

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

COUNCIL MEETING

Held December 7, 2021

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The Council convened at 7:00 P.M. in the Municipal Office. Mayor Jim Nelson called the Council session to order with the following members present:

COUNCIL: Jim Nelson, Mark Wicker, Elaine McFarland, Cheryl Friend, Jesse Mann, David Lockhart
Guest: Josie Bonnette - DGHD, Ameer Sword – Library, John Halenbacker, Jan Zeigler
Abs: Jym Longstreth, Harry Strain

The audience and council were reminded to silence all cell phones. The audience was informed that they were to state their names any time they wanted to talk during the community comments and requests section of the meeting or at any other time during the meeting.

Council was reminded to state their names when making a motion and when they seconded the motion. The person making the motion would write the motion down so it could be read again prior to a vote and then the written motion would be given to the Fiscal Officer for the record.

MINUTES

Cheryl Friend made a motion to approve the 11-2-2021 meeting minutes. David Lockhart seconded.

**Roll Call: Mark Wicker, - yes, Elaine McFarland – yes, Cheryl Friend – yes,
David Lockhart – yes. Motion Passed 4-0**

PUBLIC COMMENTS/CONCERNS

Josie is here from the Health Department. Talked about covid numbers. We have walk in clinics on Wednesday and Thursdays for vaccines and boosters. Must call for an appointment.

Ameer indicated we had good attendance for the Christmas in Ashley. Friends of Ashley's Fall Fair was pretty busy and vendors were happy with what they sold. Going to do a Farmers Market again next year. May do 2 times per month. We are still in the process of having movies 3 times next year. We are restocked on Covid test also.

David passed out documents on the 23 Connect project. Discussion on the subject.

Jim indicated there are a couple of residents at the meeting and we are excited to have them here.

Liz Barker apologized for not attending the Christmas in Ashley but thinks in the future that this would be a good time for council members to get out and participate. Cheryl wanted to thank Joe Pennington to setting out all the luminaries and picking them all up. Mark and Cheryl family all helped light them for the evening of Christmas in Ashley. It was a great turn out.

FISCAL OFFICER

Cheryl Friend approved the bank rec for October 2021 and Mark Wicker seconded.

**Roll Call: Mark Wicker, - yes, Elaine McFarland – yes, Cheryl Friend – yes,
David Lockhart – yes. Motion Passed 4-0**

Renee explained the deposit account that Jullian and Grube audited. Renee explained the money that is being transferred to the water fund and the sewer fund.

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Appropriation Ordinance 2021-010

Renee explained the deposit account that Julian and Grube audited. Renee explained the money that is being transferred to the water fund and the sewer fund.

Mark Wicker moved to suspend the rules, Cheryl Friend seconded.

Roll Call: Mark Wicker, - yes, Elaine McFarland – yes, Cheryl Friend – yes, David Lockhart – yes. Motion Passed 4-0

Elaine McFarland moved to declare an emergency Cheryl Friend seconded.

Roll Call: Mark Wicker, - yes, Elaine McFarland – yes, Cheryl Friend – yes, David Lockhart – yes. Motion Passed 4-0

Cheryl Friend moved to adopt, Mark Wicker seconded

Roll Call: Mark Wicker, - yes, Elaine McFarland – yes, Cheryl Friend – yes, David Lockhart – yes. Motion Passed 4-0

Appropriation Ordinance 2021-011 – Temp Budgets

Mark Wicker moved to suspend the rules, David Lockhart seconded.

Roll Call: Mark Wicker, - yes, Elaine McFarland – yes, Cheryl Friend – yes, David Lockhart – yes. Motion Passed 4-0

Cheryl Friend moved to declare an emergency Elaine McFarland seconded.

Roll Call: Mark Wicker, - yes, Elaine McFarland – yes, Cheryl Friend – yes, David Lockhart – yes. Motion Passed 4-0

David Lockhart moved to adopt, Elaine McFarland seconded

Roll Call: Mark Wicker, - yes, Elaine McFarland – yes, Cheryl Friend – yes, David Lockhart – yes. Motion Passed 4-0

POLICE – Scott went over the incident report. Nothing too outrageous. Mental health issues on the rise. Cheryl ask about Zach going to Shoemaker road. Chief indicated he was called in by Delaware County. Warrant issued in Marengo. Was this one of our cases, and why does it say no report taken Then the one in Cardington. Chief indicated that is one of ours. It happened on Vine Street and someone got hit in the head. The person was at his sisters house in Cardington. Suspicious vehicle on Steamtown road. That was at the sewer plant.

We plan to put the police levy back on the ballot in May. Jesse talked about the wording of this levy. It will indicate a new additional levy. That can not be changed. With the levy failing we need to make some cut backs. It is going to take people to get out and talk to people and shake hands to get this levy to pass.

Resolution 2021-021 – Resolution of Necessity

Mark Wicker moved to suspend the rules, David Lockhart seconded.

Roll Call: Mark Wicker, - yes, Elaine McFarland – yes, Cheryl Friend – yes, David Lockhart – yes. Motion Passed 4-0

Cheryl Friend moved to declare an emergency Elaine McFarland seconded.

Roll Call: Mark Wicker, - yes, Elaine McFarland – yes, Cheryl Friend – yes, David Lockhart – yes. Motion Passed 4-0

David Lockhart moved to adopt, Elaine McFarland seconded

Roll Call: Mark Wicker, - yes, Elaine McFarland – yes, Cheryl Friend – yes, David Lockhart – yes. Motion Passed 4-0

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Jan is here and commented on the yards and trash in this town. People call this town "TRASHLEY". It is sad. We need to get these resolutions passed and then enforced by the police department. We need to do something as it is deteriorating the value of her property. Another issue is in the summer time Jan and family sits on her front porch all the time. She has seen the new police cruiser 1 time. Chief indicated he does not drive the new cruiser. Jan indicated she hasn't seen any cruisers all summer. Cheryl indicated that take in mind that we are down to two police officers. Well this was all summer and Jan believes we have several officers. There is discussion on Ray Hughes house that he is doing construction on. Jim will contact Delaware and see if he has a building permit. Cheryl ask what do we do about zoning code violations. Jesse indicated Mitch should be taken care of it.

Amee indicated that should would be willing to open the library to have meetings there to inform everyone on the need. We need to get people together and get the word out. Cheryl indicated we have to be careful on how we present it to residents. We can't tell them how to vote.

Jim wanted to know if we have any other issues for junky houses in the village. He wants to thank Jan for coming to the meeting and expressing her feelings. It is something we have been working on it and we need to get something done with these places.

PERSONNEL –

We have a resolution for employee pay raises but not the police. The police already received a raise this year. It was discussed for a raise between 3.5-5.5%. Elaine is for the 5.5% raise for these employees. The health insurance went up 23.3% for employees. We may have to have the employee pay part of this cost in the future. David indicated that this is not a great deal in a raise. He understands we are not loaded with money. He would agree with Elaine on the 5% increase.

Cheryl made a motion to amend the resolution 2021-022 to make the raise effective immediately for the next pay date of December 14, 2021. (With pay weeks ending 12/4 and 12/11)

**Roll Call: Mark Wicker, - yes, Elaine McFarland – yes, Cheryl Friend – yes,
David Lockhart – yes. Motion Passed 4-0**

Mark Wicker made a motion to amend resolution 2021-022 to make the increase for employees a 5% increase.

**Roll Call: Mark Wicker, - yes, Elaine McFarland – yes, Cheryl Friend – yes,
David Lockhart – yes. Motion Passed 4-0**

Resolution 2021-022 – Employee Raises

Mark Wicker moved to suspend the rules, Elaine McFarland seconded.

**Roll Call: Mark Wicker, - yes, Elaine McFarland – yes, Cheryl Friend – yes,
David Lockhart – yes. Motion Passed 4-0**

Elaine McFarland moved to declare an emergency David Lockhart seconded.

**Roll Call: Mark Wicker, - yes, Elaine McFarland – yes, Cheryl Friend – yes,
David Lockhart – yes. Motion Passed 4-0**

Mark Wicker moved to adopt, David Lockhart seconded

**Roll Call: Mark Wicker, - yes, Elaine McFarland – yes, Cheryl Friend – yes,
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The Ohio Risk Plan was in and reviewed our employee handbook and indicated a few things that were not listed in the book. Jesse worked on these items to make our manual compliant with the Ohio Risk Plan. The three items missing are Family Medical Leave, Vehicle Policy and drug and alcohol policy.

Resolution 2021-023 – Update on Employee Handbook - 1st Reading

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/GRANTS – Jim discussed about Verizon putting equipment on top of our Water tower and we will receive a stipend monthly for this. Columbia Gas will be putting in new gas lines in the village. This will begin in January 2022.

We have a meeting scheduled for December 13th with OHM and look at future for improvement projects in the village. This will be a good meeting to brain storm these projects and funding we can seek. If you are interested in attending this meeting it is at 11:00 on December 13th here at the village.

PARKS & RECS – Elaine would like to stress the need for lifeguards. We need to put in the newsletter. RaeJean will be managing the pool next year and she will be getting certified. Cheryl ask when the next skate park meeting. It is the 1st Thursday of every month. Cheryl has reached out to a couple of towns that have nice skate parks. She is asking for information on how they went about the process.

SAFETY/STREETS/ALLEYS – The mowers are put away and oil changes done. We have the snow plow installed and brine machine hooked up. Mark has taught Jeff how to make brine in case he is not here.

NEWSLETTER – Nothing to report

Regional Planning December 16, 2021- Cheryl will attend.

There is a petition to vacate South Street. There was lots of discussion on this and it was discussed to table and talk about at next meeting when we get more information.

Resolution 2021-024 – Jesse Mann Contract

Cheryl Friend moved to suspend the rules, Mark Wicker seconded.

Roll Call: Mark Wicker, - yes, Elaine McFarland – yes, Cheryl Friend – yes, David Lockhart – yes. Motion Passed 4-0

Elaine McFarland moved to declare an emergency Mark Wicker seconded.

Roll Call: Mark Wicker, - yes, Elaine McFarland – yes, Cheryl Friend – yes, David Lockhart – yes. Motion Passed 4-0

Cheryl Friend moved to adopt, David Lockhart seconded

Roll Call: Mark Wicker, - yes, Elaine McFarland – yes, Cheryl Friend – yes, David Lockhart – yes. Motion Passed 4-0

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Cheryl Friend made motion to pay the bills, Elaine McFarland seconded.

Mark Wicker made the motion to adjourn until January 4, 2022, Cheryl Friend seconded.

Jim Nelson, Mayor

Renee Rarick