

**October 23, 2018**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

New Richmond Village Council met in Council Chambers in regular session on Tuesday, October 23, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

**Present:** Council Members: Gary Skeene, Richard Feldkamp, Melanie Slade, Amanda Davidson, Mary Allen and Paul Vanderbosch. Administration: Mayor Carr; Greg Roberts, Village Administrator; Vince Bee, Fire/EMS Chief; Mike Couch, Interim Police Chief; Theresa Leigh, Clerk of Council

**Also attending:**

Mindy Horgan – 1437 Maple Ridge Dr  
David Vornholt - 310 Susanna Way  
Donna Hammonds – PO Box 2  
Theresa Daniels – 404 Susanna Way

Mayor Carr opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Motion to approve Minutes of October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018 presented.** Paul Vanderbosch motioned to approve; Seconded by Mary Allen.

Mrs. Slade: yes  
Mr. Feldkamp: yes  
Mr. Skeene: yes

Mrs. Davidson: abstain  
Ms. Allen: yes  
Mr. Vanderbosch: yes

**Visitors**

***Mindy Horgan, Resident:*** The Greater Cincinnati Literacy Council provided New Richmond with a Little Free Library book kiosk.

The Little Free Library aims to inspire a love of reading, build community, and spark creativity by fostering neighborhood book exchanges around the world.

We're fortunate to have the New Richmond Public Library on old U.S. Rt. 52. With a kiosk in the Village itself, we would have one more great resource for our children.

Mindy would like to set up the Little Free Library book kiosk on the lawn of the Light - Ashburn Memorial Building. She is happy to assume the role of steward for the kiosk; maintaining and providing books for all ages.

**Motion to place a Little Free Library kiosk on the lawn of the Light-Ashburn Memorial Building presented for approval.** Paul Vanderbosch motioned to approve, Seconded by Gary Skeene.

Mrs. Slade: yes  
Mr. Feldkamp: yes  
Mr. Skeene: yes

Mrs. Davidson: yes  
Ms. Allen: yes  
Mr. Vanderbosch: yes

**Comments:**

A big thanks to Mindy for spearheading this initiative!

## Village Administrators Report

### *Greg Roberts, Village Administrator:*

- Clermont County Park District Grant: The Village has been awarded a 2018 Clermont County Park District Community Parks Improvement grant in the amount of \$5014.00 towards construction of a new gazebo at Union Square Playground Park across from Dee's.
- Riverfront Mowing: High water and muddy conditions have prevented access with the proper equipment to the riverbank. The plan is to knock the weeds down as soon as it is dry enough and safe for equipment.
- Salt: The price of salt for the coming season has increased by 31% from \$58.17/ton to \$75.92/ton. The Village currently has a good stockpile and is ready for the first snow.
- Cameras on U.S. 52 Intersections: A private company has temporarily installed cameras on U.S. 52 to collect traffic data at the four intersections of: U.S. 52 and Front Street, Sycamore Street/St. Rt. 132, Augusta Street/Bethel-NR and Adamson Road respectively. The work will be completed, and cameras removed, tomorrow (10/24/2018). This traffic data was collected for a safety grant study but can also be used for future grant applications covering Village needs such as road paving.

## Committee Reports

### Personnel & Finance Committee:

#### *Paul Vanderbosch, (Committee Chairperson):*

We invited Jennifer Hartley and Chris Mehlman from the Clermont County Auditor's Office to the meeting to help the Committee better understand the complex topic of how real estate taxes are assessed in Ohio and Clermont County (note: the presentation reflected their current understanding of how real estate taxes are assessed.) Copies of the presentation slides were sent to the members not at the Committee meeting: Amanda, Melanie and Dick.

Basics of real estate taxes:

- The County Auditor's office is responsible for determining the fair market value of real estate property
- The County Treasurer's Office is responsible for collecting real estate taxes, including delinquent real estate taxes.

Basics of a Continuing tax levy:

- A Continuing levy is a permanent levy; it will always be collected (unless it has a "sunset" date: a 10-year levy, for example, will expire at the end of 10 years.)
- The tax rate established by the levy is referred to as the "full" rate.
- **A property owner will never pay more than the "full" rate voted into law.**
- **If the value of a property increases, the "full" rate a property owner pays is reduced to what is called an "effective" rate to maintain that original tax dollar amount voted into law by the levy.**
- Real estate taxes on new construction for these levies are charged based on the "effective" rate.

- Because additional tax revenue from Continuing levies cannot be increased, a new levy is the only alternative to increase revenue through real estate taxes.

How this affects our Village:

New Richmond has six (6) Continuing levies:

- 1986 General Operating
- 1986/1989 Ambulance/EMS and Fire/EMS
- 1993 Police

**The effective rate of these Continuing levies is now only 62% of the original levy amounts.** The reductions over the years reduced the full rates as follows:

Fund receiving Levy	Full Rate	Effective Rate
General Operating	2.00	n/a
Police	7.00	4.49
Fire	1.50	0.56
Fire & EMS	1.00	0.86
Ambulance & EMS (2)	7.00	4.46
Total	18.50	10.37

**Greg Roberts, Administrator:**

- The Village received notice that it is eligible to obtain forfeited property in the Village. A motion is needed to apply for the forfeited property at 317 Main St. New Richmond Ohio 45157. Once the Village owns the parcel, we can sell it or take any other actions. Our Solicitor, Scott Sollmann will discuss this in further detail later in the Council meeting.
- Captain's Cove is moving its boat sales and repair business to the Armstrong Marine location in New Richmond. Captain's Cove is not a marina.

**Lynn Baird, Fiscal Officer:**

- Bills 471-2018 through 614-2018 and warrants 36178 through 36198 were approved for payment at the October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018 meeting:

January	\$307,969.	May	\$236,551.	September	\$183,999.
February	\$208,696.	June	\$198,743.	October	
March	\$260,953.	July	\$250,174.	November	
April	\$242,802.	August	\$192,254.	December	
2018 Total					\$2,082,087.

- Southern Chamber Alliance Plan to begin November 1.
- Anthem Dental Plan saves the Village \$170. per month.
- An appropriation change will be needed for the \$10,200 Body Armor grant
- We need to request an advance of taxes for 2019 (\* we had the First Reading on 10/23/2018: **RESOLUTION 2018-15: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF A REQUEST FOR ADVANCE OF 2017 FIRST AND SECOND HALF TAXES TO THE CLERMONT COUNTY AUDITOR**)
- Work on the temporary appropriations for 2019 begins in November. Permanent appropriations do not have to be final until March 31, 2019.

***Mike Couch, Interim Police Chief:***

- Interim Chief Couch discussed the restructuring of the New Richmond Police Department by eliminating the supervisory position of Corporal. Chief Couch stated it would streamline the department's supervisory structure as well as promote efficiency and enhance stability and communications. Chief Couch stated that right now there is no justifiable rationale to have three (3) supervisors to oversee three (3) full-time officers. He stated that the cost to fill the hours of the former Corporal position with a regular full-time patrolman will be reduced by approximately 5%.
- Interim Chief Couch stated that he understood that one of the main purposes for the existence of the Corporal position was to serve as the primary investigator for the Department. Chief Couch stated that for at least the last six months, the current Corporal has not served as the lead/primary investigator on any case of which he (Chief Couch) is aware. Chief Couch stated that during that time all full-time officers have taken the initiative to investigate their own respective offense reports which has led to a significant and successful closure rate by arrest. These investigations have included felonious assaults, felony trafficking in narcotics (e.g. heroin, fentanyl, and crystal meth), the execution of multiple search warrants, grand theft auto, assaults, rapes, death investigations and numerous misdemeanor offenses. The Corporal has not been needed or used in the large majority of offense reports investigation over the past 6 months. Thus, the aforementioned further supports the rationale to eliminate the Corporal position for the New Richmond Police Department.
- The camera system in Village Hall is now in operation with 16 cameras. Each camera has voice capability but only the one located in the holding cell has the audio turned on.
- The \$10,200.00 grant for vests enables the Department to equip all full – and part-time officers, auxiliary officers and the two canines with vests.
- We need to establish a (or add to an existing) fee ordinance inspection fees for golf carts. Suggested a \$25 fee for full-time New Richmond residents and \$50 for non-residents and less than full-time residents.
- Chief Couch also suggests increasing the parking ticket fee to \$25
- Ralph Trost has resigned as an auxiliary police officer effective October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018.

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

- The Public Safety Day on October 20<sup>th</sup> went very well. We received a lot of positive feedback from those who attended.
- Firefighter Jim Beman has been deployed for a year with the military overseas. We wish him well and safety while serving our country.
- FF/Paramedic Sara Mitchell has returned from her year deployment overseas. We happily welcome her back to her family and the Department.
- Joint Police/Fire-EMS training is being scheduled.
- New SCBA's have been received and placed in-service. Assistant Chief Feldkamp and Captain Abercrombie have conducted training with personnel.
- EMS/Fire Details:
  - September EMS Details – 73
  - Year-to-Date EMS Details – 537
  - September Fire Details – 16
  - Year-to-Date Fire Details – 131

- Year-to-Date Combined - 668
- Requests the reclassification of Dustin White from paid-per-call FF/EMT to part-time FF/EMT at a rate of pay of \$12.60 hourly; effective October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Mr. White will serve a six (6) month probation per village policy and procedures.

**Motion to (1) accept the resignation of Ralph Trost effective October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 AND (2) reclassify Dustin White as a part-time FF/EMT with a new pay rate of \$12.60 hourly; effective October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018.** Mr. Vanderbosch made the motion; Seconded by Mr. Skeene.

Mrs. Slade: yes  
Mr. Feldkamp: yes  
Mr. Skeene: yes

Mrs. Davidson: yes  
Ms. Allen: yes  
Mr. Vanderbosch: yes

### **Safety, Laws & Rules Committee**

***Richard Feldkamp (Committee Chairperson):***

- The Safety, Laws & Rules Committee meeting was held on October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 3:20. Present: Committee Members: Gary Skeene, Paul Vanderbosch, Richard Feldkamp, Andrew Gephardt. Administration: Greg Roberts, Sgt. Jason Malott

***Greg Roberts, Administrator:***

- We are encountering a problem with getting the speed camera signage up. Next steps: Permits are being worked on.

***Mike Couch, Interim Police Chief:***

- We've seen an increase in speeding recently. Having radar speed indicator signage that calculates speeds would help ease the speeding issue. Next steps: Will start looking into pricing of radar speed indicators.

### **Public Works Committee**

***Amanda Davidson (Committee Chairperson):***

- The Public Works Committee met on October 23, 2018. Nothing to report.

### **Economic Development Committee**

***Mary Allen (Committee Chairperson):***

- The Economic Development Committee met on Tuesday, October 23, 2018 at 5:30p.m. and adjourned at 6:10p.m. Present: Committee Members: Mary Allen, Melanie Slade Staff: David Vornholt (NROBA), Betsy Mitchell (resident) Absent: Gary Skeene, Misty Troutt (NROBA), Mayor Carr, Michael Findlan (Planning Commission Chair), and Bob Lees (NROBA)
  - Mayor Carr usually can't attend the meetings due to meeting start time but attends when she can.
  - Misty has new responsibilities at work and will not be able to regularly participate in the meetings.
  - Bob has been ill and will be unavailable for a little longer.
- Updated the "Leave Behind" document. Next steps: Contact printer this week to have document printed and available for use when calling on perspective businesses.

- The OEDA (Ohio Economic Development Association) annual summit held in Columbus Oct. 15-16, 2018, was a very good learning and networking opportunity. Next steps: Provide a trip report outlining highlights for Council and the Economic Development Committee along with ideas that could be added to the 2018/2019 Action Plan.

***David Vornholt (NROBA):***

- Update was given on NROBA activities, with primary discussion on the River Village Christmas Event to be held Dec 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 2:00p.m. to 8:00p.m.

***Melanie Slade (Council Member):***

- Andrew and I updated the available Commercial Property List.

***Betsy Mitchell (Resident):***

- Shared ideas for changes to the Village website with discussion about using existing information recently compiled vs. starting from scratch.

**Solicitor, Scott Sollmann:**

New Richmond Village received notice that it is eligible to obtain forfeited property at 317 Main St. New Richmond, Ohio 45157. The property is available by petitioning Clermont County Court of Common Pleas.

**Motion to petition for receipt of property at 317 Main St. New Richmond, Ohio 45157 through forfeiture was presented.** Mr. Vanderbosch made the motion to approve; Seconded by Ms. Allen

Mrs. Slade: yes  
Mr. Feldkamp: yes  
Mr. Skeene: yes

Mrs. Davidson: yes  
Ms. Allen: yes  
Mr. Vanderbosch: yes

**Update:** On October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018, our Solicitor, Scott Sollmann, petitioned Clermont County Court of Common Pleas for the Village of New Richmond to receive the property at 317 Main St. New Richmond, Ohio 45157 through forfeiture.

**Mayor, Ramona Carr:** Nothing

**Clerk of Council, Theresa Leigh:** Nothing

**LEGISLATION**

**First Reading:**

- **RESOLUTION 2018-15:** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF A REQUEST FOR ADVANCE OF 2017 FIRST AND SECOND HALF TAXES TO THE CLERMONT COUNTY AUDITOR
- **ORDINANCE 2018-18:** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ELIMINATION OF CORPORAL POSITION WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF NEW RICHMOND POLICE DEPARTMENT

**\*Mr. Vanderbosch requested that the Clerk of Council, Theresa Leigh, read the entirety of ORDINANCE 2018-18 for the First Reading. Clerk of Council, Theresa Leigh, then read ORDINANCE 2018-18 in its entirety to the public.**

**Second Reading:**

**Third Reading:**

- **ORDINANCE 2018-17: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2018 APPROPRIATIONS**

**Motion to approve ORDINANCE 2018-17.** Mr. Skeene motioned to approve; Seconded by Mr. Vanderbosch.

Mrs. Slade: yes  
Mr. Feldkamp: yes  
Mr. Skeene: yes

Mrs. Davidson: yes  
Ms. Allen: yes  
Mr. Vanderbosch: yes

**CALL OF MEMBERS:**

**Vanderbosch** – Are discussions via email considered ‘meetings’ per se?

**Allen** – Nothing to report

**Skeene** – Nothing to report

**Feldkamp** - Nothing to report

**Slade** - Nothing to report

**Davidson** – Are there any plans to fix the potholes in the River Hills parking lot?  
Next steps: Greg Roberts will look into this.

**Visitors:** Nothing

**Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:22p.m.** Mary Allen motioned to adjourn; Seconded by Gary Skeene.

Mrs. Slade: yes  
Mr. Feldkamp: yes  
Mr. Skeene: yes

Mrs. Davidson: yes  
Ms. Allen: yes  
Mr. Vanderbosch: yes

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM.

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**Mayor**

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**Clerk of Council**