

# Village of Windham Ohio

## Minutes of Regular Council Meeting

Held March 23, 2021

At 7:04 p.m. the Honorable Mayor Scott Garrett called the meeting to order and led in the pledge of allegiance to the flag of our country.

Roll Call: Cheryl Belknap – present                      Lawrence Cunningham – present  
                  Terrie Altieri – present                      Cindy Cale – present  
                  Cheryl Taylor – present                      Sherri Pennington – present

Also present were: Tom Reitz, Eric Breiding, Elizabeth Derthick, Debbie Blewitt, Tom Brett, and Denise Bly.

Mrs. Altieri made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 23, 2021 Regular Council Meeting, which was seconded by Ms. Belknap and carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

Fiscal Officer Cheree Taylor gave the Financial Reports as follows: The Income Tax collected year to date February 23, 2021 was \$74,397.07. The expenditures for the month of February 2021 were \$124,597.34 in checks and charges. Check numbers 36816 through 36868 were paid from the primary checking account during February 2021 with two checks, number 36763 and 36857, voided during the month. Direct Deposit Vouchers 57-2021 through 85-2021 and 94-2021 through 116-2021 were also paid during the month of February 2021. The all funds reconciled balance for February 2021 was \$1,736,558.77.

Village Council President's report by Lawrence Cunningham – Mr. Cunningham said East Center Street sidewalks are complete. Sidewalks have been looked at in the new homes. Fire hydrants are almost complete. The Spring Clean Up around the third weekend in April. Windham Township wants to meet with the Village about the cost of running the Fire District because the Village has more calls than the Township. Fiscal Officer Taylor said both the residents of the Township and the Village pay the same tax rate for the Fire Levy.

Dispatchers Police, Fire and Rescue Reports for February 2021 by Cindy Cale – Mrs. Cale made a motion to accept the Police, Fire, and Rescue Reports for February 2021, which was seconded by Ms. Belknap and carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

Mayor's Communication by Scott Garrett – Mr. Garrett thanked whoever put the accolade to Maruf on the Community Sign.

Prior requests of guests to speak – None

Finance by Cindy Cale

Mrs. Cale made a motion to approve the Fiscal Officer's expenditures for the month of February 2021 as reported. Mrs. Altieri seconded this motion and it carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

Mrs. Cale made a motion to approve the all funds reconciled bank balance for February 2021 in the amount of \$1,736,558.77 as reported. Mrs. Altieri seconded the motion which carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

Mrs. Cale read Ordinance O-2021-5 **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING, RATIFYING THE ACTIONS OF THE VILLAGE ADMINSTRATOR AND CONFIRMING THE SALE OF VARIOUS PARCELS OF REAL ESTATE OWNED BY THE VILLAGE BUT NO LONGER NEEDED FOR ANY MUNICIPAL PURPOSE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** and made a motion to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Ms. Belknap and carried by a 6 – 0 vote. Mrs. Cale made a motion to adopt Ordinance O-2021-5, which was seconded by Mrs. Altieri. Mrs. Cale said the notary section is not complete on one of the exhibits. Mr. Reitz said this would not be an issue for the Village. Debbie Blewitt said she would check with the escrow agent on this. This motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

Mrs. Cale read Ordinance O-2021-6 **A ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF \$6,815.53 FROM THE GENERAL FUND (1000-892-0000) TO THE WATER FUND (5101-539-0000) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** and made a motion to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Ms. Belknap and carried by a 6 – 0 vote. Mrs. Cale made a

motion to adopt Ordinance O-2021-6, which was seconded by Mrs. Altieri. Mrs. Cale wanted to know why this money was being moved. Fiscal Officer Taylor explained that this was the amount of to cap the old water lines on the properties that the Village sold from behind the Bank to the School. This motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

Mrs. Cale read Ordinance O-2021-7 **AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS FOR 2021 FOR THE VILLAGE OF WINDHAM, CALLED FOR IN THAT BUDGET AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** and made a motion to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Mrs. Taylor and carried by a 6 – 0 vote. Mrs. Cale made a motion to adopt Ordinance O-2021-7, which was seconded by Mrs. Taylor and carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

Safety, Personnel, Rules (SPR) by Terrie Altieri

Mrs. Altieri read Resolution R-2021-4 **A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE APPLICATION FOR AND SUBSEQUENT ACCEPTANCEW OF GRANT FUNDS BY THE VILLAGE OF WINDHAM AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** and made a motion to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Mrs. Cale and carried by a 6 – 0 vote. Mrs. Altieri made a motion to adopt Resolution R-2021-4, which was seconded by Mrs. Cale. Mr. Reitz said Debbie Blewitt did a great job securing this grant for the Village because this saves the Village a large amount of money. This motion carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

Mrs. Altieri read Resolution R-2021-5 **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH THE PORTAGE COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER FOR DEFENSE OF INDIGENT PERSONS CHARGED WITH CRIMINAL OFFENSES UNDER THE VILLAGE ORDINANCES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** and made a motion to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Mrs. Cale and carried by 6 – 0 vote. Mrs. Altieri made a motion to adopt Resolution R-2021-5, which was seconded by Mrs. Cale and carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

Utilities by Cheryl Taylor – Mrs. Taylor had nothing at the time

Service Committee by Cheryl Belknap

Ms. Belknap made a motion approve the new Community Center Rental Agreement effective for rentals beginning July 1, 2021, which was seconded by Mrs. Altieri. Mrs. Cale wanted to know if there is still a 4 hour minimum for a Police Officer to be in attendance for a Community Building Rental. Eric Breiding said yes and he goes over that with the renter when they call to schedule a Police Officer. Fiscal Officer Taylor said that was never in the agreement, the only thing that was added was the cleaning fee, but it can be added if Council wants that to be added. Mrs. Altieri made a motion to amend 12.1 to insert ‘a minimum of 4 hours’ after the cost of the Police Officer at \$25/hr. Mrs. Cale seconded this motion and it carried by a 6 – 0 vote. Ms. Belknap made a motion to approve the contract as amended, which was seconded by Mrs. Altieri and carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

Mrs. Cale asked if the Village can pay Cheryl Belknap to clean the Community Building and Tom Reitz said no. Council agreed to find someone to clean the Community Building for \$50 each time.

Economic Development by Lawrence Cunningham – Mr. Cunningham said we need to start enforcing the rules to keep residents’ properties cleaned up. Eric Breiding explained the procedure for these enforcement letters. (Internet Frozen no audio). Eric Breiding said if it is a rental, the letter goes to both the tenant and the landlord. (Internet Frozen no audio). Mr. Reitz explained the code to Council. (Internet Frozen no audio). Debbie Blewitt said this needs to be a collaborative effort between Council, civic minded people, and Police Officers. (Internet Frozen no audio). Debbie Blewitt said we can get some volunteers to help out senior citizens who may not have the means to haul away junk. Mr. Cunningham said tomorrow at 3:00 p.m. there is a meeting at the school to go through levy signs if anyone would like to help.

Parks and Recreation by Sherri Pennington – Mrs. Pennington had nothing at the time.

Planning Commission by Scott Garrett – Mr. Garrett had nothing at the time.

Solicitor’s Report by Tom Reitz – Mr. Reitz discussed the Purdue Pharmacy lawsuit and explained that Purdue Pharmacy wants to the State Attorney Generals to take over the portion of the Purdue Pharmacy company and take the proceeds from the sale of opiates and use the

money to help to assist communities across the country with respect to the damages that communities have suffered due to opioid use. The amount of the settlement is over a billion dollars but that amount pales in comparison to the amount of claims that have been made. The attorneys involved are not on board with this. The owners of Purdue Pharmacy would no longer have any personal liability. State Attorney Generals are not interested in running an opiate company. The allocation of the proceeds are not directly to the political subdivisions, but are held by the third party committee. Mr. Reitz says he knows that this deal will be rejected, but there is some movement on this lawsuit.

Guest Recognition – None.

Last Chance of Council to Speak on Any Subject – Council decided to keep the Administration Building locked for at least the month of April and they will revisit it again at the Council meeting in April.

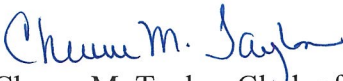
Council looked at the calendar for April 2021. The Committee meetings (Parks & Recreation and Committee of the Whole) will be Monday, April 12, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. The Council Meeting will be Monday, April 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. All meetings will be virtual meetings on Zoom.

Mrs. Cale made a motion to enter into executive session to discuss hiring, firing, discipline, or compensation of personnel. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Taylor and carried by a 6 – 0 vote at 8:16 p.m.

Mrs. Cale made a motion to return from executive session. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Taylor and carried by a 6 – 0 vote at 8:40 p.m.

Mrs. Cale made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Mrs. Altieri and by unanimous vote the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Cheree M. Taylor, Clerk of Council

Attest,

  
Scott Garrett, Mayor

**\*\* NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE SUMMARY BY DIRECTION OF COUNCIL \*\***  
All Council & Committee Meetings will be held in Windham Council Chambers, unless otherwise noted.

