

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of VILLAGE OF CLEVES Council Meeting Held on July 12, 2023

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

Roll Call was taken. Ms. Boyce, Mr. Williams, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Hume, and Mr. Burns were present. Ms. Meister was absent. Village Administrator Rahall was also present. Solicitor Nicholas was not present.

Motion to Approve Previous Council Meeting Minutes from June 14, 2023, was made by Mrs. Myers; seconded by Ms. Boyce. **ALL IN FAVOR**

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

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

Mrs. Cindy Abrams - OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 29th DISTRICT

Mayor Myers introduced Mrs. Cindy Abrams, our Representative in the Ohio House of Representatives. Mrs. Abrams discussed the Budget Bill, which she has been heavily involved in. She also noted that the Distracted Driving Law was in its six-month introduction period. She explained the law and why she sponsored the Bill. She discussed other legislation she was supporting and described her trip to the US Southern Border. Mr. Burns asked if there was any assistance in the pipeline for local Road Funding and also about HB 124. She explained the status of HB 124 and said she would review the upcoming budget for Road Funding assistance. Ms. Boyce asked about the procedure to present testimony. Mrs. Abrams explained the process. Mr. Rahall asked if there was anything that could be done at the state level to help with train stoppage due to the number of hours a crew had worked. He explained the issue with blocked access to businesses and roadways we had recently experienced. She asked that he email her the information so she could look into it. Mr. Burns inquired regarding Homeland Security's communication issues that he had learned about at a conference. He also asked about the funding that might be available for a new 911 communications system that would allow communications between jurisdictions. Mrs. Abrams said the Homeland Security portion of the issue was very evident at the US Border when she was there. She said the Border Patrol and the local Sheriff's departments and Police could not communicate directly with each other. She also said the Next Gen 911 is improved and being implemented. She said she could recall a time when she served as a City Police Officer and the City and County could not talk directly with each other. She stated she is a strong proponent of the new system.

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Kyle Smith, 320 Skidmore Ave., stated the Beautification Committee's Farmers Market ends September 24th. He thanked Mr. Knuf for getting the electric turned on at the Gazebo for the Market. He also said the Business Owners Group met in June & July. Mr. Hume asked what the estimated attendance was at the Farmers Market. Mr. Smith stated 50 to 75 people came through last weekend.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Nicholas was not in attendance. Mr. Rahall presented his items for consideration.

RESOLUTION NO. 9 - 2023

Resolution Approving The 2024 Tax Budget

Mr. Brett explained this was to approve the 2024 Tax Budget which was the subject of the Public Hearing held just prior to tonight's Council Meeting.

A Motion to approve Resolution 9-2023 was made by Mrs. Myers. Seconded by Ms. Boyce. ALL IN FAVOR

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RESOLUTION 10 - 2023

To Submit To The Hamilton County Board Of Elections An Additional General Operating Expenses Tax Levy To Be Voted Upon By The Electors Of The Village Of Cleves At The November 7, 2023 General Election

Mr. Rahall explained the timing for the Levy to be submitted to the Board of Elections.

A Motion to approve Resolution 9-2023 was made by Mrs. Myers. Seconded by Mr. Williams.

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

RESOLUTION NO. 11 - 2023

A Resolution Approving the Re-employment of Eric Winhusen as Water Department Superintendent, in the same position as previously held.

Mr. Rahall explained that this was necessary for the Ohio Public Employees Retirement Requirements. He said Mr. Winhusen was returning at a reduced Salary. Mr. Brett read the Resolution.

A Motion to approve Resolution 11-2023 was made by Mrs. Myers. Seconded by Mr. Burns. ALL IN FAVOR

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

POLICE

Officer Justin Schaffer presented the information on calls for service for the month of June 2023. The statistics included 161 calls for service, 88 of which were considered non-billable. The calls included 11 criminal reports, 12 non-criminal and 4 auto accident reports.

FIRE

Mr. Rahall presented the information provided by the Fire Department. Run totals for the Village for June were: 4 Fire details, and 56 EMS details.

SERVICE

Service Director Mr. Knuf stated the curb on North Miami had been installed and they had been working on weed cutting and spraying on curbs and streets in the Village. He said they are scheduled to do brush cutting along St. Rt. 264 in the next week. He also said he had spoken with the Soccer Association and they would be setting up the fields next week. Ms. Boyce thanked him for his assistance with the Farmers Market. Mr. Burns asked if there was any planned painting of the curbs and crosswalks. Mr. Knuf said it was on his schedule for later this summer. Mr. Burns also asked about the sidewalk at the Gazebo and if it could be extended onto the property. Mr. Knuf said he would get the measurements and a price estimate. Mr. Knuf said he originally hoped to put in the sidewalk as part of the South Miami Project, but the funding was not there after the Culvert Replacement. Mrs. Myers asked about the expense of the project because it is not our property. Mr. Rahall stated that since we use the area as a Common Area for the Village, we can expend the funds. He also explained that we have a verbal lease for the property with Mr. Tisch, the property owner.

WATER

Mr. Rahall stated 29 million gallons were pumped in June. He stated the meter installation Phase III has begun. Information will be placed on the Village website as it proceeds. He also said Mr. Winhusen is scheduled to be back on August 1, 2023.

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VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Village Administrator, Mr. Rahall, reported on the following items:

He stated that the Soccer season starts soon and we are still looking for Gate Workers if anyone knows someone who may be interested. He stated the 2, 8-yard dumpsters provided for recycling at the Service Department Lot are filling up quickly, so we will be adding a third. He said it would be better if everyone would participate in curbside recycling. He also said the Cameras are in place to watch for illegal dumping.

Mr. Rahall announce the new Water Clerk started this week and interviews for a laborer position in the Water department were underway. Ms. Boyce said more people need to recycle. She asked for any suggestions on how to increase participation. Mr. Rahall said educating the public was his best recommendation. Mr. Burns asked about Mr. Litteral's leaving the Water Department and where that leaves us in regards to having a Licensed Operator. Mr. Rahall stated Fiscal officer Jim Brett is a Licensed Class 1 Operator and that he will be working with Mr. Winhusen until his return. He also stated our newest employee is in the process of studying for his license.

Mayor Myers stated he had received a request from Mr. Ryan McDonald to address the Council. He stated that Council's policy was to extend the time for Public Comments by motion.

Mr. Burns moved to extend the Hearing of the Public Time for Public Comments. Seconded by Ms. Boyce.

ALL IN FAVOR

Mr. McDonald thanked Council for the opportunity to address them saying he was not aware of the Agenda timing for Public Comments. He stated he was concerned about the cost of a 6 Mil Levy. He said his home is 300 yards from the Miami Township line and if the Levy passes his Property Tax would be \$200 more because he is in the Village instead of the Township. He stated he would like to see a conversation about the future of the Village. He said he likes the small community atmosphere, but wonders if it is sustainable. Mrs. Myers stated that the Levy request was set at 7 mils. Mr. Burns stated that the Village has been behind in maintaining things and the 7 mils would allow us to stop putting things off. Mr. McDonald thanked Council for their information.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parks

Mr. Burns said the Parks Meeting focused on Trees and Playground enchantment. He said the recommendation they have to be considered is to purchase 10 trees of various species, with 3" to 4" trunks at the cost of \$150 to \$200 each. He said there would be additional costs to plant, wrap and stake each tree. He said they would use this start to experiment with the types of trees to be added in the future. He said the initial area for the planting would be South of the Pickleball and Basketball Courts. Mr. Burns also said he would like to see some improvements to the park prior to Soccer beginning. He said the Committee recommends a Gaga Ball area installed. He explained that the Gaga Ball Court would be installed so it could be removed in the winter to avoid damage from the spring floodings. He said Courts cost approximately \$2000 and an all-weather surface can add up to \$6000 for each court. The Committee has not reached a consensus on the location for a court other than the Park, but he projects a cost of \$9000.00 for a natural turf court in the park and an all-weather court located somewhere in the central area of the Village.

Council discussed the possibility of the Village rejoining the Hamilton County Public Health "We Thrive" program. Mr. Rahall said we would need a Volunteer Board to get things going.

Mrs. Myers moved that the Village rejoin the We Thrive Program. Seconded by Mr. Hume. ALL IN FAVOR

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Mr. Hume congratulated on the accomplishments the Parks Committee has made this year. Ms. Boyce said the Beatification Committee had worked hard on the flower planters and she thought they looked very good. She said the Committee would be meetings on the second Thursday of the month at 2:00 PM, at the CT Young school. She also said she was contacted by the Miami Township Boy Scouts about the possibility of an Eagle Scout who may want to repair and upgrade the Gazebo as a project for his Eagle Scout Badge.

Mayors Report

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

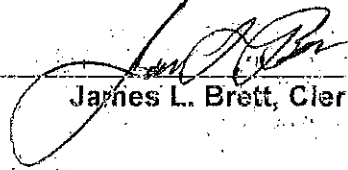
There being no further business:

A Motion to Adjourn the Council Meeting at 8:08 P.M. was made by Mrs. Myers; seconded by Mr. Burns.

ALL IN FAVOR



Mayor Stephen Myers



James L. Brett, Clerk of Council