

Village of Windham Ohio

Minutes of Regular Council Meeting

Held July 27, 2021

The meeting was preceded by a Public Hearing on Tuesday, June 27, 2021 at 6:57 p.m. to allow discussion of Resolution R-2021-14 (2022 Budget). Those present for the Public Hearing were Cheryl Taylor, Sherri Pennington, Scott Garrett, Cindy Cale, Lawrence Cunningham, Terrie Altieri, Debbie Blewitt, Elmer Owens, Judy Owens, Tom Reitz, Denise Bly, Eric Breiding, and Tom Brett. There were no questions from the public at the Public Hearing and the Public Hearing was adjourned at 7:00 p.m. with a motion by Cindy Cale and a second by Terrie Altieri.

At 7:00 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, Debbie Blewitt, Tom Brett, Erik Breiding, Elmer Owens, Judy Owens, and Denise Bly.

Mrs. Cale made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 22, 2021 Regular Council Meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Cunningham and carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

Mrs. Cale made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2021 Special Council Meeting, which was seconded by Mr. Cunningham and carried by 6 – 0 vote.

The approval of the minutes of the July 17, 2021 Special Council Meeting Minutes was removed from the agenda because in light of Rob Neal filing an appeal, Mr. Reitz asked for the minutes to be as verbatim as possible and therefore Fiscal Officer Taylor was not able to complete them in time for the meeting.

Fiscal Officer Cheree Taylor gave the Financial Reports as follows: The Income Tax collected year to date June 30, 2021 was \$267,232.67. The expenditures for the month of June 2021 were \$236,312.95 in checks and charges. Check numbers 37066 through 37156 were paid from the primary checking account during June 2021 with one check, number 37121, voided during the month. Direct Deposit Vouchers 325-2021 through 356-2021 and 364-2021 through 389-2021 were also paid during the month of June 2021. The all funds reconciled balance for June 2021 was \$1,915,791.11.

Village Council President's report by Lawrence Cunningham – Mr. Cunningham said that Mandy Picone put in an offer to purchase the Old Administration Building.

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

Mayor's Communication by Scott Garrett – Mr. Garrett said it a joy to see the Olympics again and to see the athletes across the world coming together.

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 June 2021 as reported. Ms. Belknap 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 June 2021 in the amount of \$1,915,791.11 as reported. Mrs. Altieri seconded the motion which carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

Mrs. Cale read Resolution R-2021-14 **A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2022 PROPOSED BUDGET AND AUTHORIZING THE FISCAL OFFICER TO SUBMIT THE BUDGET TO THE PORTAGE COUNTY AUDITOR AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** and made a motion to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Mrs. Altieri

and carried by a 6 – 0 vote. Mrs. Cale made a motion to adopt Resolution R-2021-14, which was seconded by Mrs. Taylor and carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

Safety, Personnel, Rules (SPR) by Terrie Altieri

Mrs. Altieri made a motion to approve moving Dale Murry from Auxiliary to part-time Police Officer effective August 1, 2021. This motion was seconded by Mrs. Cale and carried by a 6 – 0 vote.

Mrs. Altieri read Resolution R-2021-11 **A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF WINDHAM AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF THE PORTAGE COUNTY MULTIJURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN.** This was a second read.

Utilities by Cheryl Taylor

Mrs. Taylor read Ordinance O-2021-11 **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ABATING THE RENTS INITIALLY ESTABLISHED IN ORDINANCE O-2012-3 AND AMENDED BY THE ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCE 2012-49 AND ESTABLISHING THE AMOUNT OF RENT TO BE PAID BY THE WATER REVENUE FUND AND THE SEWER REVENUE FUND TO THE GENERAL FUND FOR USE OF MUNICIPAL PROPERTY ON WHICH THE WATER AND SEWER PLANTS ARE LOCATED.** This was a second read.

Service Committee by Cheryl Belknap

Ms. Belknap read Resolution R-2021-10 **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND FISCAL OFFICER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE WINDHAM EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT TO SELL ROAD SALT.** This was a second read.

Economic Development by Lawrence Cunningham – Mr. Cunningham had nothing at the time.

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 said there was a notice of appeal filed by Rob Neal. All the notice says is he is appealing the confirmation of the discipline that Council imposed upon him. Mr. Reitz said he filed a notice of appearance on the Village's behalf so that he can have access to the file.

Guest Recognition – Mr. Owens addressed Council about the property he used to own on North Main Street. He was disputing the way the procedure for the condemning of this property a couple of years ago. He wanted to know why he never saw the warrant. Mr. Reitz said he would provide Mr. Owens with the paperwork that was filed to obtain the warrant to condemn the property. Mrs. Owens interjected and said what her husband was really looking for the answer to, was why he was told he could not live there anymore and they were going to tear it down and why is it built up now and someone else was able to do it. Mr. Reitz said the answer was either to fix the house up or tear it down. Mr. Owens said that was not the way it happened. Mr. Reitz told Mrs. Owens he would send them the search warrant and the court orders. Then Mr. Owens went on to complain about the Village cleaning up his property on Wolf Road. Mrs. Owens said she was thankful for the Village cleaning up the property and removing the junk, but Mrs. Owens said they took some good stuff too and they wanted to know why. Mr. Garrett agreed that some things are subjective but they were instructed to take what appeared to be not operational. Mr. Owens went back to discussing his old property on North Main Street. Mr. Garrett said once the property was sold, the new owner got the same agreement; he had a certain amount of time to comply just like Mr. Owens did. Mrs. Owens said Mr. Owens did not understand that. Mr. Owens said this isn't over and he will be taking further legal action. Mr. Garrett said Mr. Owens was allowed to take whatever legal action he felt he needed to. Denise Bly asked the Police Chief how many officers there were and he said 14 total. Denise Bly asked for further clarification on Mr. Owens' grievance. Mr. Garrett explained that Mr. Owens owned a burnt house on North Main Street and he was given 90 days to get the outside fixed and he didn't do it but before he lost it, he sold it to another person, who also was not in compliance of the 90 days and it was sold again, and the current owner is now in compliance. Mr. Reitz said the events that occurred at Mr. Owens' property on North Main Street were over a course of about 5 years. Mr. Owens came back into the meeting and said he

was told he would get pictures of everything that was taken from his property on Wolf Road and he wants those pictures, then he left.

Last Chance of Council to Speak on Any Subject – Mrs. Altieri asked about the Senior Housing Project and Debbie Blewitt said she spoke with Stacy Brown from NDS and the funds are coming from HUD, so they hoping that things will get started within the next 6 months. Mr. Cunningham asked about the property on the corner of Community and Green Meadow that Land Bank wants to sell us, the total with title and everything will be about \$500. This property would tie into the other lots we took off the market because there was an issue tying into the sewer and this should alleviate this. Mr. Cunningham made a motion to purchase the property from the Land Bank, which is on the southeast corner of Community and Green Meadow. This motion was seconded by Ms. Belknap and carried by a 6 – 0 vote. Mrs. Altieri said we still have to figure out a building for the equipment if we sell the Old Administration Building to Mandy Picone. Debbie Blewitt said we will have to have an architect render a drawing and pull permits and it will have to be bid. Debbie Blewitt said we can discuss this more at the Committee Meeting because the boys will be there if there are any questions. Debbie Blewitt said Billy Pennington drew a drawing of possibly putting another building here at the Administration Building but she will check with Joe Bodnar. Tom Brett suggested contacting Maplewood JVS because they do projects like this.

Council looked at the calendar for August 2021. The Committee meetings (Parks & Recreation and Committee of the Whole) will be Tuesday, August 10, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. The Council Meeting will be Tuesday, August 24, 2021 at 7:00 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 7:54 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.

