

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of VILLAGE OF CLEVES Council Meeting Held on September 14, 2022

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, Ms. Meister, Mrs. Myers, Mr. Hume, Mr. Burns were present. Solicitor Nicholas were also present.

Motion to Approve The Tax Budget Hearing Meeting Minutes from July 13, 2022 was made by Ms. Boyce; seconded by Ms. Meister. ALL IN FAVOR

Motion to Approve Previous Council Meeting Minutes from July 13, 2022 was made by Ms. Boyce; seconded by Mr. Williams ALL IN FAVOR

A Motion to Adopt of Pay Ordinance #8-2022 was made by Mr. Burns; seconded Ms. Meister. ALL IN FAVOR.

A Motion to Adopt of Pay Ordinance #9-2022 was made by Ms. Boyce; seconded Mr. Hume. ALL IN FAVOR.

A Motion to excuse Mrs. Myer's absence was made by Mr. Burns; seconded Mr. Williams. ALL IN FAVOR.

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Mayor Myers said he would lift the 3-minute limit on members of the public addressing Council if there were no objections. Hearing none the Hearing of the Public began with:

Mr. Benjamin Mitchell, a senior at Taylor High School, presented a flag he designed for the Village. He stated he hoped the Village would adopt the design and proudly display the flag in the Village. He explained the concept behind the design and what each symbol represented. Mayor Myers thanked him for the time and effort he put into the flag. Mr. Burns asked what prompted him to take on his project. Mr. Mitchell stated he likes flags and likes the Village, so he thought it was a great way to show his support. After Councils discussion with Mr. Mitchell, Ms. Meister suggested Council take the matter under consideration before adopting the Flag. Mayor Myers said he would post the flag and information on the website to allow input from the community.

Ms. Melissa Alejandro, 634 Coleberry Ct., stated she was collecting signatures for an opt out of Vaccinations Petition. She had the petitions with her and invited anyone to sign them that wished to. She suggested the Village look into putting up greenhouses and working with a cooperative farm to grow food locally.

Mr. Chuck Birkholtz, 604 Coleberry Ct., stated that he and others had trouble hearing the discussions at the meetings. He stated that even with hearing aids, it is difficult to hear Councils discussion. He also asked that Sgt. Carney provide details on a shots fired incident in the Village. Mayor Myers said the Sgt. Would address it in his report.

Ms. Monica Maddy, 118 Porter Street, asked who is enforcing Ordinances in the Village. Mayor Myers replied that the Planning and Zoning Committee reviews and acts on issues surrounding properties. He stated that, since our Zoning inspector retired, Mr. Rahall and Mr. Brett were filling in with property complaint responses and inspections. She asked about the renovations at 119 N. Miami and the use of a trailer as a temporary housing unit. Mr. Rahall explained that our Building Inspector had been to the site, and said everything was going well with the renovations from the fire and he saw no violations. Ms. Maddy stated that the Sheriff's Department does not even show up when there is an incident called in at the address. The Mayor said Sgt. Carney could address that in his report as well.

Mayor Myers said that Ms. Carrie Bernard, from the Miami Twp. Branch of the Library could not attend, but had provided information about upcoming events which would be placed on the Village website.

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SOLICITOR'S REPORT

RESOLUTION NO. 11 – 2022: Resolution authorizing payment for indigent burial of Wesley Dean Williams: A Motion to approve Resolution 11-2022 was made by Mrs. Meister. Seconded by Ms. Boyce.

ALL IN FAVOR

RESOLUTION NO. 12 – 2022: Resolution authorizing payment for indigent burial of Kathryn Brosene: A Motion to approve Resolution 12-2022 was made by Mrs. Meister. Seconded by Ms. Boyce.

ALL IN FAVOR

Solicitor Nicholas informed Council that North Bend had been awarded a grant from Hamilton County to purchase the property from the Village. He said they hoped that would help them with the larger grant they are waiting to here about from the Federal Government. He stated he felt we should allow the purchase to be completed. Mr. Burns asked if there was any urgency in the timing for Council to make a final decision. Mr. Nicholas said he felt the County needed to distribute the funds, and we need to decide on allowing the closing to proceed. Ms. Meister asked about setting aside the funds for future use. Ms. Boyce suggested the Finance Committee make a recommendation for the use of the funds. Mr. Rahall said he and Mr. Brett are looking into placing the funds, and some other deposits into a Star Funds account, which is directed by the Ohio Auditor's Office. Mr. Brett stated he is also looking at other options. He said he will ask a representative from RedTree Investments to attend the next Finance Committee Meeting to present options other than the Star Funds for deposits. He said RedTree handles investments for multiple Communities. He stated he was introduced to their firm when he attended an Auditors Conference and they were presenting the program for investments. Mr. Burns asked about giving the Ski Club a 90-day notice and if we could advise North Bend to continue their contract. Mr. Nicholas we will advise them of the sale, but we can only suggest to North Bend that they continue the lease after the sale, but we cannot require it.

After the discussion the following Ordinance was acted on:

ORDINANCE NO. 8 – 2022: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING SALE OF REAL PROPERTY TO THE VILLAGE OF NORTH BEND, OHIO CONTINGENT ON AWARD OF NORTH BEND RIVERFRONT PARK PROJECT GRANT FROM HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO

A Motion to Introduce Ordinance No. 8-2022, An Ordinance authorizing sale of real property to the Village of North Bend, Ohio contingent on award of North Bend riverfront park project grant from Hamilton county, Ohio was made by Ms. Boyce; seconded by Ms. Meister.

ALL IN FAVOR.

A Motion to Suspend the Rules and Read by Title Only for Ordinance No. 8-2022, An Ordinance authorizing sale of real property to the Village of North Bend, Ohio contingent on award of North Bend riverfront park project grant from Hamilton county, Ohio was made by Ms. Boyce; seconded by Ms. Meister

ALL IN FAVOR.

A Motion to Adopt Ordinance No. 8-2022, An Ordinance authorizing sale of real property to the Village of North Bend, Ohio contingent on award of North Bend riverfront park project grant from Hamilton county, Ohio was made by Ms. Boyce; seconded by Mr. Hume.

ALL IN FAVOR.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

POLICE

Sgt. Mike Carney had presented his report. The statistics for August, 2022 included 167 calls for service, 58 which were considered non-billable. The calls included 8 criminal reports, 2 non-criminal, 2 auto accidents and 4 citations were issued for the month. The Sgt. Said the shots fired incident resulted in a determination that the resident had discharged his firearm into the ground in his backyard to see if the weapon was properly working. He stated that that act is not illegal under Ohio Law. There was no inducing panic charge as was suggested by some because there was no illegal act. Mr. Birkholtz questioned the number of shots and if they were actually shot into the ground. The Sgt said the information he received was it was only one shot, into the ground. Mr. Birkholtz asked if that was the most appropriate way to test the weapon. Sgt. Carney said that was not his preferred method, but again, it was not an illegal act. He also stated that even though the Village has an Ordinance that might prohibit the discharge of a weapon, Ohio law supersedes that Ordinance. Mr. Birkholtz

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suggested if there was a Cleves Mayor's Court, the person could have been cited for the discharging of the weapon. Ms. Maddy interrupted shouting that that there had been three shots. Sgt. Carney said there has to be an identifiable target for someone to discharge a weapon, and the ground, while not ideal, is an identifiable target. Mayor Myers asked about shooting into the air. The Sgt. Stated that was not an identifiable target. There was a discussion about homeless people and what could be done to help them get into treatment for issues and how they could be helped. Mr. Birkholtz asked what the appropriate way is to clear a misfire of a weapon. Sgt. Carney said it depended on the type of gun, and explained the difference between a revolver and a semi-automatic weapon and clearing a misfire. Ms. Michell Alberize said she had access to a large food pantry and could help provide food for the homeless population. Mr. Rahall said there was an active food pantry in the Village. Mayor Myers said if she would provide the information he would place it on the Village website.

FIRE

Fire Chief Brien Lacy was not in attendance. Assistant Chief Street provided the Chief's report. The department run totals for the Village for August were: 7 Fire details, and 30 EMS details. Asst. Chief Street said the department completed 37 hours of training in August. He said Station 69 was now open. Ms. Meister said she and Mr. Williams had both attended the Grand Opening. Mr. Williams said the Departments Color Guard did an excellent job at the ceremony.

SERVICE

Service Director Knuf said the cameras for the Recycling area and Service Building were installed. The cameras were purchased with a grant from the Ohio EPA. He said the Howell Street Storm Sewer project was completed. He updated Council of the South Main Street Improvements, saying the culvert under the road was worse than expected. The culvert is partially an Arch stone culvert, likely over 100 years old. The engineer and contractor are working with him to determine how to manage the conversion to the new materials. Ms. Boyce stated that several Business owners had expressed their thanks for the upgrades and stated the project is looking great! Ms. Meister asked about a sidewalk at the Roy rogers Restaurant site. Mr. Rahall said they were waiting until the next parcel development to determine where the curb cut would be before adding the sidewalk. Ms. Meister also asked about repairs to the Harry Lind Alley. Mr. Knuf said it would be addressed as part of the S. Miami Project. Ms. Boyce asked about landscaping at the Roy Rogers, wondering if it would match what is at the Skyline site. Mr. Rahall said it is the same owner, but he was unsure about the final landscaping. Mr. Hume asked if we had pictures? Mr. Rahall said yes.

WATER

Superintendent, Mr. Eric Winhusen stated 29 million gallons were pumped in August. Mr. Burns asked if there was any news on the Conservation easement. Mr. Winhusen said nothing new.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Village Administrator, Mr. Mike Rahall, said the S. Miami Improvements should be completed by the end of September. He said Roy Rogers is on track to open in November. He said Soccer will be finished in the Park at the end of October. In other Park related items, he said the pickleball / basketball court should be completed in the next couple of weeks. He announced that he is working on a newsletter that will hopefully be published online and mailed twice each year. He stated that the Gas Aggregation, which was voted on in 2014, was in the process of being renewed. The new pricing is set at 84 cents and locked in for 2 years with an option to renegotiate during that period. He stated the current Duke Energy rate is \$1.24. He also said the current electric pricing through our aggregation is good through 2023.

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

NONE

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COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parks

Mr. Burns stated the new playground equipment installation was celebrated after the long delay in receiving the equipment. He stated Mr. Andy Messer, from TRCAA, brought up the possibility of changing the infield of the two largest baseball fields to grass infields. Mr. Hume asked about the fields and the base paths. Mr. Burns said the base paths would remain dirt. Mr. Rahall said the Danny Graves field was originally a grass infield and was changed to dirt because of the time and effort to keep the infield in playing condition. He said the grass infield required cutting almost daily. Mr. Burns also said Mr. Knuf had the old playground equipment inspected by the playground consultant. The recommendation was the majority of the equipment needed to be removed. Mr. Burns said the Yard of the Month recipients were being invited to the October Council Meeting to be recognized. The September Yard of the Month winners were 309 East State Street and 214 Edgefield.

Finance

Mayor Myers announced that Ms. Meister had agreed to Chair the Finance Committee at the last meeting, and he wanted to make that official tonight, appointing her.

Mr. Brett reported the finance Committee meeting discussed the upcoming Levy, current projects and the Recovery Act Funds. Ms. Meister said the Tax Levy Information Sheet had been updated and is available on the website. She said a post card mailer was discussed as well. She said holding a Town Hall type meeting to allow residents to ask questions about the levy was discussed. She asked if we could set a time for the information session, even if it was immediately before the next Council Meeting for 30 minutes. Ms. Boyce suggested residents' email or drop off questions to the Administration Building if they were looking for specific numbers. That would allow us to have the information for them at the meeting. Mr. Burns suggested a different day so the Council meeting would not cause the Town Hall to be cut short if there were more questions when the Council meeting was scheduled to begin. Ms. Meister and Mr. Hume agreed. Ms. Boyce said we needed to get the information out to residents. Ms. Meister said a mailing had been discussed. She stated that Mr. Rahall and Mr. Brett were working on a 5-year projection for our budget and also on a Newsletter to update and inform residents of events happening in the Village. Mr. Burns suggested October 5, 2022 saying he felt there was nothing urgent for a Parks Committee meeting, so we could hold it at that time. After a discussion, it was agreed to hold the Special Meeting – Town Hall Format, on October 5, 2022 at 6:00 PM at the Miami Township Hall on South Miami. The Mayor said he would place the information on the Website and notices will be posted announcing the meeting

Mayors Report

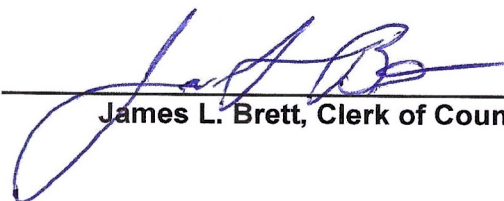
Mayor Myers said he had nothing to add at this time. Mr. Hume asked if the Village ever had a program to assist residents with improvements to their residents. Mayor Myers answered, not that he knew of. Mr. Hume suggested we look into any possible grant programs, or starting our own, to help residents do minor repairs and upgrades to their homes. Mr. Rahall will look into any programs that may be available.

There being no further business:

**A Motion to Adjourn the Council Meeting at 7:54 P.M. was made by Ms. Meister; seconded by Mr. Hume.
ALL IN FAVOR**



Mayor Stephen Myers



James L. Brett, Clerk of Council