everyone congratulated Mr. Lees on this well-deserved recognition!

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

* The Union Station model home is now complete and expected to be staffed and open by the end of the month.
* Administrator Roberts submitted the Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA) application to Council for review and noted a copy will be available at Village Hall for public inspection during regular business hours. In conjunction with the application, and in order to coincide with Ohio Revised Code requirements for public notices on hearings, he will re-introduce Resolution 2020-03 for a first reading on February 25th, 2020.
* Administrator Roberts also passed out a copy of David and Jacob Rose’s proposed license agreement for the recently purchased Skipper’s Marina. The agreement is the same as the previous agreement with Mr. Vogel with the exception that it is a 10-year term rather than 5 years. Per the agreement, the Roses are required to submit a Plan of Operation agreeable to Council within one month of acceptance of this license and each successive year by November 1.

**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 02-10-2020**

Finance/Budget - Fiscal Officer Lynn Baird

* Discussed the January reports and, in general, we’re still working against the temporary appropriations
* Our 2020 property tax estimate includes delinquencies totaling about $70,000., much of which is going into foreclosure. We know we are probably not going to receive that money before July, so several budgets will have to be adjusted down.
* There was discussion about fixing the problem at the corner of Walnut and Front streets. Leo has already made a repair, but Dick was asking about taking money from another place to fund an engineering study and fix the problem correctly. Lynn said there is no place to take money from, that we have a very tight budget.
* Kelly Painter’s employment was never officially terminated; we need a motion to terminate Kelly Painter’s employment effective 01/01/2020.\*
* The Personnel & Finance Committee reviewed all checks and electronic payments for the month of January 2020; we need a motion to pay these bills.\*\*

Police Chief Mike Couch requested motions for the following:

* To accept the resignation of Jordan Meinking effective 02/19/2020\*\*\*
* To move Cameron Moran, Auxiliary Officer, to part-time Officer at a rate of pay of $16.00 per hour effective 02/11/2020\*\*\*\*
* Approval for Chief Mike Couch to conduct a “directed internal search” to fill the position Jordan Meinking is leaving\*\*\*\*\*
* To approve (1) the termination of Kyle Soister effective 10/01/2019 and Tim Thieman effective 01/11/2020 due to various things, including no work for them and (2) bringing on James Clemons as a non-paid, Auxiliary volunteer effective 02/11/2020 \*\*\*\*\*\*

Fire/EMS Chief Vince Bee reported his Department received a $2,879. grant for 2019/2020 equipment. Chief Bee also requested motions on the following:

* The hiring of Joseph Welch as a part-time Firefighter/EMT at $12.60 effective 02/11/2020 with the normal probation period\*\*\*\*\*\*\*
* To accept the resignation of Josh Hughes effective 02/11/2020\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*
* To accept resignation of Molly McDaniel, pay per call, effective 02/22/2020\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Village Administrator Greg Roberts acknowledged Ron Henderson for stepping up to help during the recent snow. With the (*Street*) Department short one person, the help was appreciated. Administrator Roberts also wanted to acknowledge Asst. Fire/EMS Chief Tim Feldkamp for also being available should he be needed.

Comments from guests:

Street Department Supervisor Leo Hurst stated he and Rob (*Painter*) have been working on a proposal to manage the work with Hoss out; they’ll connect with Greg to develop the full recommendation. Leo mentioned they’re also having another look at the Village’s current brush pick-up policy.

*Items voted on at the 02-11-2020**Council meeting, as requested during the Personnel & Finance Committee report:*

\* Councilmember Allen motioned to terminate the employment of Kelly Painter effective 01/01/2020; seconded by Councilmember Feldkamp.

Mrs. Slade: yes Mr. Prues: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes Ms. Ploucha: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes Ms. Allen: yes

\*\* Councilmember Allen motioned to approve paying the bills of January 2020; seconded by Councilmember Skeene.

Mrs. Slade: yes Mr. Prues: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes Ms. Ploucha: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes Ms. Allen: yes

\*\*\* Councilmember Allen motioned to accept the resignation of Jordan Meinking effective 02/19/2020; seconded by Councilmember Feldkamp.

Mrs. Slade: yes Mr. Prues: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes Ms. Ploucha: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes Ms. Allen: yes

\*\*\*\* Councilmember Allen motioned to move Cameron Moran, Auxiliary Officer, to part-time Officer at a rate of pay of $16.00 per hour effective 02/11/2020; seconded by Councilmember Slade.

Mrs. Slade: yes Mr. Prues: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes Ms. Ploucha: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes Ms. Allen: yes

\*\*\*\*\* Councilmember Allen motioned to approve Chief Mike Couch conducting a “directed internal search” to fill the position Jordan Meinking is leaving; seconded by Councilmember Feldkamp.

Mrs. Slade: yes Mr. Prues: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes Ms. Ploucha: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes Ms. Allen: yes

\*\*\*\*\*\* Councilmember Allen motioned to approve (1) the termination of Kyle Soister effective 10/01/2019 and Tim Thieman effective 01/11/2020 due to various things, including no work for them and (2) bringing on James Clemons as a non-paid, Auxiliary volunteer effective 02/11/2020; seconded by Councilmember Ploucha.

Mrs. Slade: yes Mr. Prues: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes Ms. Ploucha: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes Ms. Allen: yes

\*\*\*\*\*\*\* Councilmember Allen motioned to approve the hiring of Joseph Welch as a part-time Firefighter/EMT at $12.60 effective 02/11/2020 with the normal probation period; seconded by Councilmember Feldkamp.

Mrs. Slade: yes Mr. Prues: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes Ms. Ploucha: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes Ms. Allen: yes

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* Councilmember Allen motioned to accept resignation of Josh Hughes effective 02/11/2020; seconded by Councilmember Feldkamp.

Mrs. Slade: yes Mr. Prues: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes Ms. Ploucha: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes Ms. Allen: yes

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* Councilmember Allen motioned to accept resignation of Molly McDaniel, pay per call, effective 02/22/2020; seconded by Councilmember Feldkamp.

Mrs. Slade: yes Mr. Prues: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes Ms. Ploucha: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes Ms. Allen: yes

**Safety, Laws & Rules Committee report from meeting held 02-10-2020**

Administrator Greg Roberts reported the river is expected to rise to 52.1 feet.

Fire/EMS Chief Vince Bee and Asst. Chief Tim Feldkamp discussed the dead geese and ducks found on the riverbank; updated fire inspection reports and the plan to schedule every rental property for an inspection along with re-inspections upon every tenant change.

Police Chief Mike Couch requested emergency passage by motion of the Mutual Aid contract\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

*Comments made and items voted on at the 02-11-2020 Council meeting after the Safety, Laws, Rules Committee report:*

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* Councilmember Feldkamp motioned to provide Chief Couch authorization to sign the Clermont County, Ohio Amended and Restated Mutual Aid Agreement for Law Enforcement; seconded by Councilmember Skeene.

Mrs. Slade: yes Mr. Prues: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes Ms. Ploucha: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes Ms. Allen: yes

Councilmember Feldkamp reminded everyone the flood level has been bumped up and we all need to be mindful of rising waters.

**Public Works/Parks/Recreation Committee report from meeting held 02-10-2020** Committee Chair Melanie Slade reported:

* Councilmember Ploucha nominated Councilmember Slade for Public Works committee Chair in 2020; she accepted
* Discussion on different marketing options for the Knothole fields
* Owner of a small parcel that neighbors a cemetery at the lower end of town may donate the parcel to the Village to become part of the cemetery
* Councilmembers Prues, Ploucha and Slade expressed interest in a tour of our water treatment plant; Greg will look into scheduling a time for this.
* Adjoining property owners to two small Village-owned plots on 132 expressed interest in purchasing the land

**Economic Development Committee report from meeting held 02-11-2020**

Committee Chair Mary Allen reported discussion relating to:

* the Park National Bank New Richmond location closing
* Village of Amelia residents still paying local income taxes to cover Village debt after the dissolution
* US 52 Village owned property - channeled from discussion during the Public Works committee meeting

*Comments made at the 02-11-2020 Council meeting after the Economic Development Committee report:*

Councilmember Allen wanted to recognize Greg Roberts for contributions to the HGTV application submission, including his narration of the video sent in with the submission. She also recognized Greg’s, Bob Lees’ and her own contribution to a recent Underground Railroad/abolitionist piece which aired on Channel 9 recently. On a final note, Councilmember Allen mentioned the need to update the census data in the Historic New Richmond brochure.

**DEPARTMENT HEADS**

**Police Chief Mike Couch**: Chief Couch provided January 2020 crime data including 8 total arrests and 2 felony drug possession arrests; the NRPD also assisted on 16 New Richmond Fire Dept./EMS runs.

Chief Couch also wanted to say what a great officer Jordan Meinking is and commended him on his service to the community. He will be missed.

**Fire/EMS Chief Vince Bee**: Chief Bee echoed Chief Couch’s comments regarding the terrific job Jordan did as a Police Officer for this community. He went on to say what a phenomenal asset he’s been to the Village.

Chief Bee is waiting on the results of the goose autopsy the Ohio Dept. of Agriculture performed. He will share once he hears something from them.

On a final note, Chief Bee shared an updated rental housing code ordinance draft with Council and asked that they review. Our current 1999 rental housing code (Ordinance 1999-10), passed in response to the 1997 flood, is dated - changes in the industry call for updated legislation. Chief explained while the Fire Code is the highest code trumping all local laws, this ordinance presents the law in a very clear, easy to understand language.

Comments: Councilmember Allen asked the Fire Department to share this information with property owners so that they know what the expectations are. Chief Bee assured her he would, along with the message that the Fire Department will hold people accountable for adherence to the law with a goal of keeping everyone safe. Councilmember Prues asked if Council could be provided with a monthly report on the number of medical runs as well as a rental inspection report. Chief Bee said he would and relayed there were 34 details for the month of January.

**Mayor Glenn Ewing**: Nothing to report

**Solicitor, Scott Sollmann**: Absent

**Clerk of Council, Theresa Leigh:** Councilmember Prues’ vote at the 01/14/2020 Council meeting approving the 12/10/2019 Council Minutes was incorrectly noted as a ‘yes’ vote instead of an ‘abstain’ vote (Mr. Prues was not elected as a Councilmember until 2020, therefore unable to vote on anything presented at a 2019 Council meeting.)

**LEGISLATION**

First Reading:

**ORDINANCE 2020-03** AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE 2020 APPROPRIATIONS

***Tabled to the 02/25/2020 Council meeting* RESOLUTION 2020-03** A RESOLUTION CREATING A DESIGNATED OUTDOOR REFRESHMENT AREA FOR NEW RICHMOND’S CORE VILLAGE AND ENACTING REGULATIONS

**RESOLUTION 2020-04** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FISCAL OFFICER TO TRANSFER MONEY FROM THE FOLLOWING FUNDS TO THE FOLLOWING FUNDS FOR DEBT SERVICE, REPEALING ALL CONFLICTING RESOLUTIONS

**RESOLUTION 2020-05** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FISCAL OFFICER TO TRANSFER MONEY FROM THS GENERAL FUND TO THE FOLLOWING FUNDS: STREET FUND $54,000.00; CEMETERY FUND $40,000.00; POLICE FUND $271,000.00; FIRE/EMS FUND $232,000.00

Second Reading:

Third Reading:

**ORDINANCE 2020-02** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF VILLAGE EQUIPMENT

Councilmember Feldkamp motioned to adopt ORDINANCE 2020-02 An Ordinance authorizing the sale of Village Equipment; seconded by Councilmember Skeene.

Comments: Councilmember Feldkamp asked if the sale would be conducted via the Village Auction or some other avenue. Theresa said, and confirmed by Greg Roberts, the sale of the dump truck would be open to bid via an advertisement placed in the newspaper.

Mrs. Slade: yes Mr. Prues: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes Ms. Ploucha: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes Ms. Allen: yes

**ORDINANCE 2020-03** AN ORDINANCE RESTRICTING THE PARKING OF OVERSIZED VEHICLES IN THE VILLAGE OF NEW RICHMOND

Councilmember Feldkamp motioned to adopt ORDINANCE 2020-03 An Ordinance Restricting the Parking of Oversized Vehicles in the Village of New Richmond; seconded by Councilmember Prues.

Mrs. Slade: yes Mr. Prues: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes Ms. Ploucha: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes Ms. Allen: yes

**RESOLUTION 2020-01** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 2020 OF MUNICIPALLY OWNED PERSONAL PROPERTY WHICH IS NOT NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE, OR WHICH IS OBSOLETE OR UNFIT FOR THE USE FOR WHICH IT WAS ACQUIRED, BY INTERNET AUCTION, PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 721.15(D)

Councilmember Feldkamp motioned to adopt **RESOLUTION 2020-01** A Resolution Authorizing the Sale During the Calendar Year 2020 of Municipally Owned Personal Property Which Is Not Needed for Public Use, or Which is Obsolete or Unfit for the Use for Which It Was Acquired, By Internet Auction, Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 721.15(D); seconded by Councilmember Skeene.

Mrs. Slade: yes Mr. Prues: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes Ms. Ploucha: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes Ms. Allen: yes

**CALL OF MEMBERS:**

**Prues** -Nothing to report

**Allen** -Nothing to report

**Ploucha** - Nothing to report

**Skeene -** Nothing to report

**Feldkamp** -Nothing to report

**Slade** **-** Nothing to report

**Comments from audience:**

David Vornholt – David recalled fond memories of Howard Fabing, a local psychiatrist now deceased, who used to own a beautiful river home about a mile from the Village. After perusing a copy of the *Who’s Who in America* book he discovered Mr. Fabing was included for his many accomplishments in life.

Police Chief Mike Couch – Chief Couch just wanted to say again what a great officer Jordan Meinking is; how active he was in community service. Chief humorously recounted Jordan’s apprehension of a gentleman with outstanding warrants who thought he could outrun New Richmond’s finest. Officer Meinking will be sorely missed by the community.

Councilmember Allen motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m.; seconded by Councilmember Feldkamp.

Mrs. Slade: yes Mr. Prues: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes Ms. Ploucha: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes Ms. Allen: yes

Meeting adjourned at 8:02p.m.

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**Mayor Clerk of Council**