

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Village of New Richmond Council

Meeting

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

Held

July 27, 2021

20

July 27, 2021

COUNCIL MEETING

New Richmond Village Council met in Council Chambers in regular session on Tuesday, July 27, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Ewing opened the meeting with everyone standing and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Ewing asked for a roll call of members with the following Council members present:

Vice Mayor Mary Allen Yes Richard Feldkamp Yes Becky Ploucha Yes
Larry Prues Yes Gary Skeene Yes Melanie Slade Yes

Mayor Glenn Ewing

Administration: Village Administrator, Greg Roberts; Clerk of Council, Kathy Fuchs

Department Heads: Fire/EMS Chief Vince Bee, Police Chief Mike Couch

Additional personnel: Asst. Fire Chief Tim Feldkamp; Sgt. Jason Mallott

Present via Zoom: Administration: Solicitor, Scott Sollmann

Guests present in Council Chambers (*Residents):

*Ryan Woodruff, *Sophie Woodruff, *Dennis Dalton, *Tonja Simmons, *Tim Bergfield, *Micke Viereggo, Ryan Taggart

COMMUNICATIONS:

Tim Bergfield announced that he was very upset. He made the following statements and assertions:

- It was on Facebook that Officer Frasure was placed on nights because we have new officers that are being trained on days.
- How many members on the New Richmond Police Department are OPOTA trained?
- We do not have any field trained officers.
- Two years ago we had Jordan, it was in the minutes dated 4/24/2019, that he was a trained field officer.
- Ken does 90% of the PR for the Village.

Councilwoman Allen explained to Mr. Bergfield and the audience that this subject should be heard in a Personnel & Finance Committee meeting and then brought before Council at a Council meeting. She invited Mr. Bergfeld to attend the next meeting on Monday 8/9/2021 @ 4:30pm in the same room.

Tim Bergfield

- asked if he could bring an attorney from BCI to the Personnel & Finance meeting.

Councilwoman Allen – stated the committee would be happy to answer his questions. The meeting is open to the public, he could bring whomever he wished.

Tim Bergfield – stated he could submit questions to Chief Couch to which he would expect responses in a timely manner.

Councilwoman Allen – suggested she meet with him before the next Personnel & Finance Committee meeting so they could go over his questions and concerns in

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order to address them at the meeting. She asked for Mr. Bergfield's phone number and email address.

Tim Bergfield supplied his phone number and email and commented Kenny adds community service, he buys stickers, etc., and gives them to the kids at his expense.

Micke Viereggo – she said Mr. Bergfield asked most of her questions, but she had a few more.

- Why do we have 8 cruisers and 3 officers?
- For Jason - We have a dog, Patriot. Why has he not done any demonstrations?

Councilwoman Allen invited Micke Viereggo also to meet with her and asked for her phone number and email which Micke Viereggo supplied.

MINUTES

(*) Minutes of the July 13, 2021 Regular Council meeting were presented for approval. (Not read aloud since each member has received a copy)

* Councilman Prues motioned to approve the Minutes of July 13, 2021 Regular Council meeting as read; seconded by Councilwoman Allen.

Mary Allen Yes

Richard Feldkamp Yes

Becky Ploucha Yes

Larry Prues Yes

Gary Skeene Yes

Melanie Slade Yes

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Village Administrator Greg Roberts

- Liberty Landing Park and the Showboat Majestic: The Village's historic waterfront during the steamboat era was the location of a wharf boat – basically a barge that served as a bridge to the public landing for passengers and freight to be unloaded. It was also the site where many people from south of the Ohio River, both free and enslaved, first stepped foot on free soil. In 2002 our Waterfront was recognized by the National Park Service as a documented Underground Railroad site. For over 5 years the village has sought State Capital funding for a project to transform our historic waterfront into Liberty Landing Park, incorporating easier to maintain terraces, a hike/bike trail, and infrastructure to accommodate excursion boats from B&B Riverboats to the Delta and American Queens. In December of 2020, the State allocated \$25,000 for planning and design of Liberty Landing.

In February of this year Council approved a license agreement with the private owner of the Showboat Majestic. The Majestic is basically a barge outfitted with the last theatre of its kind within that barge. It is not just recognized as historic; it IS a NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK.

All Village expenditures to date have been put towards bringing needed infrastructure for the future needs of Liberty Landing Park. The current and future licensee's and or transient excursion boats will be afforded access to that infrastructure at their expense.

- River View Bluffs – The Council's Public Hearing of the PUD Application and Preliminary Development Plan was concluded. Ordinance 2021-14 is being presented tonight for first reading. Council has the option of voting on the ordinance tonight, by waiving the 3-reading rule or at the August 10th Council meeting, to meet the 15 day between public hearing and vote as in the village Zoning regulations.

Held July 27, 2021 20

- Taco Bell – Most are aware by now that the new/old Frisch's building is gone. Architecture and engineering representatives for Taco Bell have been in communication with the Village and County securing permits for the construction of a new Taco Bell restaurant. (Conceptual drawings of the proposed restaurant were attached to his report)
- Bandstand – Thank you to Renaissance New Richmond (RNR) and Ed Horgan for the repairs of the cupola. The repairs were paid out of RNR's funds. The cost was just under \$900.

Councilman Prues

- People need to come to the appropriate person who can answer their questions rather than rely on Facebook for information.
- The stormwater drainpipe at Front Street needed replacing for several years. Fixing it afforded the opportunity to put needed infrastructure to the future Liberty Landing Park.

Police Chief Mike Couch

- Chief read his response to the public and to the recent comments made on the Friends of New Richmond Facebook page:

"It would not be prudent, responsible, or safe for the Chief of Police to discuss internal operational components of the New Richmond Police Department on a public website or forum.

I can say however, that due to the departure of a seasoned and experienced night shift officer, I made the administrative decision to move Officer Frasure to night shift where his experience, knowledge and community-oriented policing skills are most needed.

This was my decision and was made in the best interest of community safety! We MUST have an experienced officer on duty throughout the overnight hours.

ALL MEMBERS of the NRPD participate in community-oriented policing initiatives and enjoy interacting with ALL MEMBERS of the village community at all levels!

My staff and I do so daily; my trunk contain toys, cars and dog bones that I personally distribute."

- He was informed of the yellow curbs in front of the United States Postal Service mailboxes in Regatta subdivision. Can the PD enforce the law of people parking too close to Stop signs?

Chief Couch: *30' is the state law for parking too close to the stop signs. Beyond this, unless the Village passes an ordinance he has nothing to enforce.*

- He is still working to fill the open full-time police officer position. The one applicant left is currently employed part-time with the Village.
- He gave statistics for the month-to-date.
- He commented that Jeannie Farrell said she appreciates all the work that was done in trying to find her son, Bobby Farrell. The primary suspect is in jail. It is heart wrenching for anyone to lose a child. A significant amount of technology allowed them to find the missing person.
- He asked if there were any questions from the public and there were none.

Fire/EMS Chief Vince Bee

- Everything at the departments is going well. He thanked everyone for their continued support, it is greatly appreciated.

() Councilwoman Allen stated that during the discussions over pay raises at the last Council meeting a Fire/EMS employee status change was overlooked and she would like to make that motion tonight.*

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

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* Councilwoman Allen motioned to accept at the request of Chief Bee the change of status of Dustin White from a Part-Time employee to a Paid-Per-Call (PPC) employee under the PPC pay schedule; seconded by Councilman Skeene.

Mary Allen Yes

Richard Feldkamp Yes

Becky Ploucha Yes

Larry Prues Yes

Gary Skeene Yes

Melanie Slade Yes

Mayor Glenn Ewing

- Mayor Ewing read the following proclamation in honor of “Cardboard Boat Ray” which will also be read on Saturday, 8/7/2021 before the Cardboard Boat Regatta during River Days:



PROCLAMATION

Whereas Ray Perszyk worked tirelessly as a volunteer to establish the annual Cardboard Boat Regatta as a premier attraction for New Richmond' River Days celebration; and

Whereas Ray Perszyk was a key contributor to establishing and continuing operations of the World's Only Cardboard Boat Museum; and

Whereas Ray Perszyk for all of his efforts proudly carried the name “Cardboard Boat Ray”.

NOW THEREFORE, I Glenn Ewing, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the Village of New Richmond, Ohio, in recognition of Ray Perszyk's dedication to the promotion of the annual Cardboard Boat Regatta do hereby declare Saturday, August 7th, 2021 as “Cardboard Boat Ray Day” in New Richmond in memory of Ray and do hereby encourage citizens and visitors to honor Ray and his family by attending River Days and this year's Cardboard Boat Regatta.

In witness Whereof, I have here unto set my hand and cause the seal of the Village of New Richmond to be affixed this 27th day of July, 2021.

Glenn Ewing, Mayor

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Village of New Richmond Council

Meeting

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

Held July 27, 2021 20

Solicitor, Scott Sollmann

He requested Council go into Executive Session later this meeting.

Clerk of Council, Kathy Fuchs

Nothing to report.

LEGISLATION

First Reading:

(*) ORDINANCE 2021-14 AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE ZONING OF PARCEL# 260923.165 IN THE RIVER VIEW BLUFFS SUBDIVISION FROM R-2 SINGLE FAMILY TO PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (P.U.D.) AND APPROVING A PRELIMINARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN

* Councilwoman Allen motioned to waive the three-reading rule for ORDINANCE 2021-14 AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE ZONING OF PARCEL# 260923.165 IN THE RIVER VIEW BLUFFS SUBDIVISION FROM R-2 SINGLE FAMILY TO PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (P.U.D.) AND APPROVING A PRELIMINARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN; seconded by Councilman Skeene.

Mary Allen Yes Richard Feldkamp Yes Becky Ploucha Yes

Larry Prues Yes Gary Skeene Yes Melanie Slade Yes

** Councilwoman Allen motioned to approve ORDINANCE 2021-14 AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE ZONING OF PARCEL# 260923.165 IN THE RIVERVIEW BLUFFS SUBDIVISION FROM R-2 SINGLE FAMILY TO PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (P.U.D.) AND APPROVING A PRELIMINARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN; seconded by Councilman Prues.

Mary Allen Yes Richard Feldkamp Yes Becky Ploucha Yes

Larry Prues Yes Gary Skeene Yes Melanie Slade Yes

Second Reading: Nothing to read.

Third Reading:

(*) ORDINANCE 2021-11 AN ORDINANCE VACATING PORTIONS OF PAPER STREES OF LIGHT STREET AND COLUMBIA STREET AS SET FORTH IN EXHIBIT "A"

* Councilwoman Allen motioned to approve ORDINANCE 2021-11 AN ORDINANCE VACATING PORTIONS OF PAPER STREES OF LIGHT STREET AND COLUMBIA STREET AS SET FORTH IN EXHIBIT "A"; seconded by Councilman Prues.

Mary Allen Yes Richard Feldkamp Yes Becky Ploucha Yes

Larry Prues Yes Gary Skeene Yes Melanie Slade Yes

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Village of New Richmond Council

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

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20

CALL OF MEMBERS:

Larry Prues – Nothing to report.

Mary Allen – Nothing to report.

Becky Ploucha – Nothing to report.

Gary Skeene – Nothing to report.

Melanie Slade – Nothing to report.

Richard Feldkamp - Nothing to report.

Comments from audience/Visitors wishing to address Council:

Nancy Swats

- asked if there was an ordinance concerning keeping your trash cans in the back yard? The trash cans for the apartments on the corner of Front and Union Streets have been in the front and side yards for the last several weeks, instead of on the pad in the back.

Administrator Roberts will speak to Zoning Administrator Gebhardt.

- Tee Box condominiums?

Councilman Prues – the company was looking for a TIF, which would have used money from the Village, and grant money, to fund the project. The land is now up for sale.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

(*) Law Solicitor Sollmann requested a motion be made for Village Council to go into executive session in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 121.22 (G)(8) to consider confidential information relating to specific business strategy and to discuss negotiations with other political subdivisions respecting requests for economic development assistance.

*** Councilwoman Allen motioned at 7:22pm to go into Executive Session as requested by Law Solicitor Sollmann in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 121.22 (G)(8) to consider confidential information relating to specific Business strategy and to discuss negotiations with other political subdivisions respecting requests for economic development assistance; seconded by Councilman Skeene.**

Mary Allen Yes

Richard Feldkamp Yes

Becky Ploucha Yes

Larry Prues Yes

Gary Skeene Yes

Melanie Slade Yes

*** Councilman Skeene motioned to return from Executive Session at 8:08pm; seconded by Councilman Slade.**

Mary Allen Yes

Richard Feldkamp Yes

Becky Ploucha Yes

Larry Prues Yes

Gary Skeene Yes

Melanie Slade Yes

*** Councilman Feldkamp motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m., seconded by Councilman Prues.**

Mary Allen Yes

Richard Feldkamp Yes

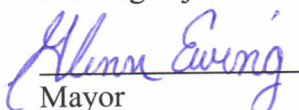
Becky Ploucha Yes

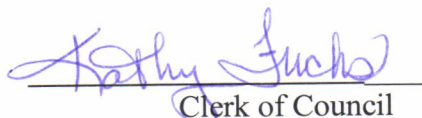
Larry Prues Yes

Gary Skeene Yes

Melanie Slade Yes

Meeting adjourned at 8:10p.m.


Mayor


Clerk of Council

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Village of New Richmond Council - Public Hearing

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VILLAGE OF NEW RICHMOND

PUBLIC HEARING MEETING

River View Bluffs PUD

Mayor Ewing called the Village of New Richmond Council Public Hearing to order on Tuesday, July 27, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Ewing requested Roll Call be taken and the following Council members were present:

Mary Allen yes

Becky Ploucha yes

Richard Feldkamp absent

Larry Prues yes

Gary Skeene yes

Melanie Slade yes

Present in Council Chambers:

Mayor Glenn Ewing

Administration: Village Administrator, Greg Roberts; Clerk of Council, Kathy Fuchs

Department Heads: Fire/EMS Chief Vince Bee

Absent: Police Chief Mike Couch

Guests present in Council Chambers:

Ryan Woodruff, Sophie Woodruff, Dennis Dalton, Tonja Simmons, Tim Bergfeld, Micke Viereggo

Mayor Ewing: The purpose of this hearing is to receive public input on Sunesis Construction's application for rezoning of parcel# 260923.165 in River View Bluffs Subdivision from R-2 SINGLE FAMILY to PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT (P.U.D.) and APPROVING a PRELIMINARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN.

Council has received confirmation at their July 1st, 2021 meeting the New Richmond Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval of the P.U.D. application and Preliminary Development Plan by Sunesis Construction for River View Bluffs with two conditions: 1) any cemetery plot findings will be thoroughly investigated and dealt with in a proper fashion. 2) any future development of Lot 191 would need to be approved by the Planning Commission before moving forward.

Mayor Ewing then invited Ryan Taggert, representative of the developer to start the hearing with an overview of the plan and what is being requested?

Ryan Taggert:

Mr. Taggert explained

- 1) the property is an extension of the current River View Bluffs
- 2) The opening into this section will begin where River Valley Boulevard dead-ends just beyond Compass Court.
- 3) The purpose of the variance is to change from R2/R3 to PUD to allow for smaller lot sizes. There will be 48 homes on 28.7 acres.
- 4) The homes will be single family homes

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Village of New Richmond Council - Public Hearing

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20

- 5) A few minor changes have been made since the original application
- 6) He has been working with the Planning Commission and neighbors concerning a reported cemetery on the property. He personally has walked the property with others and has found no sign of any graves or a cemetery.
- 7) Lot 191 is mainly a hillside. There are no plans on building on this lot. There will be added a deed restriction where any owner of Lot 191 will need to go before the New Richmond Planning Commission before anything can be developed on this lot.

Mayor Ewing opened the public portion, the following are the results of questions and answers.

Councilwoman Ploucha stated 20 years ago she was on the property in question and saw a cemetery with headstones and a possible fence. She inquired as to the remedy if a cemetery would be found.

Mr. Taggart – It depends on the location of the find. If the location is on a building lot the lot will be deemed unbuildable and will be protected as a cemetery. If the location is in a planned roadway he would look into relocation efforts.

James Klug – Asked if there would be any multi-family homes.

Mr. Taggart – There will not be any multi-family homes or attached units.

James Klug – Asked why the zone change was needed.

Mr. Taggart – The lots are smaller than the Village's R2/R3 Zoning allows.

Chris Miller – Asked how much land there would be between Compass Court and the new development.

Mr. Taggart – For the building lots he will clear the building pad. There will be trees between the old and the new lots.

Stacy Dunsmore – Asked when construction is expected to begin.

Mr. Taggart – The plan is to start this fall or spring with the utilities in the winter and asphalt in the spring. Worst case scenario would be April/May. It depends on the weather and how soon the permits are received.

Chris Miller – Asked who would clean the streets during construction.

Mr. Taggart – There will be a street sweeper there at all times and can be used every day during construction if needed.

Councilwoman Ploucha – Asked if the twelve acres (Lot 191) attached to 12 Mile Creek, could be attached to the creek bottom and the ten acres on the other side.

Mr. Taggart – There are no plans to develop that area. He has spoken to several groups such as Clermont County Park District and not-for-profit conservation groups but so far there appears to be no interest. There is another area off Compass Court that might be considered in the future.

There being no additional questions or comments, Mayor Ewing requested a motion to close the Public Hearing.

Councilwoman Allen motioned to close the hearing at 6:15pm; seconded by Councilman Prues.

Mrs. Slade: yes

Mr. Prues: yes

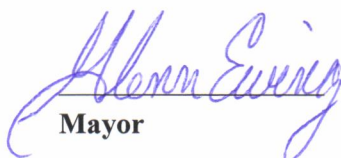
Ms. Ploucha: yes

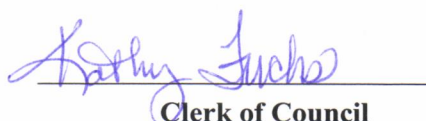
Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes

Meeting adjourned at 6:15pm.


Mayor


Clerk of Council