

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

New Richmond Village Council

Meeting

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

Held

January 12, 2021

20

January 12th, 2021

COUNCIL MEETING

New Richmond Village Council met in Council Chambers and via Zoom teleconference in regular session on Tuesday, January 12th, 2021 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: Richard Feldkamp, Gary Skeene, and Larry Prues Administration: Village Administrator Greg Roberts; Village Clerk of Council Theresa Leigh Department Heads: Police Chief Mike Couch **Present via Zoom teleconference:** Council Members: Becky Ploucha, Melanie Slade, and Mary Allen Department Heads: Fire/EMS Chief Vince Bee Additional personnel: Sgt. Jason Mallott **Absent:** Solicitor Scott Sollmann due to prior work engagement.

Guests present via Zoom teleconference:

Nancy Swats - resident
Megan Alley – Clermont Sun
Ryan Woodruff - resident
Carol Katterson – resident
David Vornholt – resident
Betsy Mitchell – resident
Marsha Delaney - resident

Mayor Ewing opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of the December 8th, 2020 Regular Council meeting were presented for approval.

Councilmember Prues motioned to approve Minutes of the December 8th, 2020 Regular Council meeting; seconded by Councilmember Skeene.

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

Mayor Ewing presented the 2021 Rules of Council proposed by Councilmember Allen.

Councilmember Skeene motioned to approve the 2021 Rules of Council proposed by Councilmember Allen; seconded by Councilmember Feldkamp.

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

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

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20

Mayor Ewing recommended (1) keeping the same Council Committee appointments as we had in 2020 (2) appointing Gary Skeene as the Council representative on the Planning Commission (3) appointing Michael Findlan to another term on the Planning Commission and (4) appointing Ryan Woodruff as a voting member on the Planning Commission to replace Art Kareth who resigned.

Councilmember Prues motioned to approve: (1) keeping the Council Committee appointments that were in place in 2020 (2) the appointment of Gary Skeene as the Council representative on the Planning Commission (3) the appointment of Michael Findlan to another term on the Planning Commission and (4) the appointment of Ryan Woodruff as a voting member on the Planning Commission to replace Art Kareth who resigned; seconded by Councilmember Feldkamp.

Mrs. Slade: yes

Mr. Prues: yes

Ms. Ploucha: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes

Mayor Ewing recommended the 2021 Council Committee proposed memberships for approval.*

Councilmember Feldkamp motioned to accept the Council Committee meeting times for 2021 as proposed: On the Monday before the Council meeting held on the 2nd Tuesday – Personnel & Finance 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.; Safety, Laws and Rules 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.; Public Works 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. and Economic Development Ad hoc meeting held the Tuesday evening preceding the Council meeting held on the 2nd Tuesday; seconded by Councilmember Slade.

Mrs. Slade: yes

Mr. Prues: yes

Ms. Ploucha: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes

*CLERK'S NOTE: Proposed 2021 Council Committee memberships and meeting days/times:

Committee	Meeting Time	Council Committee Membership
Personnel & Finance	4:30 – 5:30 p.m. Monday before 1st Council meeting held on the 2 nd Tuesday	Mary Allen, Gary Skeene and Richard Feldkamp
Safety, Laws & Rules	5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Monday before 1 st Council meeting held on the 2 nd Tuesday	Mary Allen, Gary Skeene and Richard Feldkamp
Public Works	6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Monday before 1 st Council meeting held on the 2 nd Tuesday	Melanie Slade, Becky Ploucha and Larry Prues
Ad hoc Economic Development	5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Tuesday evening preceding the Council meeting held on the 2 nd Tuesday	Mary Allen, Melanie Slade, and Larry Prues

Mayor Ewing requested 2021 Vice Mayor nominations. Councilmember Skeene nominated Mary Allen for Vice Mayor. Councilmember Ploucha nominated Mary Allen for Vice Mayor, citing her 15 years on Council.

Councilmember Feldkamp motioned to approve the appointment of Mary Allen as Vice Mayor; seconded by Councilmember Skeene.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

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20

Mrs. Slade: yes

Mr. Prues: yes

Ms. Ploucha: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes

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 01-11-2021

Finance/Budget - Fiscal Officer Lynn Baird

- Requested approval of the 2021 HSA contributions of \$12,000 **
- Reported the following 2020 budget highlights:
 - 48 new home permits
 - CARES revenue in the amount of \$237,483.80
 - BWC refunds in the amount of \$108,508.23
 - Property taxes are down about \$60,000
 - Income tax is up about \$5,700
 - Mayor's Court revenue is down about \$7,000
 - We did not have to do any Utility disconnects due to the BWC rebate but going forward that might change.
- The Personnel & Finance Committee reviewed all checks and electronic payments for the month of December 2020; we need a motion to pay these bills.***

Village Administrator Greg Roberts is in the preliminary phases of drafting a new ordinance that will cover the cost of policing the proliferation of new campgrounds. He has received some information from Sgt. Mallott, and he had the opportunity to have a brief conversation with the former Village Administrator of Yellow Springs, Ohio. Some communities charge a 3% lodging tax on transient rentals. The revenue covers various extra expenses, like increases in police and EMS/Fire services. If this would be approved, it would apply to not only RV camp residents, but bed & breakfasts, air B&Bs, and sleeping rooms. There are a number of things to consider, like how to collect the fees. But this is something we need to consider.

Police Chief Mike Couch reported the following:

- Chief Couch, Sgt. Mallott and Councilmember Mary Allen discussed changes to the golf cart ordinance; the fee amounts need to be finalized and the appropriate document updates made.
- A position for a full-time Officer has been posted; one of the officers is involved in a search with another police department.
- The Department had issues with the state-provided software resulting in time lost preparing reports and other duties.
- A discussion was held whether Village employees will be required to get the COVID-19 vaccination. At some point, Council will need to decide this.

Fire/EMS Chief Vince Bee requested the hiring of (1) Joshua Michael Hughes for the position of part-time firefighter/paramedic at a \$13.65 hourly rate of pay (2) Christian Lee Davis for the position of paid-per-call firefighter with a \$15 per

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

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detail rate of pay and (3) Julie Anne Wilson as an administrative volunteer with no compensation. All will start January 13, 2021 and have a 1-year probation.

Chief Bee reported Asst. Fire/EMS Chief Tim Feldkamp is doing well from the accident and will be on light duty when he returns to work.

Items voted on at the 01-12-2021 Council meeting, as requested during the Personnel & Finance Committee report:

** Councilmember Allen motioned to approve the 2021 HSA contributions of \$12,000; seconded by Councilmember Prues.

Mrs. Slade: yes

Mr. Prues: yes

Ms. Ploucha: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes

*** Councilmember Allen motioned to approve paying the December 2020 bills; seconded by Councilmember Skeene.

Mrs. Slade: yes

Mr. Prues: yes

Ms. Ploucha: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes

**** Councilmember Allen motioned to approve the hiring of (1) Joshua Michael Hughes for the position of part-time firefighter/paramedic at a \$13.65 hourly rate of pay (2) Christian Lee Davis for the position of paid-per-call firefighter with a \$15 per detail rate of pay and (3) Julie Anne Wilson as an administrative volunteer with no compensation. All will start January 13, 2021 and have a 1-year probation.; seconded by Councilmember Slade.

Mrs. Slade: yes

Mr. Prues: yes

Ms. Ploucha: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes

Safety, Laws & Rules Committee report from meeting held 01-11-2021

Councilmember and Chair, Richard Feldkamp reported the clean-up of 1070 Bethel New Richmond Road and the car situation on Augusta St. is going well. Richard has contacted David Painter about a re-dedication of the Promenade and Susanna Way.

Fire/EMS Chief Vince Bee reported the Department has two new 5" hoses and a new air bag. Chief Bee reported 732 total details.

Police Chief Mike Couch reported overall crime for the last year was down 52%

Comments made and items voted on at the 01-12-2021 Council meeting after the Safety, Laws, Rules Committee report:

Public Works/Parks/Recreation Committee report from meeting held 01-11-2021

Councilmember/Chair Melanie Slade reported the following:

- The filling/hiring of someone as the Cemetery Sexton was discussed. The Committee will speak with Fiscal Officer Lynn Baird regarding a budget for this position. Greg (Roberts) has also been in discussion with Mayor Ewing and councilmember Allen.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

New Richmond Village Council

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

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20

- Rumpke's contract extension for another year, including recycling and waste collection. Councilmember Prues stated he has been in contact with Republic Waste Management, who are interested in submitting a bid.

Councilmember Prues has noticed a lot of negative conversation lately on social media regarding our water supply. Administrator Roberts gave assurance the Village is compliant with EPA guidelines. Councilmember Prues asked if it was possible to reiterate this information via some type of message on or along with the monthly water bill so as to set the facts straight. Administrator Roberts stated he will look into this.

Councilmember Prues will meet with Frank of CT Consulting regarding a maintenance project that would involve removing/cleaning up debris from the river that continues to build up along our docks.

Comments made at the 01-12-2021 Council meeting after the Public Works/Parks/Recreation Committee report:

Administrator Roberts stated the Village is required by state law to publish an annual water quality report. Further discussion ensued.

Economic Development Ad hoc Committee report from meeting held 01-12-2021

Councilmember/Chair Mary Allen reported:

- Discussion and planning for the Committee's activities in 2021 including:
 - Continue Live Love Visit Campaign
 - Sell remaining t-shirts
 - Ads in the Clermont Sun – Seasons insert
- Need for more engagement of committee members
- NROBA update
 - Ashburn Woods
 - Realtor – Ms. Hudson
 - Arts Festival on the Sunday of River Days week-end
 - Date set for 2021 Village Christmas

DEPARTMENT HEADS

Village Administrator Greg Roberts:

- Shared in Zoom the schematics for a proposed one-way Susanna Way layout from Brandstetter Carroll.
- Reported the filming of An Unintentional Christmas movie started yesterday and appears to be going well.
- Reported the following on Asset Management: GIS Data to establish a baseline for our public infrastructure; loaded into the software by vendor Iam GIS. Soon to be required by Ohio EPA. Training to use the software's work order and mapping capabilities will commence soon.

Comments:

Councilmember Prues asked clarification on the scope of the Susanna Way schematics. Administrator Roberts replied it was Susanna Way, from Sofia to Augusta. Councilmember Prues asked if we have a dollar amount for this project

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

New Richmond Village Council

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

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20

yet. Administrator Roberts replied no. Clerk of Council Leigh asked if a hard copy of the schematics was available to include in the Council handouts binder. Administrator Roberts replied the diagram would be put on the Village website.

Police Chief Mike Couch reported the following:

- The officer involved in the December 2020 crash will return to work January 13, 2021 with no restrictions. We have learned this may be an uninsured motorists claim.
- Chief recommends a set fee related to golf carts of \$65
- Reported various crime data for the year 2020 including a 52% decrease in total crimes and a 386% increase in residential checks.
- Reported K-9 Officer Patriot was deployed 36 times year-to-date

Fire/EMS Chief Vince Bee stated his report was covered by the Committee reports. Chief Bee thanked Council for support of the department.

Mayor Glenn Ewing reported he will be going in for surgery on January 26 and thanked everyone for all their support.

Solicitor, Scott Sollmann: absent due to prior work engagement

Clerk of Council, Theresa Leigh: Asked Mayor Ewing to relay she has submitted her two week notice.

Mayor Ewing read Theresa's notice that she will be unable to continue on as Village Clerk of Council. Mayor Ewing and Greg Roberts thanked Theresa for her service.

LEGISLATION

First Reading:

ORDINANCE 2021-01 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING, ADOPTING AND ENACTING AMERICAN LEGAL PUBLISHING'S OHIO BASIC CODE, 2021 EDITION, AS THE CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR THE MUNICIPALITY OF NEW RICHMOND, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Comments: *Clerk of Council Leigh* stated the Village does not yet have the 2021 Ohio Basic Code book hence we do not have the summary of all new matters in the Code of Ordinances needed for Exhibit A. *Administrator Roberts* stated we will continue to follow 2020 Ohio Basic Code until the 2021 Ohio Basic Code books are received.

ORDINANCE 2021-02 AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE 2021 APPROPRIATIONS

RESOLUTION 2021-01 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE DURING CALENDAR YEAR 2021 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)

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of *New Richmond Village Council*

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Held January 12, 2021 20

Second Reading:

Third 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

Councilmember Allen motioned to approve **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; seconded by Councilmember Prues.

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

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

Councilmember Allen motioned to approve **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; seconded by Councilmember Prues.

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

CALL OF MEMBERS:

Larry Prues – Thanked Theresa for her service. Asked Greg if there is activity on the property up for sale. Greg replied “yes”.

Mary Allen – Thanked everyone for their prayers while she was sick. Stated we can decide on raising the golf cart fees.

Councilmember Allen motioned to approve a \$65 golf cart inspection/permit fee for residents as well as non-residents; seconded by Councilmember Skeene.

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

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

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

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20

Becky Ploucha – Glad the Mayor got good news. Thanked Theresa for her service.

Gary Skeene – Thanked Theresa for her service.

Melanie Slade – Thanked Theresa for her service.

Richard Feldkamp – Commended Theresa on a job well done.

Comments from audience/Visitors wishing to address Council:

David Vornholt asked which committee(s) are responsible for the Susanna Way project and if there would be a public meeting and proper vetting. Councilmember Skeene stated it would be the Public Works committee. Administrator Roberts stated there have been numerous public meetings in the past where this project was discussed; many of which you were in attendance at. David thanked Theresa for doing a fantastic job.

Ryan Woodruff stated he is glad Mayor Ewing and Mary Allen are doing better. Ryan wished Theresa well in her new endeavors.

Nancy Swats asked about the status of the old Boys & Girls Club. Administrator Roberts said it has been purchased by a private citizen.

Marsha Delaney said she is looking forward to Spring!

Councilmember Feldkamp motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 p.m.; seconded by Councilmember Skeene.

Mrs. Slade: yes

Mr. Prues: yes

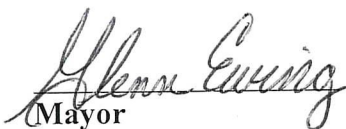
Ms. Ploucha: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes

Meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.


Mayor


Clerk of Council