July 28th, 2020

COUNCIL MEETING

New Richmond Village Council met in Council Chambers and via Zoom teleconference in regular session on Tuesday, July 28th, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting followed rules and guidelines established by the Ohio General Assembly for public meetings established in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and state and federal restrictions for public gatherings.

Present in Council Chambers: Mayor Glenn Ewing Council Members: Gary Skeene, Larry Prues Administration: Village Administrator, Greg Roberts; Clerk of Council, Theresa Leigh Department Heads: Police Chief Mike Couch **Present via Zoom teleconference**: Council Members: Mary Allen, Melanie Slade, and Becky Ploucha Administration: Fiscal Officer, Lynn Baird Department Heads: Fire/EMS Chief Vince Bee Additional personnel: Asst. Fire Chief Tim Feldkamp; Sgt. Jason Mallott **Absent**: Solicitor Scott Sollmann – due to prior work engagement

Guests present via Zoom teleconference:

Jenny Bramlage
Marsha Delaney
Arlene Dobrimic
Richard Feldkamp
Donna Hammons
Ron Henderson
Joby Houck
Bob Lees
Pamela Schreiner
Lance Sizemore
Charlie Spicker
Nancy Swats
Ryan and Sophie Woodruff
Tom and Beth Wulker

Mayor Ewing opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of the Regular Council meeting, which also included the Minutes of the 2021 Tax Budget Public Hearing, held July 14th, 2020 were presented for approval.

Councilmember Allen motioned to approve the Minutes of the Regular Council meeting and Minutes of the 2021 Tax Budget Public Hearing, both held July 14th, 2020; seconded by Councilmember Prues.

Comments: Councilmember Allen stated she did not make the unpaid traffic fines comment during the 2021 Tax Budget Public Hearing held July 14th, 2020 as noted in the minutes being presented for approval tonight. Fiscal Officer Lynn Baird stated she was the person who made the unpaid traffic fines comment during the public hearing.

Mrs. Slade: yes	Mr. Prues: yes
Ms. Ploucha: yes	Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Village Administrator Greg Roberts:

- Ron Henderson submitted his two-week notice. His last day of employment as a Utility Department Laborer is August 6th. He leaves in good standing. Request a motion to accept Mr. Henderson's resignation and approve the immediate posting for his replacement.

Councilmember Skeene motioned to accept the resignation of Ron Henderson effective August 6th, 2020. Ron leaves in good standing. Also motion to approve the immediate posting for his replacement; seconded by Councilmember Allen.

Mrs. Slade: yes
Ms. Ploucha: yes
Mr. Skeene: yes
Mr. Prues: yes
Ms. Allen: yes

- The New Richmond DORA has been in operation for almost one month without incident. Any liquor permit holder with concerns about COVID-19 related complaints for social distancing are encouraged to take full advantage of the benefit that the DORA offers for avoiding crowded conditions that could lead to another shutdown in Ohio.
- Ryan Homes is ready to resume the previous robust sales of homes in their Phase 2 of Union Station. First phase was 24 homes that sold out in a little over 1 month. Next phase is 33 homes.
- A presentation on the Susanna Way Improvements project is posted on the Community Development page of the Village website. In 2018 when the grant was applied for, Susanna Way residents expressed support for one-way traffic headed east from Western Avenue to Augusta Street. This would allow for more parking options on Susanna Way. This discussion needs to be resumed to finalize an optimum plan. I suggest that the Planning Commission look at options and present recommendations to Council. The work is not yet scheduled but anticipated to be completed this fall.

Police Chief Mike Couch:

- Mr. Rickett will speak with Council sometime in the future regarding the trailers located at 708 Front St.
- In the last two days, Sgt. Mallott and Officer Saylor conducted two traffic stops resulting in arrests related to felon warrants with nationwide pick-up. Canine Officer Patriot was used during both stops; one resulting in the locating of 4 grams of crystal meth.
- Officer Amole was involved in an accident involving the 2019 police cruiser. A 19 year old woman ran the stoplight, hitting Officer Amole as he was moving on a green light; the woman was cited. Because of accidents on U.S. 52 such as this one, Chief Couch has serious reservations about modifying the golf cart legislation but will support Council's final decision.

Comments: Councilmember Allen said it all boils down to safety. She also noted she recently met with several River Pines members to discuss the matter.

Fire/EMS Chief Vince Bee:

- The Department has made 350 emergency runs year-to-date
- The masks provided by the Clermont Public Health Dept. are available at The Worshouse on Front St. I would like to thank Renee Cox, owner of the laundromat, for allowing us to dispense the masks from this location.
- The department received a FEMA Firefighter assistance grant for $2,961.90; with our 5% match the fund totals $3,110
- Beckjord had a structure fire today. The fire took place in the part of the plant that falls within the Pierce Township district so while we responded to the fire, Pierce Township supervised putting the fire out.

Comments: Councilmember Ploucha asked Greg Roberts if information about the masks being available at The Worshouse could be put on the community sign. Both Greg Roberts and Chief Bee said yes, that could be done.

Mayor Glenn Ewing: Mayor Ewing would like to recommend appointing Jenny Bramlage to the Landmark Commission.

Councilmember Skeene motioned to follow Mayor Ewing's recommendation to appoint Jenny Bramlage to the Landmark Commission; seconded by Councilmember Prues.

Mrs. Slade: yes
Ms. Ploucha: yes
Mr. Skeene: yes
Mr. Prues: yes
Ms. Allen: yes

Solicitor, Scott Sollmann: absent due to prior work engagement

Clerk of Council, Theresa Leigh: Updated Council on recent Village property up for bid including winning bids on the Street Dept.'s 2001 dump truck and John Deere zero turn mower as well as the Police Dept.'s 2008 Ford Crown Victoria and 2007 Dodge Magnum. The 2006 dump truck did not receive any bids after running a newspaper ad; the truck will be put on the Village online auction site in the near future.

LEGISLATION

First Reading:

ORDINANCE 2020-10 AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF LIMITED TAX GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, IN ONE OR MORE SERIES, IN AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $115,000 BY THE VILLAGE OF NEW RICHMOND, CLERMONT COUNTY, OHIO FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACQUIRING AN AMBULANCE AND A BOOM MOWER, ALL WITHIN THE VILLAGE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Councilmember Skeene made the motion to suspend the three-reading rule for Ordinance 2020-10, seconded by Councilmember Allen.

Mrs. Slade: yes
Ms. Ploucha: yes
Mr. Skeene: yes
Mr. Prues: yes
Ms. Allen: yes

Councilmember Skeene made the motion to approve Ordinance 2020-10 AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF LIMITED TAX

GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, IN ONE OR MORE SERIES, IN AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $115,000 BY THE VILLAGE OF NEW RICHMOND, CLERMONT COUNTY, OHIO FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACQUIRING AN AMBULANCE AND A BOOM MOWER, ALL WITHIN THE VILLAGE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY, seconded by Councilmember Allen.

Mrs. Slade: yes
Ms. Ploucha: yes
Mr. Skeene: yes
Mr. Prues: yes
Ms. Allen: yes

ORDINANCE 2020-11 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2020 APPROPRIATIONS

Councilmember Allen made the motion to suspend the three-reading rule for Ordinance 2020-11, seconded by Councilmember Skeene.

Mrs. Slade: yes
Ms. Ploucha: yes
Mr. Skeene: yes
Mr. Prues: yes
Ms. Allen: yes

Councilmember Allen made the motion to approve Ordinance 2020-11 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2020 APPROPRIATIONS, seconded by Councilmember Slade.

Mrs. Slade: yes
Ms. Ploucha: yes
Mr. Skeene: yes
Mr. Prues: yes
Ms. Allen: yes

Second Reading:

TABLED TO THE AUGUST 11TH, 2020 COUNCIL MEETING - **ORDINANCE 2020-07** AN ORDINANCE REGULATING GOLF CART USE WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF NEW RICHMOND, OHIO

Third Reading:

CALL OF MEMBERS:

Larry Prues – Nothing to discuss
Mary Allen – The Economic Development Committee along with the Riverfest Committee executed a *Live, Love, Visit* ad which is schedule to run in several papers, including the Clermont Sun.
Becky Ploucha – Nothing to discuss
Gary Skeene – Nothing to discuss
Melanie Slade – Nothing to discuss

Comments from audience/Visitors wishing to address Council:

The following residents and local business owners spoke before Council in support of Ryan Woodruff in his bid for the open Council seat citing, among many things, his dedication to volunteer work in the community as well as his

serving 16 years in the public sector (Fire&EMS): Marsha Delaney, Bob Lees, Lance Sizemore, Joby Houck and Nancy Swats.

Jenny Bramlage – Spoke of the problem between Renaissance New Richmond and the Village and called for better cooperation between the two in order to get things accomplished for the betterment of our community.

Ryan Woodruff – I'm humbled to all those who spoke such kind words and am honored to have the chance to be considered for the seat on Council.

Tom Wulker – Both myself and my wife Beth have gotten to know the community since moving here and Ryan has been the ultimate on the Planning Commission as has Richard when he served on Council.

Ron Henderson – Thanked Gary Skeene, Tim Feldkmap, Vince Bee, Tim Nelson and all the police officers who offered their support during the recent water main breaks. Greg Roberts thanked Ron for all his contributions to the Utility Dept. and stated he will be sorely missed.

Richard Feldkamp – I've been in emergency services for 51 years and have kept River Days going for years. Even in my older age, I will still give my best if elected to Council. I believe I was the top vote getter in the last election. I thank Ryan for what he's done for our community but ask Council to honor the election votes.

Charlie Spicker – Thank you for considering my offer for councilmember.

Pam Schreiner – Thanked Becky Ploucha for introducing her to the Renaissance New Richmond group. Ryan's engagement is wonderful, and his community campaign has been so effective. Perhaps the Police Dept. can station officers on Susanna Way as there's been drunken fighting on the week-ends.

Nancy Swats – Where are we with re-naming the bandstand? Councilmember Prues stated discussion is still taking place within the Public Works Committee. Nancy asked what the holdup was due to. Councilmember Allen stated the committee is waiting to hear more from Lance.

Chief Couch mentioned he retired today from Xavier University, after 40 years of employment with the university.

Councilmember Skeene moved that Council go into Executive Session in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22(G)(1) to discuss the appointment of a public official of the Village; seconded by Councilmember Prues.

Mrs. Slade: yes	Mr. Prues: yes
Ms. Ploucha: yes	Ms. Allen: yes
Mr. Skeene: yes	

Executive session was entered at 8:01 p.m.

Councilmember Skeene motioned to return from Executive Session to regular Council at 8:20 p.m.; seconded by Councilmember Allen.

Mrs. Slade: yes
Ms. Ploucha: yes
Mr. Skeene: yes
Mr. Prues: yes
Ms. Allen: yes

Councilmember Prues motioned to appoint Richard Feldkamp as the new Councilmember, filling the Council seat vacated by Jonathan Millhouse; seconded by Councilmember Skeene.

Comments:
Councilmember Allen: Because Mr. Feldkamp was duly elected to this position, I feel he should be restored to this position.
Councilmember Prues: I am a very big fan of Ryan's and hope he runs for a Council seat in the future. Mr. Feldkamp received bad information and resigned, but now that he's heard otherwise he's able to return and complete his term.
Councilmember Skeene: Ryan, I will sign your application for the next election.

Mrs. Slade: yes
Ms. Ploucha: yes
Mr. Skeene: yes
Mr. Prues: yes
Ms. Allen: yes

Councilmember Skeene motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 p.m., seconded by Councilmember Prues.

Mrs. Slade: yes
Ms. Ploucha: yes
Mr. Skeene: yes
Mr. Prues: yes
Ms. Allen: yes

Meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m..

Glenn A. Ewing
Mayor

Theresa Leigh
Clerk of Council