

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of *New Richmond Village Council*

Meeting

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 10148

Held November 24, 2020 20

November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020

## COUNCIL MEETING

New Richmond Village Council met in Council Chambers and via Zoom teleconference in regular session on Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, 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:** Council Members: Gary Skeene, and Richard Feldkamp Administration: Clerk of Council, Theresa Leigh Department Heads: Police Chief Mike Couch **Present via Zoom teleconference:** Council Members: Mary Allen, Melanie Slade, Larry Prues, and Becky Ploucha Administration: Village Administrator, Greg Roberts; Solicitor Scott Sollmann Department Heads: Fire/EMS Chief Vince Bee Additional personnel: Asst. Fire Chief Tim Feldkamp; Sgt. Jason Mallott **Absent:** Mayor Glenn Ewing (due to illness)

### Guests present via Zoom teleconference:

David Vornholt - resident  
Ryan Woodruff - resident

Vice-Mayor Allen opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of the November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Regular Council meeting were presented for approval.

Councilmember Prues motioned to approve the Minutes of November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Regular Council meeting; seconded by Councilmember Slade.

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

### ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

#### Village Administrator Greg Roberts:

- Wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving
- Reported great progress being made on the Susanna Way project
- Union Station sales have slowed a bit. The developers have purchased additional property located adjacent to St. Peters on Bethel-New Richmond Road.
- A motion I requested during the November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Council meeting was not voted on; I am requesting a motion to accept the release of the bond to HPA Development in the amount of \$38,207.57 as all of the work agreed upon, including surface course paving and curb repairs, have been completed.

Councilmember Prues motioned to approve the release of the bond to HPA Development in the amount of \$38,207.57; seconded by Councilmember Skeene.

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Mrs. Slade: yes

Mr. Prues: yes

Ms. Ploucha: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes

## **Police Chief Mike Couch:**

- The Police Department received 213 call logs for service and made several arrests, including two OVI arrests and four drug possession arrests.
- Chief Couch reported he and the officers have had several positive COVID exposures recently while interacting with the public.

## **Fire/EMS Chief Vince Bee:**

- Reported COVID numbers are increasing locally the past two weeks. Some who tested positive for the virus were asymptomatic.
- Additional PPE was received from the County and shared with the Police Department. The remainder of the supplies are stored in a secure location.
- Preventative maintenance on equipment, excluding the rescue truck, is now complete. The rescue truck is scheduled to be looked at next week.
- Hose exams are complete. The yellow hose used to hook up to the hydrants needs repair.

**Vice-Mayor Mary Allen:** Inquired if the Shop with a Cop program will happen this year. Sgt. Mallott stated he has been in touch with the organization that runs this program and said they do plan on having it this year but with some modification.

Vice-Mayor Allen reported Mayor Ewing is not feeling well after his second round of chemotherapy and asked all to please keep him in their prayers.

## **Solicitor, Scott Sollmann:**

- Two pieces of legislation pertaining to sale of Village property will be presented for a first reading this evening. Discussion ensued on the best way to approach selling these properties.
- Beginning January 2021, I will attend only the 2<sup>nd</sup> Council meeting each month; I have a prior work engagement that does not allow for my attending the 1<sup>st</sup> Council meeting.

## **Clerk of Council, Theresa Leigh:**

- Fiscal Officer Lynn Baird asked for the following clarification: Police Officer Jake Chapman's pay increased to \$18. per hour retroactive to September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020. (Clerk's note: see the *Personnel & Finance Committee Report* section, and subsequent vote, taken during the October 27, 2020 Council meeting.)
- The boat dock infrastructure up for auction on the Village auction site ended this past Monday. We received an email from a gentleman who experienced technical difficulty in registering on the auction site and therefore unable to place his bid. He inquired into whether he could place his bid via email instead of the auction site. Solicitor Sollmann recommended we place the item up for bid again on the auction site.
- Mayor Glenn Ewing was incorrectly noted in the *Mayor's Report* section of the 10-27-2020 Council Minutes as being absent; Mayor Ewing was in-attendance at Council on 10-27-2020.
- The requested public hearing pertaining to Joe Vogel's recent liquor license sale will be held remotely by video probably sometime around February 2021. The State will notify Solicitor Sollmann of the date once it is scheduled.

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**LEGISLATION**

**First Reading:**

**ORDINANCE 2020-14** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FOR THE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS PARCEL #260925.103 OWNED BY THE VILLAGE OF NEW RICHMOND, OHIO, PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE 721.03

**ORDINANCE 2020-15** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FOR THE SALE OF CONTIGUOUS REAL PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS PARCELS #260919.853 AND #260919.833 OWNED BY THE VILLAGE OF NEW RICHMOND, OHIO, PURSUANT TO OHIO REVISED CODE 721.03

**Second Reading:**

**RESOLUTION 2020-22** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF A REQUEST FOR ADVANCE OF PROPERTY TAXES PAID IN 2021 TO THE CLERMONT COUNTY AUDITOR

**RESOLUTION 2020-23** A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2021 TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS

**Third Reading:**

Re-scheduled for December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Council vote per request made by Fiscal Officer, Lynn Baird: **RESOLUTION 2020-21** A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE EXPENDITURE OF ALL FUNDS RECEIVED FROM THE COUNTY CORONAVIRUS RELIEF DISTRIBUTION FUND PURSUANT TO H.B. 481 AS AMENDED BY HB 614 TO COVER COSTS CONSISTENT WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 5001 OF THE CARES ACT

**Comments:**

**Councilmember Mary Allen:**

- We normally do not have a 2<sup>nd</sup> Council meeting in December. We can vote on not holding the 2<sup>nd</sup> December Council meeting at the December 8<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.
- The Ohio Municipal League reported House Bill 404 passed the House and Senate last week with several amendments, including an extension of virtual meeting and hearing authority for public bodies until July 1, 2021. This temporary ability was originally provided by the General Assembly in March of this year to allow public bodies to meet, attend and cast votes at public meetings via teleconference, video conference or other electronic means.

**CALL OF MEMBERS:**

**Larry Prues – Requested follow-up on:**

- Application for capital improvements to Ohio Public works (RES 2020-18). Greg Roberts reported the grant application was submitted.
- Rumpke contract to include trash cans for residents. Greg Roberts stated the current contract expires at the end of January 2021. Discussion ensued,

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with Greg making the recommendation to look at this more in depth at the next Public Works committee.

- Sidewalk repairs responsibility of property owners. Discussion ensued on the best way to approach sidewalk repairs. Councilmember Prues requested further discussion at either the next Planning Commission or Public Work Committee meeting. Councilmember Ploucha asked Solicitor Sollmann to provide Council with an example of sidewalk legislation used by others.

**Mary Allen** – In light of recent city of Cincinnati council issues, it is very important that we, as councilmembers, are mindful to avoid any conflicts of interest.

**Becky Ploucha** – Nothing to report

**Gary Skeene** – Inquired into whether Susanna Way will become a permanent one-way street. Councilmember Allen noted it would have to be voted on if wanting to make it a permanent one-way.

**Melanie Slade** – Nothing to report

**Richard Feldkamp** – Stated the Susanna Way project is moving along nicely. An emergency lighting repair had to be made in front of Skippers.

### Comments from audience/Visitors wishing to address Council:

Ryan Woodruff reported the recent Renaissance New Richmond mini-grant project was very successful. Five - \$200 grants were given out to help improve the curb appeal of local homes and businesses; the \$1000. was donated by citizens and businesses in and around the New Richmond community. Homes and businesses on Congress Street, Front Street, State Route 132 and Washington Street were recipients of the grants. Ryan mentioned the sidewalks on Susanna Way would be discussed at the next Planning Commission meeting.

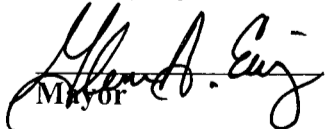
David Vornholt said Captain's Cove is leasing their building to a new company and the distillery has a preliminary plan to produce scotch whiskey. He asked that the Planning Commission zoom meeting link be provided on the Village website. David feels planning should begin now on how to handle the additional vehicle traffic on Bethel-New Richmond Road, especially along the curve., that will come about with the new development Greg spoke about earlier in tonight's meeting.

Councilmember Feldkamp motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 p.m.; seconded by Councilmember Slade.

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

Mr. Prues: yes  
Ms. Allen: yes  
Mr. Feldkamp: yes

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

  
Mayor

  
Clerk of Council