

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

New Richmond Village Council

Meeting

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

Held

January 26, 2021

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January 26th, 2021

COUNCIL MEETING

New Richmond Village Council met in Council Chambers and via Zoom teleconference in regular session on Tuesday, January 26th, 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: Council Members: Gary Skeene Administration: Village Administrator, Greg Roberts; Clerk of Council, Theresa Leigh
Department Heads: Police Chief Mike Couch **Present via Zoom teleconference:** Mayor Glenn Ewing Council Members: Mary Allen, Melanie Slade, Larry Prues, and Becky Ploucha Administration: Fiscal Officer, Lynn Baird; Solicitor Scott Sollmann Department Heads: Fire/EMS Chief Vince Bee Additional personnel: Sgt. Jason Mallott **Absent:** Councilmember Richard Feldkamp (due to illness)

Guests present via Zoom teleconference:

Ryan Woodruff - resident
Michael Brumbaugh - resident
David Vornholt - resident
David Painter – Clermont County Commissioner
Sandy Crawfis - resident
Carol Katterson - resident
Danielle Steinhauser – CT Consultants, Inc.

Vice Mayor Mary Allen will lead tonight's Council meeting, for Mayor Glenn Ewing who is ill.

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

Minutes of the January 12th, 2021 Regular Council meeting were presented for approval.

Councilmember Prues motioned to approve the Minutes of January 12th, 2021 Regular Council meeting; seconded by Councilmember Slade.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Village Administrator Greg Roberts reported on the following:

Complete Streets Project: Per ODOT requirements the village requested RFPs (Request for Proposals) for Professional Consulting Engineering Design Services for the complete streets project located at U.S. 52 through the Village of New Richmond. We received multiple inquiries from various firms but received only one formal proposal from 143 Engineers. This firm helped with the successful

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grant application. If Council decides to move forward with 143 Engineers, the next step would be a cost proposal from them for design work.

Councilmember Skeene motioned to authorize the Village Administrator to seek a cost proposal from 143 Engineers for design work related to the complete streets project located at U.S. 52 through the Village of New Richmond; seconded by Councilmember Ploucha.

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

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

State Capital Budget Award: The Village has been awarded \$25,000 for planning in the recently passed Capital Budget by the Ohio General Assembly. We will be speaking with the consultants hired by the Clermont County Port Authority about next steps and requirements for utilizing these funds.

2021 Events: We are receiving inquiries concerning events for this year. We are all anxious to return to a normal existence. Until further discussion and progression of national and local efforts to address the Covid-19 pandemic, at this time, my suggestion would be to continue the current approach of stressing that the village will follow whatever guidelines/edicts are in place by public health officials at the time of the proposed events on village property.

Administrator Roberts introduced guest speaker Danielle Steinhauser. Danielle works in the Project Development division of the municipal engineering firm CT Consultants. She looks forward to working with a local group on improving/creating a boat and kayak launch.

Police Chief Mike Couch reported on the following:

- Various crime data including an OVI drug arrest and 2 warrants.
- The Officer involved in the recent car crash returns to work tomorrow. Charges related to this accident are pending.
- Meeting held Monday with the owners of the RV Park where details were shared including the plan to have sixty-one, 50' x 100' camp sites.
- Legislation to amend the 2021 temporary appropriations will be presented before Council later in tonight's meeting. The Police Department is requesting appropriations for the purchase of two 2019 police vehicles, including equipment for those vehicles. Councilmember Prues asked if it would be possible to get by with purchasing one car and continue using the 2013 vehicle. Chief Couch replied the 2013 vehicle has around 135,000 miles and is not a vehicle he would want to have to depend on.
- The State is in the process of updating the log database.

Chief Couch asked if no-parking signage could be placed in front of hydrants and in the cul-de-sac of Union Station Phase I. Administrator Roberts stated he has the signs and asked Solicitor Sollmann if a motion to put up the signage would be sufficient; Solicitor Sollmann said it would.

Councilmember Prues motioned to approve placing the *No Parking in front of fire hydrant* and *No Parking in cul-de-sac* signage in the appropriate Union Station Phase I locations; seconded by Councilmember Skeene.

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

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

Comments: Councilmember Allen asked Solicitor Sollmann if a motion was needed to approve the golf cart inspection sheet, which includes the inspection fees, separate from the related golf cart legislation passed at its third reading in October 2020 (*Clerk's note:* see Ordinance 2020-07). Solicitor Sollmann stated the vote held at the last Council meeting approving the inspection fee was fine and no further motion to approve was needed.

Fire/EMS Chief Vince Bee reported the following:

- 41 EMS runs and 5 fire details to-date from January 1st, 2021.
- \$895.92 spent on equipment between July and December 2020 will be refunded.
- The 1993 truck has an electrical issue but is still in service.

Solicitor, Scott Sollmann: HPA annexation deadlines that fall on the Village might result in the need for some emergency legislation.

Councilmember Allen made the motion to enter into Executive Session at 7:44 p.m. in accordance with O.R.C 121.22(G)(8) to discuss and to consider confidential information related to the marketing plans, specific business strategy, production techniques, trade secrets, or personal financial statements of an applicant for economic development assistance, or to negotiations with other political subdivisions respecting requests for economic development assistance and also in accordance with O.R.C 121.22(G)(2) to discuss the sale of Village property and in accordance with O.R.C 121.22(G)(1) to discuss the employment, appointment, and compensation of a public employee; seconded by Councilmember Slade.

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

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

Councilmember Skeene made the motion to return from Executive Session at 8:23 p.m.; seconded by Councilmember Slade.

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

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

Councilmember Allen made the motion to accept Theresa Leigh's resignation effective tonight; she leaves in good standing; seconded by Councilmember Skeene.

Comments: Clerk of Council Theresa Leigh stated she was asked by the Mayor to stay on with the Village until he returns from surgery and that she agreed to do this; Theresa requested Council hold off on the vote until Mayor Ewing was signed back into the Regular Council session and could confirm this was still his wish. Councilmember Prues requested this vote be deferred until the next Council meeting. Councilmember Allen stated she would like the vote to be held tonight. Councilmember Allen stated she would continue with the reading of tonight's legislation until Mayor Ewing was signed back into the meeting.

LEGISLATION

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First Reading:

RESOLUTION 2021-03 A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2021 TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS

Councilmember Skeene motioned to suspend the three-reading-rule for RESOLUTION 2021-03 A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2021 TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS, seconded by Councilmember Prues.

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

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

Councilmember Skeene motioned to approve RESOLUTION 2021-03 A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2021 TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS, seconded by Councilmember Slade.

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

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

RESOLUTION 2021-04 AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE CLERMONT COUNTY PARK DISTRICT 2021 COMMUNITY PARKS IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Councilmember Skeene motioned to suspend the three-reading-rule for RESOLUTION 2021-04 AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE CLERMONT COUNTY PARK DISTRICT 2021 COMMUNITY PARKS IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; seconded by Councilmember Prues.

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

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

Councilmember Skeene motioned to approve RESOLUTION 2021-04 AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE CLERMONT COUNTY PARK DISTRICT 2021 COMMUNITY PARKS IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; seconded by Councilmember Slade.

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

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

Second 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

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Councilmember Skeene motioned to suspend the three-reading-rule for 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; seconded by Councilmember Prues.

Mrs. Slade: yes

Ms. Ploucha: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes

Mr. Prues: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: absent

Councilmember Skeene motioned to approve 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; seconded by Councilmember Prues.

Mrs. Slade: yes

Ms. Ploucha: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes

Mr. Prues: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: absent

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)

Third Reading: None

Discussion pertaining to Theresa's resignation date began again after the legislation was read.

Councilmember Allen motioned to approve Theresa's new resignation date as March 12th, 2021; seconded by Councilmember Ploucha.

Comments: Clerk of Council Theresa Leigh stated she has requested the Ohio Auditor of State remove her as a user from the Cemetery UAN system.

Mrs. Slade: yes

Ms. Ploucha: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes

Mr. Prues: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: absent

CALL OF MEMBERS:

Larry Prues – Nothing to report

Mary Allen – Received a lot of good feedback about the Kroger pick-up service now available in the Village.

Becky Ploucha – Nothing to report

Gary Skeene – Nothing to report

Melanie Slade – Nothing to report

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Richard Feldkamp - absent

Comments from audience/Visitors wishing to address Council:

David Vornholt thanked everyone for all they do and stated he is looking forward to open discussions around Village planning.

Commissioner Painter congratulated the Village on receiving state capital budget funding for the New Richmond Liberty Landing park. He also shared Clermont County received \$6 million to help people who are out of work; included were provisions to help landlords out. On a final note, Commissioner Painter reported Hamilton Safe is building a facility on Round Bottom road.

Clerk of Council, Theresa Leigh relayed the following:

- The annual update on licenses/leases. Councilmember Allen requested this information be supplied in writing and Theresa agreed to email the document to all councilmembers.
- Due to Clerk's error in the January 28th, 2020 Council minutes, Jenny Bramlage's term on the Board of Tax Appeals was noted as expiring on 12/31/2020 when in fact her term expiration should have been noted as 12/31/2021.
- In 2021, Councilmembers Allen, Skeene and Ploucha will need to either take or assign someone as their designee to take the Public Records training per Ohio Revised Code 109.43(B) and 149.43 (E)(1) which requires that officials elected to statewide or local office receive three hours of Public Records training for each term of office.

Police Chief Mike Couch reported the Department of Justice has accepted the New Richmond Police Department's submission related to the Safe Community bill.

Councilmember Prues motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m., seconded by Councilmember Skeene.

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

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Adam Ewing
Mayor

Theresa Leigh
Clerk of Council