Minutes of VILLAGE OF CLEVES Council Meeting Held on July 10, 2019.

Mayor Myers began the Council Meeting at 7:00 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll Call was taken. Mr. Williams, Ms. Meister, Mrs. Myers, Mrs. Peter and Mr. Burns were present. Mr. Demaree was not in attendance. Village Administrator Rahall and Solicitor Nicholas were also present.

A Motion to Approve Mr. Demaree's absent was made by Mrs. Myers; seconded by Mr. Burns.

ALL IN FAVOR.

A Motion to Approve the Previous Council Meeting Minutes for June 12, 2019 was made by Mrs. Myers; seconded by Ms. Peter.

ALL IN FAVOR.

Adoption of Pay Ordinance #7-2019 was made by Mrs. Myers; seconded by Mr. Burns.

ALL IN FAVOR.

2020 Census Presentation - Ms. Theresa Tegenkamp-Beiter.

Ms. Tegenkamp-Beiter introduced Ms. Lauren Taylor with the US Census Bureau. They presented an overview of how the Census Process, its history and how the data is used. Ms. Taylor explained why the Census Information is important to local governments.

Ms. Tegenkamp-Beiter is recruiting people to assist in gathering the Census information. She stated the pay rate for Hamilton County is \$19.76 per hour, and said the hours are flexible.

Mrs. Myers stated she would post the information on the Village Social Media Page and Website. She also confirmed that people would be able to fill out the Census Form online. Ms. Tepe said yes, and that when you receive the Census form in the mail there will be an ID Code for use to access the online forms to assure the information is actually from the person it is supposed to be from.

#### HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Resident, Mr. Crone, who resides at 162 Symmes St. along with his former neighbor Mr. Harry Carel, addressed Council regarding an issue he is having with his basement flooding. He stated that he believes it is due to runoff from a property at the corner of Mt. Nebo and the Indiana and Ohio Railroad tracks. Mr. Crone stated he had brought this issue to the Council's attention in the past and it's still an issue. Village Administrator, Mr. Rahall noted that the property he referenced was fairly far from Mr. Crone's property. He also noted that Mr. Crone's home has gutters with no downspouts, which he observed water running against the side of the home and foundation. He also noted that some drainage improvements had been made recently by the I&O Railroad. A discussion about the area included Mr. Knuf, Village Public Services Director, Administrator Rahall and Council. Mrs. Myers noted that the Village Engineer looked at the situation and it was determined that it was not the Village's responsibility nor was the water issues being caused by the property at the corner of Mt. Nebo where materials had previously been removed. Mayor Myers stated that he would ask the Village engineer to investigate the issue again and write a letter report regarding the situation, but he felt the situation might be a Civil issue if Mr. Crone was correct about the other Property Owner being responsible. Both men thanked the Miami Township FD for pumping out his basement.

Mr. Dan Day, Co-owner of the Three Rivers Self Storage Facility located at 4015 E. Miami River Rd. addressed Council regarding the flooding of several of his units, which he stated has happened three times in the past two years. Ms. Meister stated that the watershed from the hillside behind the Village Property and the property to the North adjacent to the Village property would be in the Township and both are effected by the runoff from the hillside. She asked Public Services Director, Mr. Knuf if they had experienced any issues. He responded that any time there are extremely heavy rains like those that we have experienced in the past few weeks; they have issues with water running into the Maintenance Buildings. He also stated that there is an 18-inch culvert pipe located at the Maintenance Department property. Mayor Myers ask if it was open and clear. Mr. Knuf stated it has been checked and it is, however the volume of water in these extreme rain events cause it to overflow. Mr. Day stated this is a new issue in the past couple of years and the facility has been there since 1996. Mayor

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Myers suggested Mr. Day attend a Miami Township meeting to discuss the watershed from the property located in the Township. Administrator Rahall asked Mr. Day if he had made any improvements to the drainage on his property. He stated he has not but thought the Village should increase the detention area on the Village Property.

Ms. Nancy Pessler, a renter at the Three Rivers Storage facility addressed Council regarding storm Water Drainage on the West Side (of Cincinnati). She blamed the storm water issues on Doug Meyer and Jeff Decker. She indicated that people are confused about where they live because of the Cleves Zip Code covering other Communities. She stated that 80% of her belongings in storage at Three Rivers Storage had been damaged. She said she was going to file a class action lawsuit against someone, that the village should get funds from someone for storm water and that Global Warming was to blame.

Ms. Kate Graves, who operates the Auto Detailing and Sales Business located at 34 W. State St. addressed Council regarding the speed of vehicles entering the park. She stated that she had put up signs asking drivers to please drive slowly. She asked if the Village could do something like a speed bump. Mrs. Myers stated that it appeared that the signs she had placed were not on the property her business occupies. Ms. Graves stated she did not know who owed what, but she was trying to find out. Council discussed speed humps with Public Services Director, Mr. Knuf. Administrator Rahall and increased surveillance with Police Chief Reid. Administrator Rahall stated that a meeting was scheduled with the Indiana & Ohio Railroad, ODOT and PUCO on August 25, 2019 to discuss the possibility of upgrading the Crossing warning system and that the issue could be discussed then.

#### THREE RIVERS SCHOOL DISTRICT REPORT

Superintendent Hockenberry was not in attendance.

#### SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Solicitor Nicholas had prepared two items of legislation for Council's consideration.

#### RESOLUTION #16-2019 RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2020 TAX BUDGET.

A Motion to Adopt Resolution #16-2019 approving the 2020 Tax Budget was made by Mrs. Myers; seconded by Mr. Williams.

ALL IN FAVOR.

# RESOLUTION #17-2019 RESOLUTION HIRING RICHARD BURTON TO WATER WORKS AND MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENTS.

A Motion to Adopt Resolution #17-2019 hiring Richard Burton to Water Works and Maintenance Departments was made by Mrs. Myers; seconded by Mr. Williams.

ALL IN FAVOR.

#### VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Village Administrator Rahall discussed the complaint about the speed of vehicles at the Park Entrance. He noted that any upgrade to the RR Crossing at the Park entrance might have to be done at the Village expense if advised by the RR. He plans to discuss a gate or flashing lights with the RR when they meet with ODOT, the RR, and PUCO on August 25, 2019. Mr. Rahall also announced that the Village is looking for Park workers to sell Park Stickers from now through the middle of October. The positions pay \$8.00 per hour.

#### DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

WATER

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Water Superintendent Eric Winhusen reported 32 million gallons were pumped last month. Tuesday we had another water main break. He announced that the Water Main Extension on Lawrenceburg Rd. was complete and taps would begin to be installed on Friday July 12, 2019.

FIRE

Chief Ober reported 7 Fire and 22 EMS details for the previous month. Mayor Myers asked how many runs were to pump out basements. Chief Ober replied that the only call to pump a basement was from Mr. Crone, who addressed council at the beginning of the meeting. A lengthy discussion was held between the Fire Chief, Council, the Mayor and Administrator regarding the request for an increase, equal to 2.5 mills of the valuation of the Village, for the Fire and EMS Service contract between Miami Township and the Village being increased by Miami Twp. To all 3 Villages. Chief Ober provided the Run Volume data in percentages for the Village of Cleves, North Bend and Addyson, along with what the increase in contract costs were planned to be used for. Administer Rahall noted that the proposed increase is 120% and that is a large amount to ask for at one time. Chief Ober stated in hindsight it might have been better to phase it in over the past years. Mayor Myers told Chief Ober that, should the Village not be able to pass a levy, that the increase would cause the Village to exhaust the General Fund within 2 years or less. He stated this would leave the Village without funds to operate. The Mayor also asked Chief Ober what he thought would happen if the three contracting Villages could not pass an additional levy to cover the increases. The Chief stated they would have to "re-think" the service level.

**POLICE** 

Chief Reid reported to Council a written report of the department's stats for the month and a brief discussion was had about the report. The Chief also stated there had been a rash of burglaries at the KOI Ski Club and a residence. A firearm was stolen at the residential burglary and the investigation is ongoing. In addition, the Department has experienced exponential surge in subjects high on methamphetamine leading to a concern for our Officer's safety.

**SERVICE** 

Service Director Knuf reported that the Service Department has been diligently cutting grass as well as trimming trees and brush with an emphasis around Stop Signs. Spraying for weeds continues and the Service staff has assisted the Water Works department with Main Breaks when needed. Mayor Myers asked if the ballfields had been drug and if they were being used for baseball. Mr. Knuf replied that the TRCAA group had not performed any maintenance. Ball field dirt has washed away again.

#### **COUNCIL REPORTS**

Finance Committee Administer Rahall reported on the Finance committee meeting in the absence of Councilman Demaree. Mr. Rahall reported that the Finance Committee had discussed the need to continue to develop a 5-year plan. He also laid out the options that were discussed to provide Fire and EMS Services for the Village. Those Options are: 1) Start a Village Fire/EMS Service 2) Contract with another Fire department other than Miami Township 3) Put a 2.5 mill levy on the November Ballot to meet the Miami Township increase 4) Initiate a Village income Tax of 1% (which he is checking to determine what the estimated income would be) 5) Continue with payment from the General Fund for the Miami Township Contract. He stated that a Special Meeting would have to be held in order to meet the timeframe to get a levy placed on the November Ballot. He also stated that adding an Income Tax would open the opportunity to form a Joint Economic Development District (JEDD) with neighboring Townships. Ms. Myers asked Mr. Rahall to explain what a JEDD is in case anyone does not know and how it works so, everyone would have the same understanding. The pros and cons of the options and an income tax were discussed in depth. It was noted that if the Village chooses to place a levy on the November Ballot, the deadline is August 7th to deliver it to the Board of Elections.

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Mrs. Myers: Mrs. Myers reported that the next Planning and Zoning meeting would be held in August. She also reported that her work with the Port Authority continues for 207 N. Miami Ave. The transfer documents for 207 N. Miami have been submitted to the Sheriff and Auditor as of 07/08/19. Further updates should are expected within the next couple of weeks. Mrs. Myers stated that she has Bloc Fest & Concert Flyers for posting in the Village and she will be re-posting the information on the Village Social Media site. Mrs. Myers noted that August 13th is the 1st day of school. She also added the fun fact — The new school started w/1,900 students and now is up to 2,400. Mrs. Myers ask if Rumpke had contacted the Village about a possible increase in service cost relating to gas tax increase. The rise in gasoline prices due to the increase in the gas tax has her concerned. Administer Rahall said not as of today. Mr. Winhusen stated that we had not been subject to an increase in the past due to rising gas prices based on the Village doing their own billing. Mrs. Myers asked to just have it doubled checked. Mrs. Myers also stated that the Healthplex discussions on the School property with Miami Twp. Is also having discussions with the YMCA. She also stated that the Vendor Ordinance fine schedule will be discussed at future Planning & Zoning meetings and will be brought back to Council for passing. She noted that April 1, 2020 will be the first day of the Census and will be the first year available online.

Mr. Burns: Mr. Burns reported on the Staffing for the gates during the summer and fall sports season.

Ms. Meister: Ms. Meister noted that there are decibel meters on the Miami Twp. Police cars. She also noted that Miami Township had experienced a number of Noise Complaints, which were being investigated.

Mr. Demaree: Mr. Demaree was absent from the meeting and Mr. Rahall reported on Finance.

Mr. Williams: Mr. Williams reported on the issues regarding the Property at US 50 and Mt. Nebo Rd. Mrs. Myers asked if Chief Reid had confirmed that a property on Walmsley was being used as a business property. Chief Reid stated he has not confirmed that. Mrs. Myers suggested that Mr. Koons investigate the issue as a zoning issue. Mr. Williams stated Mr. Koons was looking into that entire area. Mr. Williams also informed Council that the Police Department was looking into using door hangers when open doors are found, as opposed to knocking on the doors.

#### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Myers reported that there were two service anniversaries in July.

- Rusty Alexander: Water Works: 20 years
- John Knuf: Service Director: 2 years

He reported that the Mayor's Court collected \$5,115.00 last month and distributed \$4,295.00 to the Village. Mayor Myers attended the School Board meeting and announced the High School has hired a new Principal, Mark Smiley. He was welcomed at their Board Meeting. The Mayor discussed the meeting he and Administrator Rahall had with Miami Township Trustee Jack Rininger and Chief Ober regarding the Fire Contract. Mayor Myers met with Mr. and Mrs. Pierson regarding College Street and the business behind their house. The Mayor also attended the North Bend and Addyston Council meetings.

#### **HEARING OF THE PUBLIC**

No one wished to address Council at this time.

A Motion to Adjourn the Council Meeting at 9:16 P.M. was made by Mrs. Myers; seconded by Mr. Williams. ALL IN FAVOR.

**Mayor Stephen Myers** 

James L. Brett, Clerk of Council

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