

Village of Windham, Ohio

Minutes of the Resumed Council Meeting

Held February 10, 2009

At 6:44 PM, the Honorable Mayor Robert W. Donham II called the meeting to order.

Roll Call: Rachel Barrett – present, Scott Garrett – present,
 Kelly Meszaros – present, Linda Rininger – present,
 Randy Slusher – present, Phil Snyder – present

Also present, Village Administrator Maurice Hankins, Robert Meszaros, Nicole Meszaros, Bruce Rininger, Francis Ballard, Diane Smith

Councilwoman Kelly Meszaros had requested the opportunity to address Council. Mrs. Meszaros stepped down from the Council platform and gave the following address:

I come before you this evening not as a councilperson, but as a representative of the community mourning the loss of a good friend. As many of you know, Officer Jarod Dean was killed on January 19th while on duty in the Village of Boston Heights. Officer Dean served this community as a police officer for two years until his departure in August of 2008. He was passionate about police work and dedicated to his calling. During his time here he was our School Resource Officer, establishing a bond with our children of not only an authority figure, but also a mentor and friend. He helped organize and run our first Safety Town, and also served as Community Police Officer, speaking to groups such as the Friday Club in an effort to promote good community relations. Many mornings he would stay in town after finishing a midnight shift to have breakfast with the children at Katherine Thomas or the High School, and to catch up with the staff on the latest issues or accomplishments of “his kids”. Some of these “kids” feel Officer Dean saved their lives. When they were in serious trouble, he would encourage them to do better, stay in school, and would even offer safe transport when they found themselves in potentially dangerous situations. The lessons he taught them will not soon be forgotten, and have influenced many of their life decisions. Officer Dean donated not only his time, but in many instances from his own meager resources to help those in need. He would visit with local business people to make sure they had no issues or concerns, and established relationships with a multitude of citizens. In his brief tenure here, Jarod Dean made more friends than many of us will in a lifetime.

The decision to resign his commission here was long and painful, and his reasons for leaving are personal and his own, but it didn't take him long to realize his heart was here. He missed this community and it's residents, especially the children, more than he had ever anticipated. He missed his “brothers” at the police department. He considered Windham “home” and very much wanted to “come home”. To that end, he reapplied for a patrolman's position with the Windham Police Department in November 2008. He continued to remain active in the community, visiting the schools, frequenting the restaurant, serving meals to the needy at the Chapel, and visiting friends while awaiting a decision on his application.

Officer Dean was a special young man full of enthusiasm, ideals and ideas. He was one of that rare breed who live to protect and serve. In recognition of his service to this community and its citizens, I firmly believe it is incumbent upon this body to direct the Windham Police Department to assign Badge # 739 permanently to Officer Jarod M. Dean, and to allow his fellow officers to perform the ceremony of Last Call for their fallen brother in blue. Jarod Dean will forever remain one of our own.

Mrs. Meszaros also read a letter from Carol Howald of Katherine Thomas Elementary School. The letter is as follows:

Mayor Rob Donham, Chief Ed Perdian and Windham Village Council Members

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

It has come to our attention that plans are being made to honor a fallen member of one of our much respected law enforcement agencies. Officer Jarod Dean was an integral part of the Katherine Thomas (K.T.) Elementary school family. The students and staff at K.T. came to rely on Officer Dean for much more than enforcing protocol on "lockdown" procedures. Jarod became a routinely visible and accessible mentor to many children by coming to daily lunches, sitting down with various students and conducting meaningful conversations with several children at one time. Faculty and staff appreciated Jarod's unselfish commitment to Windham's youth.

In a final tribute to his memory for his outstanding service and contribution to our community, we, the undersigned, respectfully request to honor Officer Dean by retiring Badge # 739.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Howald

The letter was signed by fifty of the Katherine Thomas staff members.

Safety / Personnel / Rules Committee by Phil Snyder. Mr. Snyder read Ordinance O-2009-4 AN ORDINANCE DECLARING IT NECESSARY TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE FIRE AND AMBULANCE SERVICES TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE VILLAGE OF WINDHAM TO LEVY AN ADDITIONAL 2.0 MILL FIVE YEAR TAX LEVY COMMENCING IN THE YEAR 2009 FOR THE VILLAGE OF WINDHAM FOR FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESCUE AND AMBULANCE SERVICE AND REQUESTING THE PORTAGE COUNTY AUDITOR TO CERTIFY THE TOTAL CURRENT TAX VALUATION OF THE VILLAGE OF WINDHAM AND THE DOLLAR AMOUNT OF REVENUE THAT WOULD BE GENERATED BY THE ADDITIONAL LEVY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. A motion to suspend the rules was made by Mr. Slusher and seconded by Mr. Garrett. Vote of Council: Ayes: Mr. Snyder, Mr. Garrett, Mrs. Barrett, Mr. Slusher, Mrs. Rininger, Mrs. Meszaros. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Mr. Snyder made a motion to adopt Ordinance O-2009-4 which was seconded by Mr. Slusher. Vote of Council: Ayes: Mr. Snyder, Mr. Garrett, Mrs. Barrett, Mr. Slusher, Mrs. Rininger, Mrs. Meszaros. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Mr. Snyder read Ordinance O-2009-5 AN ORDINANCE DECLARING IT NECESSARY TO PLACE A 2.0 MILL TAX LEVY ON THE BALLOT IN THE VILLAGE OF WINDHAM FOR THE MAY 15, 2009 PRIMARY ELECTION FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT AND OPERATING EXPENSES UNDER SECTION 5705.19(I) OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE AND NOTIFYING THE PORTAGE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND REPEALING ALL PRIOR INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES.

A motion to suspend the rules was made by Mr. Slusher and seconded by Mrs. Meszaros. Vote of Council: Ayes: Mr. Snyder, Mr. Garrett, Mrs. Barrett, Mr. Slusher, Mrs. Rininger, Mrs. Meszaros. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Mr. Snyder made a motion to adopt Ordinance O-2009-5 which was seconded by Mr. Slusher. Vote of Council: Ayes: Mr. Snyder, Mr. Garrett, Mrs. Barrett, Mr. Slusher, Mrs. Rininger, Mrs. Meszaros. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Mayor Donham explained the agreement to obtain EMS and Ambulance Services. After some discussion, Mr. Snyder made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss the agreement since it involves the lawsuit with the Township Trustees. The motion was seconded by Mr.

Slusher. Vote of Council: Ayes: Mr. Snyder, Mr. Garrett, Mrs. Barrett, Mr. Slusher, Mrs. Rininger, Mrs. Meszaros. Nays: None. Motion carried and Council entered executive session at 6:59 P.M.

Mr. Snyder moved to return from executive session which was seconded by Mrs. Meszaros. Vote of Council: Ayes: Mr. Snyder, Mr. Garrett, Mrs. Barrett, Mr. Slusher, Mrs. Rininger, Mrs. Meszaros. Nays: None. Motion carried and Council returned from executive session at 7:09 P.M.

Mr. Snyder moved to approve the memorandum of agreement to obtain EMS and Ambulance Services which was seconded by Mrs. Meszaros. Vote of Council: Ayes: Mr. Snyder, Mr. Garrett, Mrs. Barrett, Mr. Slusher, Mrs. Rininger, Mrs. Meszaros. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Mrs. Ballard rose and asked why there is not a single woman on any Committee. Mr. Snyder said that at the current time and with serious consideration the appointments were made but were not necessarily cast in stone.

There being nothing further, Mr. Slusher made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Mrs. Meszaros. Vote of Council: Ayes: Mrs. Meszaros, Mr. Snyder, Mrs. Barrett, Mr. Garrett, Mrs. Rininger, Mr. Slusher. Nays: None. Motion carried and the Council meeting was adjourned at 7:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Attest

Lloyd C. Billman, Clerk of Council

Robert W. Donham II, Mayor