

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of VILLAGE OF CLEVES Council Meeting Held on June 14, 2023

Mayor Stephen Myers began the Council Meeting at 7:00 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call was taken. Ms. Boyce, Ms. Meister, Mrs. Myers, and Mr. Burns were present. Mr. Hume and Mr. Williams were absent. Village Administrator Rahall and Solicitor Nicholas were also present.

Motion to Approve Previous Council Meeting Minutes from May 10, 2023, was made by Mrs. Myers; seconded by Ms. Boyce. **ALL IN FAVOR**

A Motion to excuse Mr. Williams, absence was made by Mrs. Myers; seconded by Ms. Boyce. **ALL IN FAVOR**

A Motion to excuse Mr. Hume's absence was made by Mrs. Myers; seconded by Mr. Burns. **ALL IN FAVOR**

A Motion to Adopt of Pay Ordinance # 6-2023 was made by Mrs. Myers; seconded Ms. Boyce. **ALL IN FAVOR**

Hamilton County Library – Mrs. Carrie Bernard

Mayor Myers asked Mrs. Bernard if she would like to share anything upcoming at the Library.

Mrs. Bernard provided an update on summer programming at the Library. She said they were two weeks into the Discover Summer Program which is open to anyone 18 years of age and under. There is no cost to anyone who participates and there are prizes available to those who attend. Mrs. Bernard will provide Mayor Myers with links to the summer programs to be placed on the Village website.

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Kyle Smith, 320 Skidmore Ave., stated that, with the help of John Tisch, a business owners meeting was planned for June 29, 2023. He said the goal of the group will be to promote business growth in the Village and cooperation between business owners. He said Mr. Tisch is allowing the use of the Gazebo Property on South Miami for Farmers Market events. Mr. Burns said he thought the Gazebo property would be an excellent location for a Gaga Ball Court.

Mr. Chuck Birkholtz, 604 Coleberry Ct., Presented Council with a statement and list of questions around the topic of the levy.

Ms. Monica Maddy stated that Mr. Carney and the Village had failed her. She said she had a hip replacement and has been bullied by Mr. Sealy and Travis for 2 years. She said Sgt. Carney did not serve him.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

RESOLUTION NO. 7 - 2023

A Resolution Approving the Update Of The Solid Waste Management Plan Of The Hamilton County Solid Waste Management District

Mr. Rahall explained that this was the final product which was presented to Council at a previous meeting.

A Motion to approve Resolution 7-2023 was made by Mrs. Myers. Seconded by Ms. Boyce. **ALL IN FAVOR**

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

POLICE

Sgt. Mike Carney presented the information on calls for service for the month. The statistics included 168 calls for service, 84 of which were considered non-billable. The calls included 16 criminal reports, 7 non-criminal and 1 auto accident reports. Mayor Myers asked if the Sgt could address Ms. Maddy's comments. Sgt. Carney stated that Ms.

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Maddy asked them to address some issues she was having with her neighbors, Mr. Sealy. One of those items was to serve a Protection Order. She had complained that she saw the Sgt speaking with Mr. Sealy and he did not serve the Protection Order. Sgt. Carney explained that he did not have the Order when he was addressing Mr. Sealy on a separate issue. He said he has suggested to both Mr. Sealy and Ms. Maddy that they get videos of the other person when they are causing a disturbance or breaking the law. Ms. Maddy continually says she has video proof but has never provided it to the Sgt. Solicitor Nicholas said, for clarification, he understood that the Patrol Officers do not serve Protection Orders, that there is a special division that handles serving those. Sgt. Carney said yes, there is an entire division that serves warrants and orders. Mr. Burns asked the Sgt if he had concerns about the dispute escalating and the possibility that a party may have someone else retaliate on their behalf. Sgt. replied that should someone send another on their behalf to harass the other party they would be responsible and it would be a violation of the order. Sgt. Carney said it's obvious the two parties hate each other and neither party will give an inch. He said both parties say the other has entered their property but neither has provided proof with a picture or video to prove their claim, even though the both say they have cameras. Mr. Nicholas followed up on who serves orders in the County, saying if Cleves had its own Police Department, the Sheriff's Court Service Unit would still be the one to serve the Order? Sgt. Carney said yes. Mayor Myers said Ms. Maddy says we failed her. He asked the Sgt. if he could estimate the number of contacts he has had regarding the dispute between her and the Sealy's. Sgt. Carney said in the two plus years he has been working in the Village he estimates a minimum of weekly contacts and more in some weeks. Mayor Myers stated we are told she has video proof, but she never provides it. Sgt. Carney said that was correct. He said in the most recent incident between them they were both screaming at each other and both received a citation for Disorderly Conduct. Mayor Myers asked if the Sgt. knew what Ms. Maddy wanted. He responded that she wants Mr. Sealy evicted. Ms. Boyce thanked the Sgt for the Officers assistance with the flowers that were being stolen from the flower pots around the Village. She said after her call to him the plants stopped disappearing. Ms. Myers asked that they watch for people going the wrong way on Howell St. She said it was causing a back up on Miami Ave. when people waited to turn off Miami.

FIRE

Lt. Yanko provided the report from the Township Fire Department. Run totals for the Village for May were: 3 Fire details, and 35 EMS details. The Lt. stated their Honor Guard had participated in the Memorial Day Parade and they had held a table top drill with the School District during the month.

SERVICE

Service Director Mr. Knuf said the Ben Mitchel Village Flags were ordered. He said three were going to be placed in the Village. The Mayor asked if one was ordered for Ben. Mr. Knuf said no, but he was given the information on the manufacturer so he could order them direct. Mr. Knuf said the family wanted to order several for their own use. Mr. Rahall asked if the repairs to the ballfield were complete and Mr. Knuf said it was with 2 loads of dirt and work on the fields. Directional signage at Mt. Nebo and S. Miami on US 50 had been installed. He said the damage to the ballfields required about 6 tons of dirt to get Field 2 open for use. He said repairs will be continued when conditions are dry enough. Watered flowers in planters and patched alleys.

WATER

Mr. Rahall stated 25 million gallons were pumped in May. He stated the meter installation Phase III should begin in July/August. Information will be placed on the Village website as needed.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Village Administrator, Mr. Rahall, reported on the following items:
He stated the Parks committee discussed the planting of trees and how to place them to avoid interfering with the playground equipment. He said he and Mr. Knuf would be checking with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for advice on the type of trees that may survive better in the conditions. He said Soccer is scheduled to begin in early August,

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COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance & Levy Discussion

Ms. Meister stated she and Mr. Brett were the only finance committee members at last month's meeting. She stated Mr. Brett reviewed information for the 5-year projection of expenses. She stated based on current general fund expenses through 2025 the Village would only have a carryover of \$205,000. She said the Village is facing a deficit to start 2025. She said a 6 mil Levy that would get us through 2027 before facing a deficit. She discussed alternate Levy millage and stated that 7 Mills would get us through the next 5 years based on our current expenditures. Mr. Burns ask about various options to be considered. Ms. Meister said based on the income and expenses the finance committee recommendation is to place a 7 mil Levy on the November ballot. Ms. Boyce stated she planned to vote against placing a levy on the ballot. She said she felt it is a bad time economically to ask for a levy. Mr. Rahall ask if the recommendation was for a safety Services Levy or a General Fund Operating Levy? Ms. Meister replied she recommended a General Fund Levy instead of a Safety Services Levy. Ms. Meister also brought up a previous option that had been discussed for implementing an income tax for Village residents as an alternative funding option. She discussed the options for reciprocity or residents who already pay an income tax to the communities where they are employed. Mrs. Myers ask if we had new income projections for an income tax.

Mr. Rahall stated the numbers from 2 years ago or likely very close to what a new estimate would be. Ms. Meister ask if he could get an update on the estimates. Mrs. Myers asked what it would take to get that new estimate. Mr. Rahall said it would just require an update by the RITA group to get the new estimate. Ms. Meister said we keep putting this off and the funding we need to do work with needs to addressed now. Ms. Meister said Mr. Smith has indicated he knows someone who may be willing to set up a Political Action Committee to support the levy. She also said Mr. Brett will provide the amounts spent on projects from other funds such as the Recovery Act funds for their use. Mr. Burns suggested even when looking at the politics of a levy, we have done without for some time. He stated that we need to make the case that the levy is necessary to exist as a village. Mrs. Myers said based on the recommendation from Ms. Meister she would agree to move forward with a 7 mil Levy. She also asked that Mr. Rahall get the RITA numbers as soon as possible. Ms. Meister stated the income tax would be discussed in the finance committee but it needed to be discussed by all of council in a committee of the whole.

Resolution 8-2023 was discussed and acted on:

RESOLUTION NO. 8 – 2023

To Declare the Necessity Of A Tax Outside Of The Ten-Mill Limitation And To Request That The Hamilton County Auditor Certify To The Village Of Clevelas The Tax Levy Calculations Enumerated In Section 5705.03(B) Of The Ohio Revised Code.

A Motion to approve Resolution 8-2023 was made by Ms. Meister. Seconded by Mrs. Myers.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Burns, Yes - Ms. Meister, Yes - Mrs. Myers, Yes - and Ms. Boyce, No.

In other Finance Committee Business, Ms. Meister stated she would not be available for the July mtg. Because she will not be available she said she would be canceling the meeting. The mayor agreed that the meeting should be canceled.

Parks

Mr. Burns discussed the possibility of a cruise-in being held in the park, however the dates the group wanted to hold it conflicted with soccer. He said they hope it can be rescheduled for a different time frame next year. He stated the soccer program is very happy with the improvements and the fields. Mr. Burns said a farmer's market to be held in the Village was discussed. He said the committee discussed planting 10 to 20 trees around the playground. Mr. Burns also said they are investigating installing one or two Gaga ball courts at a cost of \$1000 to \$2,000 each. He believes one could be installed in the park and another somewhere in the downtown area of the village. Mr. Burns recommended we look into the locations in the downtown area. Mrs. Myers ask what the size of the courts are. Mr. Burns said 15 to 20 ft in diameter and they have a 4 ft tall wall. He stated the sizes can vary

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depending on their location. Mrs. Myers ask if we have looked into any issues with relocating and or revitalizing the skate park. Mr. Rahall said the skate park was constructed with a grant from We Thrive and he was not sure what they conditions were to maintain the park. Mrs. Myers discussed the Village We Thrive Committee. Mrs. Myers also asked about the repairs to the damage at the ball fields. Mr. Rahall said we have a claim open with the insurance company and we may be able to cover any out of pocket cost out of the Recovery Act Funds. Mr. Burns discussed the future addition of additional trees at other locations in the park. Ms. Boyce thanked everyone who volunteered to plant the flower planters on May 20th stating we had a good turnout and having the additional people made the project go extremely well.

Old Business

Website Maintenance and Updates in 2024

Mayor Myers said he will pass all the information along on the upkeep and maintenance of the website to Mr. Rahall and what is needed to maintain it. At this time Mr. Rahall is exploring options.

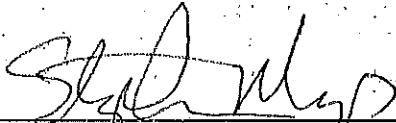
Wayors Report

Mayor Myers reported that he had nothing to add at this time.

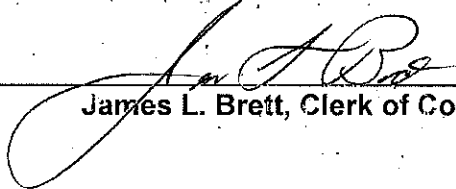
There being no further business:

A Motion to Adjourn the Council Meeting at 8:39 P.M. was made by Mrs. Myers; seconded by Ms. Boyce.

ALL IN FAVOR



Mayor Stephen Myers



James L. Brett, Clerk of Council