

June 14, 2022

COUNCIL MEETING

New Richmond Village Council met in Council Chambers, 2nd floor at 102 Willow Street, New Richmond Ohio, in regular session on Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

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

Mayor Ewing asked for Roll Call of all Councilmembers with the following members responding:

Mary Allen Yes Larry Prues Yes Dennis Dalton Yes
Richard Feldkamp Yes Jon Tharpe Yes Ryan Woodruff Yes

Present in Council Chambers:

Mayor Glenn Ewing

Administration: Administrator Greg Roberts, Clerk of Council Kelley Snider

Department Heads: Fire/EMS Chief Tim Feldkamp, Police Chief Mike Couch

Additional personnel:, Police Sergeant Jason Mallott, Solicitor Scott Sollmann

Guests present in Council Chambers (* Residents): Louie Schafer, Property Owner, Diane Schafer, Fiscal Officer, Sophie Woodruff, Resident, Kurtis Boggs, Resident, Tim Nelson, Fire Department, Lance Sizemore, Resident and Business Owner, Robert Lees, Resident, Betsy Mitchell Price, Resident, Donna Prues, Resident, Sandy Fassler (married name) Resident, David Peters, Resident, Gary Skeene, Resident, Andy Moran, Resident, Jay Lawrence, Resident.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Ewing requested a motion be made for Village Council go into executive session in accordance with ORC 121.22(G)(1), to consider the employment and compensation of a public employee.

Councilwoman Allen motioned to go into Executive Session at 7:02 p.m. for the purpose as set forth by Mayor Ewing; seconded by Councilman Dalton. Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mary Allen Yes Larry Prues Yes Dennis Dalton Yes
Richard Feldkamp Yes Jon Tharpe Yes Ryan Woodruff Yes

Councilperson Dalton motioned to return to Regular Session at 7:59-p.m.; seconded by Councilperson Woodruff. Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mary Allen Yes Larry Prues Yes Dennis Dalton Yes
Richard Feldkamp Yes Jon Tharpe Yes Ryan Woodruff Yes

COMMUNICATIONS

Caroline Duffey with 143 Engineers was present to answer any questions about the roundabouts. She discussed the safety concerns, facts and explained that this comes from a Gas Tax. There will be a public meeting in the fall and will be a presentation available. Questions were asked about crosswalks, sidewalks, how this is being funded, how villagers think these are not needed, can we have more police presence on 52 and write more tickets, which 4 intersections will be chosen for the roundabouts and information about the \$97K. This was not a Public Announcement, simply a question and answer session. More to follow as we get closer with statistics.

Mayor Ewing requested a motion be made by Village Council for the immediate removal, without cause, of Greg Roberts as Village Administrator with his consent as Mayor.

Councilperson Dalton motioned as requested by Mayor Ewing; seconded by Councilperson Woodruff

Discussion- Councilperson Allen noted that she was against the removal of Greg Roberts as Village Administrator.

Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mary Allen No Larry Prues Abstain Dennis Dalton Yes
Richard Feldkamp Yes Jon Tharpe Yes Ryan Woodruff Yes

Gary Skeene spoke up about hiring Jason Mallott as Police Chief.

Robert Lees spoke about all the good that is going on in the village. The Dog Park, with all the donations and grants has met their dollar amount. On Saturday at 4pm, will be a Proclamation at Plum Street Park for Rubin Willis and then at 6pm will be a Ralph Shepherd Concert, "Jumpin Jive Band" from 6a-8p.

Lance Sizemore asked if the Council had received his bid for the New Richmond Ball Fields.

MINUTES

Minutes of the May 24, 2022 Regular Council meeting were presented for approval.

Councilperson Prues motioned to approve Minutes of the May 24, 2022 Regular Council meeting; seconded by Councilperson Dalton Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mary Allen Yes Larry Prues Yes Dennis Dalton Yes Yes
Richard Feldkamp Yes Jon Tharpe Yes Ryan Woodruff Yes

***The Committee has reviewed all checks and electronic payments for the month of May.**

(*) Motion: Motion to pay the bills. Motion by Councilperson Dalton, Second by Councilperson Allen. Roll call vote was as follows:

Mary Allen <u>Yes</u>	Larry Prues <u>Yes</u>	Dennis Dalton <u>Yes</u>
Richard Feldkamp <u>Yes</u>	Jon Tharpe <u>Yes</u>	Ryan Woodruff <u>Yes</u>

Village Administration – Greg Roberts

Greg stated Caroline Duffy, consulting engineer on the US 52 Project would be presenting an overview of that project during the Safety, Laws and Rules Committee. Kudos to Village Administrator Greg Roberts for his work on this project up to this point.

Fire/EMS Department – Fire/EMS Chief Tim Feldkamp

Gave copy of his report.

Chief Feldkamp stated there was a planned system update to the safety radios during next July. He said we had 10 portable ones at a cost of \$5,500 and 5 mobile ones at a cost of \$6,700. He mentioned it now, in case he'd need to put an extra \$12,000 or so in his budget. There has been discussion with the County Communications Director that said they're not sure they're aligned to this change because it will affect a significant number of radios and they're not sure of the benefit vs. the cost.

Chief Feldkamp had several personnel changes. He wants to reclassify Austin Tiller (***) and Tim Nelson (***) and he wants to accept the resignation of Wayne Tarvin. (****)

() Motion: Motion to reclassify Austin Tiller from paid per call to part time as a pay rate of \$14.10 per hour, starting June 17, 2022. He will serve a one-year probation and pay into Social Security. Second by Councilperson Dalton**

Mary Allen <u>Yes</u>	Larry Prues <u>Yes</u>	Dennis Dalton <u>Yes</u>
Richard Feldkamp <u>Yes</u>	Jon Tharpe <u>Yes</u>	Ryan Woodruff <u>Yes</u>

(*) Motion: Motion to reclassify Tim Nelson from volunteer to paid per call at \$20.00 per run, starting June 17, 2022. He will serve a 6-month probation. Second by Councilperson Woodruff**

Mary Allen <u>Yes</u>	Larry Prues <u>Yes</u>	Dennis Dalton <u>Yes</u>
Richard Feldkamp <u>Yes</u>	Jon Tharpe <u>Yes</u>	Ryan Woodruff <u>Yes</u>

(**) Motion: Motion to accept the resignation of Wayne Tarvin effective July 5, 2022. He is leaving in good standing. Second by Councilperson Dalton.**

Mary Allen <u>Yes</u>	Larry Prues <u>Yes</u>	Dennis Dalton <u>Yes</u>
Richard Feldkamp <u>Yes</u>	Jon Tharpe <u>Yes</u>	Ryan Woodruff <u>Yes</u>

COMMITTEE REPORTS (Provided below is a synopsis for each report; to obtain a full copy please visit the Administrative office.):

Greg Roberts presented in his former capacity as Village Administrator:

Adopt A Park:

The following Parks have been adopted:

Susanna Bandstand, Rich Jetter, Restore an Old Friend Reupholstery

Haussermann Park, Steve Light, Gentrane LLC

Augusta Boat Ramp Launch and the Promenade, Donnie Hill, Hilz Landscape

Rose Vesper Park, Brandon Shaner, Green Stripes

Concert Jump and Jive Band: This Saturday at this Saturdays, someone will need to go down and unlock back of stage and set up and tear down chairs.

HB 340: September is now International Underground Railroad Month in Ohio. The bipartisan bill co-sponsored by our state Representative Adam Brid was signed into law this morning by Governor DeWine. The Bill passed unanimously in both the House and Senate.

Police Chief Mike Couch: Expressed his concern about not being in the loop of hiring a new Police Chief and it should be a given that it should go to Sargent Jason Mallott. Gave his report.

Fire/EMS Chief Tim Feldkamp: Introduced Austin Tiller.

Items voted on at the June 13 2022 Council meeting, as requested during the Personnel & Finance Committee report:

Personnel & Finance Committee Report from the meeting held Monday, June 13, 2022 as reported by Councilwoman/Vice Mayor/Committee Chair Allen

Finance/Budget - Fiscal Officer Diane Schaefer

- (*) The Personnel & Finance Committee reviewed all checks and electronic payments for the month of June 2022; we need a motion to pay these bills.*

Discussion Topics:

There were discussions in the normal four broad areas: Finance, Village Administration, Police Department, and the Fire & EMS Department and a high-level discussion about the candidates for the Clerk of Council position and the Fiscal Officer position.

Finance Committee – Diane Schafer, Fiscal Officer

Diane reported we have \$83,000 remaining of the American Rescue Funds Account. Mary suggested she touch base with Lynn Baird to understand specifically what that fund can be used for.

Mary reviewed meeting minutes from 2021 with Lynn's comments and initially we were advised those funds could generally be used for:

- Response to public health emergency
- Essential employee premium
- Revenue loss
- Investments in water, sewer, or broadband

Diane stated that there would be no change in our group term life rates for this year

Police Department – Police Chief Mike Couch

Gave a copy of his report.

Chief Couch stated in financial fairness, he'd like to give Jan Reynolds an increase because of the salaries we're paying others. Mary acknowledged others may be being paid more, but we need to look at the job descriptions for the positions and the number of years the other employees have been in those position. She said we'd need to review and discuss further.

Chief Couch then said the department continues to work on their accreditation. He also stated that the trial is coming up for the 2nd person in the Bob Farrell murder case.

Miscellaneous Discussion:

- Councilman Dalton has been working on calculations for a water and sewer increase to cover the sewer fund's financial obligations. He shared his thoughts on the amounts of the increases for sewer, water, and trash. His ideas were discussed, and he'll continue to refine and then present his ideas to the committee and then to full council.
Councilperson Dalton motion to raise the rates for water to 0.0285 (not 0.0298) and sewer to 0.0557 (not 0.0558). Effective next billing cycle. Second by Councilperson Allen
- Councilman Dalton continues to work on funding improvements for the Police Department.
- Councilman Dalton asked about timing for demolition funds and Village Administrator Greg Roberts said about 6 weeks.
- There was a brief discussion about the \$300,000 State Capital Budget award the Village received for Liberty Landing. Kudos to Village Administrator, Greg Roberts, for his tenacity and work on this project and various grant requests.

Comments from Guests: There were no comments from the guests.

- Councilman Feldkamp mentioned we should consider outsourcing our water. Village Administrator, Greg Roberts, stated that our former Village Administrator, David Kennedy, had negotiated a backup agreement with both the County and Tate Monroe. We could easily have Tate Monroe provide our water if we wanted to.
- Ken Shearwood had a few brief comments about the I&I assessment and that it refers to the US EPA.

Safety, Laws & Rules Committee Report from the meeting held Monday, June 13, 2022 as reported by Councilman/Committee Chair Woodruff

POLICE: Chief Couch gave a verbal and written report for calls for service for the police department. Chief mentioned that the NR Pride Event held over the weekend was a very safe event with no issues. Chairman Woodruff thanked the Chief and Sgt. for putting together a good Incident Action Plan for the event and thinking ahead on potential safety risks. Chief Couch gave an update on the departments Accreditation process and hoped to have more information for its completion within a week. Officers are continuing to work towards their annual EOPATA training requirements with a few officers nearing completion. Chief stated that new Patrol Officer Chris Warner is on a regular shift rotation serving the 6pm to 6am shift times.

FIRE/EMS: Chief Feldkamp gave a written and verbal report for calls of service. The Chief expressed that his first few days on the job were very interesting as the department handled a severe motor vehicle accident where a patient was air lifted and structure fire within our Front Street business district. The Chief noted that all runs went smooth and thanked his crew for their excellent responses. The Chief also commented on how nice the beautification projects around the fire house looked and wanted to thank the NR Garden Club members for all of their hard work.

NEW BUSINESS

1. US 52 Pothole Issues: It was brought to the attention of a few members of council that there are serious hazards by way of pot holes on US 52 inside the New Richmond Village limits. A discussion took place as to who bears responsibility for the maintenance of the highway. Kurtis Boggs (Guest) made reference to ODOT's responsibilities. He felt the village was responsible for the maintenance of the road surface. Members of the committee and the audience discussed this for a few moments. Chairman Woodruff requested that in the interest of public safety we should fill the potholes with cold patch material and iron out the details of who is financially responsible. The recommendation was made to have the village road department coordinate the repairs with the Police or Fire/EMS Departments so they can assist in providing traffic safety services.
2. Additional Pedestrian Signage along Front Street was discussed to assist in the slowing of traffic. Administrator Roberts stated we could order these.
3. Chris Shack from Shack's Yaks reached out to Councilman Woodruff a few weeks ago regarding the non-motorized boat ramp (the former ferry landing). He requested that the village assist in keeping the right of way open for his customers and staff to utilize the ramp. He noted that adjoining businesses were using the space for parking. He requested some signage and to ask the Police Department to help in making sure the ramp is accessible. This item was previously discussed in open council but to date there has been no help in the request offered.
4. Chairman Woodruff again brought up the parking issues along Front Street as it pertains to illegally parked vehicles. He has received numerous complaints regarding this activity and requested that Police Department find a positive solution that will work for them, business interests and public safety.
5. NREVSD Transportation Director Luke Cox reached out several weeks ago in regards to one of the flashing SCHOOL ZONE 20MPH signs being partially obstructed by trees. He also mentioned the tree at Union Station that had previously been trimmed has grown back out again and may need attention again. These items were forwarded to Administrator Roberts to pass along to the road crew.
6. Councilman Tharpe brought up speeding issues along Bethel New Richmond Road. He stated the recent police enforcement had helped but has since gotten worse. It was also noted during this discussion that Bethel New Richmond Road is in need of line striping and possibly the placement adjustment of our village limit and speed limit signs for inbound traffic.
7. Caroline Duffy with 143 Engineers was envied by Administrator Roberts to give a presentation on the US 52 Complete Streets Project. The remainder of the meeting was yielded to her for discussion and all other items were tabled to the next meeting. It was noted at the conclusion of her presentation that she should come back to the council meeting to present again to give the public more opportunities to learn about the project. It was also requested to obtain a copy of the presentation that we could post to our village website for public viewing.

Public Works/Parks/Recreation Committee Report from the meeting held Monday, June 14, 2022 as reported by Councilman/Committee Chair Tharpe

Comments made at the June 14, 2022 Council meeting after the Public Works/Parks/Recreation Committee report:

LEGISLATION read by Mayor Ewing

First Reading: RESOLUTION 2022-08 (LGF Emergency) RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADOPTION OF AN ALTERNATIVE METHOD OF APPORTIONMENT OF THE UNDIVIDED LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNF (LGF) FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2023 PER THE OHIO REVISED CODE SECTION 5747.53.

Motion by Councilperson Allen to waive three-reading rule; Second by Councilperson Dalton. Roll call vote was as follows:

Mary Allen <u>Yes</u>	Larry Prues <u>Yes</u>	Dennis Dalton <u>Yes</u>
Richard Feldkamp <u>Yes</u>	Jon Tharpe <u>Yes</u>	Ryan Woodruff <u>Yes</u>

RESOLUTION 2022-09 - (Emergency) A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FISCAL OFFICER TO TRANSFER MONEY FROM THE SEWER AND WATER FUNDS TO THE FOLLOWING FUNDS FOR DEBT SERVICE, REPEALING ALL CONFLICTING RESOLUTIONS, Emergency:

Motion by Councilperson Woodruff to waive three-reading rule; Second by Councilperson Tharpe. Roll call vote was as follows:

Mary Allen <u>Yes</u>	Larry Prues <u>Yes</u>	Dennis Dalton <u>Yes</u>
Richard Feldkamp <u>Yes</u>	Jon Tharpe <u>Yes</u>	Ryan Woodruff <u>Yes</u>

RESOLUTION 2022-10 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE VILLAGE OF NEW RICHMOND, TO APPLY FOR AND ENTER INTO A LOAN AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO STATE INFRASTRUCTURE BANK, By emergency, **Motion by Councilperson Tharpe to waive three-reading rule; Second by Councilperson Prues. Roll call vote was as follows:**

Mary Allen <u>Yes</u>	Larry Prues <u>Yes</u>	Dennis Dalton <u>Yes</u>
Richard Feldkamp <u>Yes</u>	Jon Tharpe <u>Yes</u>	Ryan Woodruff <u>Yes</u>

Second Reading: ORDINANCE 2022- 06 RIVERVIEW BLUFF, ORDINANCE DECLARING TO BE PUBLIC PURPOSE CERTAIN PUBLIC IMPROVMENTS WHICH ARE NECESSARY FOR THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF CERTAIN PARCELS WITHIN THE VILLAGE AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A TAX INCENTIVE AGREEMENT AND ESTABLISHING A TAX INCREMENT EQUIVALENT FUND.

Third Reading: None.

CALL OF MEMBERS:

Larry Prues – Nothing to report
Ryan Woodruff – Update of water by Dobbins
Richard Feldkamp – Nothing to report

Jon Tharpe -

Mary Allen – Thanked Greg Roberts for his years of service to the village

Dennis Dalton – Speeding issues on Bethel New Richmond is a problem - lack of officers. Maybe make it a double fine. Will look into getting signage for BNR, Front Street and discuss fines.

Comments from audience/Visitors wishing to address Council:

Lance Sizemore: Talked about his bid. Councilperson Allen said his bid is too low. There was another offer but it was not shared with Council yet. We want what is best for the Village.

Tonya Humphries asked if we could come up with a price and a plan and a time frame. In regard to Majestic, get a copy of his riverfront license, it also may be painted in 0 days. Rumors that it is for sale.

Councilperson Allen motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilperson Feldkamp. Upon roll call the vote was as follows:

Mary Allen Yes

Larry Prues Yes

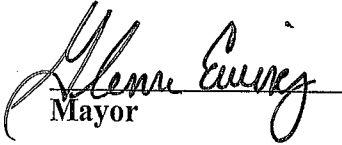
Dennis Dalton Yes

Richard Feldkamp Yes

Jon Tharpe Yes

Ryan Woodruff Yes

Meeting adjourned at **9:40** p.m.


Mayor


Clerk of Council