

Regular Council

August 5,

2024

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Mayor Jarvis presiding.

ROLL CALL

The following Village Council members were present: Keith Bacin, Adam Gongwer, Aaron Hoptry, Wynn Kearns, Kim Little, and Jeff O'Brien.

Other officials present: Attorney John Studenmund, Administrator Peter Them, Chief Weaver, Finance Director James Banks, and Assistant Finance Director Rachel Fagan.

Residents and other guests: Brian Moore representative for Blueberry Festival Committee, Jeff Carter 15 West Main Street, Tom Rose 52 Morgan Drive, Olivia Robertson 132 West Main Street, Charles Comstock 199 Essex Road, Jacob R. Carter 200 Castor Road, and Dave Gibson 187 Kimberwick Court.

Motion by O'BRIEN to excuse
Councilman Wise.

Seconded by LITTLE.

Roll call. Yeas: 6; Nays: 0; Abstains: 0.

Motion carried.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by KEARNS to approve the minutes
of July 1, 2024 Regular Council Meeting.

Seconded by O'BRIEN.

Roll call. Yea: 4; Nays: 0; Abstain: 2 (Hoptry and Little).

Motion carried.

FIXING TIME OF ADJOURNMENT

Motion by GONGWER to set the time of adjournment
for 8:40 p.m. Seconded by BACIN

Roll call. Yeas: 6; Nays: 0; Abstains: 0.

Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS

Mayor Jarvis requested any Village resident wishing to address Council concerning Council business to please stand, state their name and address for the record, and their purpose for attending Council.

Brian Moore, Treasurer for Blueberry Festival, asked Council why the change in time for the parade on Sunday August 4th? The committee originally requested the parade to start at 2:00 p.m. Mayor Jarvis stated that time coincides exactly with the time the super bikes are letting out at Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course. This would not be an ideal

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situation with all the traffic attempting to get out of town and we close Main Street for over an hour. Mr. Moore ultimately agreed to start the parade at 1:00 p.m.

Charles Comstock of Essex Road asked about dead trees located across Bicentennial Park. He noted this is a safety issue. Administrator Them stated he has mailed letters to the property owners of the dead trees. Mr. Comstock added an overgrown tree located on Essex Circle needs trimming. It inhibits sight distance for vehicles. Mr. Comstock also expressed his worries for all the businesses disappearing in the Village and leaving all the empty buildings in its wake. Mr. Comstock asked if there is something the Village can do to attract/promote businesses. Mayor Jarvis advised that the tools available are being utilized when they apply; they are tax abatements and/grants. Mayor Jarvis added that small businesses do not employ sufficient workers to qualify for abatements. Mr. Comstock asked if anyone has asked the departing business why they are leaving. It was noted that Geyer is currently renting their building, and that Rite Aid was bought out by another corporation and elected to shut down this building.

Olivia Robertson of Main Street requested the Council to approve Facebook, a social media web page for Village and surrounding area residents, so that people are up to date on current events. Ms. Robertson gave couple of examples where a Facebook page would have been handy; gas leak in the area, recent scam with door-to-door salesmen, etcetera. Ms. Robertson noted that Lexington and Butler are the only two villages in Richland County that do not have a Facebook account. Brief discussion followed but no decisions were made.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

RULES AND PERSONNEL: No report.

FINANCE: Bills approved for July 2024.

SAFETY SERVICE: No report.

PUBLIC UTILITIES: No report.

STREETS & SIDEWALKS: No report. Mr. Them reported paving project is completed.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS: No report.

FINANCE REPORT

As reported by Finance Director, Mr. Jim Banks:

All ten bank accounts have been reconciled for the month of July. There were no issues.

Motion by LITTLE to approve
Finance report.

Seconded by O'BRIEN.

Roll call. Yeas: 6; Nays: 0; Abstains: 0.

Motion carried.

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ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

As reported by Mr. Peter Them:

An open solicitation complaint was made for a pest control door to door salesman. Mr. Them reviewed the permit policy.

Deer crossing signage was placed on Steam Corners Rd.

Village Trick or Treat is scheduled for Thursday October 31st from 5:30 till 7:00 p.m.

Councilman Bacin thanked Mr. Them for reviving the Village newsletter. Mr. Bacin noted the sign ordinance is not being supported within the Village. Mr. Them stated Planning Commission is in the process of clarifying our zoning ordinances and hope to have these completed and be more aggressive regarding our ordinances.

Mayor's report

As reported by Mayor Bob Jarvis:

Only part-time help must watch the eight-minute video to complete the required fraud video for all Village employees.

We received the \$250,000.00 study grant money to apply for connector road project.

Councilman Little asked if the garden in front of Cucina's store is permissible in the Village. Mayor Jarvis stated we are currently reviewing Village zoning.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

As reported by Chief Troy Weaver:

The Flock Camera was able to alert of one stolen vehicle and two felony drug arrests. Proving to be very beneficial.

The new cruiser is in and will leave on Friday to get outfitted, which takes approximately eight and half weeks to be outfitted.

Evidence room update is almost complete.

Opportunity to purchase a 2024 cruiser for only \$500.00 to \$800.00 more; it is currently available. If not purchased now, the next availability will be maybe November or December 2024. If purchase two police cruisers in 2024; no new purchases until 2025. Sticker price is \$45,935.00. Outfitted price from \$15,000.00 to \$16,000.00. Total costs \$60,935.00 - \$61,935.00. This will allow a total of six cruisers for the department.

Motion by O'BRIEN to approve
Purchase of new 2024 Police Cruiser.

Seconded by KEARNS.

DISCUSSION: Councilman Hoptry asked why the change from February 2024 when we were told no more cruisers are needed. Chief Weaver stated; it was a true statement, but considering the rise in costs and lack of availability in just under a year's time, it would be best to purchase two in 2024 and skipping the 2025 cruiser purchase. Administrator Them told Councilman Bacin the delivery may be a different date; there is a limit to the size of the order.

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Roll call. Yeas: 6; Nays: 0; Abstains: 0.
Motion carried.

PARLIMENATARIAN REPORT

As reported by Councilman Bacin:

Mosquito spraying schedule is on the Village's website.

Next month, Council will hold meetings Tuesday September 3rd and Monday September 16th. Council is back to business attire.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 24-30 by Mr. O'Brien

A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF DALTON DEEL AS A FULL-TIME PROBATIONARY POLICE OFFICER OF THE VILLAGE OF LEXINGTON, OHIO AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by O'BRIEN to waive rules of Council
requiring that a Resolution comes from a
standing committee.

Seconded by KEARNS.

Roll call. All yeas: 6-0.

Motion carried.

Motion by O'BRIEN to waive rules of Council
requiring that a Resolution is read on
two separate occasions.

Seconded by KEARNS.

Roll call. All yeas: 6-0.

Motion carried.

Motion by O'BRIEN to adopt.

Seconded by KEARNS.

DISCUSSION: This will bring us up to full staff.

Roll call. Yeas: 6; Nays: 0; Abstains: 0

Motion carried.

Resolution No. 24-31 by Mr. Wise

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR COMPETITIVE BIDS FOR THE 200 WEST MAIN STREET CULVERT PROJECT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by O'BRIEN to waive rules of Council requiring that a Resolution comes from a standing committee.

Seconded by LITTLE.

Roll call. All yeas: 6-0.

Motion carried.

Motion by O'BRIEN to waive rules of Council requiring that a Resolution is read on two separate occasions.

Seconded by LITTLE.

Roll call. All yeas: 6-0.

Motion carried.

Motion by O'BRIEN to adopt.

Seconded by LITTLE.

DISCUSSION: Corrugated pipe on the resident's side has failed and created a sinkhole. Project is ready to go; KEM has been working on the project. Trees are gone and the stumps have been removed. Councilman Bacin asked if the road will be closed; Mr. Them replied negatively.

Roll call. Yeas: 6; Nays: 0; Abstains: 0

Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 24-32 by Mr. Wise

AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE STATE ROUTE 42 CULVERT REPLACEMENT ENGINEERING DESIGN PLANS AND ASSOCIATED COSTS.

Motion by O'BRIEN to waive rules of Council requiring that an Ordinance comes from a standing committee.

Seconded by BACIN.

Roll call. All yeas: 6-0.

Motion carried.

Motion by O'BRIEN to waive rules of Council requiring that an Ordinance is read on two separate occasions.

Seconded by BACIN.

Roll call. All yeas: 6-0.

Motion carried.

Motion by O'BRIEN to adopt.

Seconded by BACIN.

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DISCUSSION: Last step for the culvert; Kleinfelder agreed to amendment to the previous contract.

Roll call. Yeas: 6; Nays: 0; Abstains: 0
Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 24-33 by Mr. Gongwer

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE NEW NATIONAL OPIOIDS SETTLEMENT WITH KROGER CO. AND RATIFYING THE EXECUTION OF THE SETTLEMENT PARTICIPATION FORM WITH KROGER CO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by GONGWER to waive rules of Council requiring that an Ordinance comes from a standing committee.

Seconded by LITTLE.

Roll call. All yeas: 6-0.

Motion carried.

Motion by GONGWER to waive rules of Council requiring that an Ordinance is read on two separate occasions.

Seconded by LITTLE.

Roll call. All yeas: 6-0.

Motion carried.

Motion by GONGWER to adopt.

Seconded by LITTLE.

DISCUSSION: Standing operating procedure which has been completed previously for other stores. Must be used for police department project. Total approximately \$2,500.00.

Roll call. Yeas: 6; Nays: 0; Abstains: 0
Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 24-34 by Mr. Little

AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF AN INVOICE BASED ON A THEN AND NOW CERTIFICATE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion by LITTLE to waive rules of Council requiring that an Ordinance comes from a standing committee.

Seconded by KEARNS.

Roll call. All yeas: 6-0.

Motion carried.

Motion by LITTLE to waive rules of Council requiring that an Ordinance is read on two separate occasions.

Seconded by KEARNS.

Roll call. All yeas: 6-0.

Motion carried.

Motion by LITTLE to adopt.

Seconded by KEARNS.

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DISCUSSION: An oversight was made where emails from OWDA and OPW were received and believed to be from the same organization due to the similarity in abbreviations. A payment was missed for OWDA as a result. Mrs. Fagan explained and apologized to Council. There were no late fees.

Roll call. Yeas: 6; Nays: 0; Abstains: 0
Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 24-35 by Mr. Little
AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR PERMANENT BUDGET AMENDMENTS
AND APPROPRIATIONS FOR AUGHTS FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE,
GENERAL, INCOME TAX, AND PARK FUNDS.

Motion by LITTLE to waive rules of Council
requiring that an Ordinance comes from a
standing committee.

Seconded by BACIN.

Roll call. All yeas: 6 – 0.

Motion carried.

Motion by LITTLE to waive rules of Council
requiring that an Ordinance is read on
two separate occasions.

Seconded by BACIN.

Roll call. All yeas: 6 – 0.

Motion carried.

Motion by LITTLE to adopt.

Seconded by BACIN.

DISCUSSION: Most of the amendments are due to inflation costs. G & L Supply was the vendor of choice for bathroom soap and paper and had always donated the dispensers. They have closed their building in Mansfield we are forced to get supplies delivered from Cleveland. We will continue to go with the Cleveland group through the season and then review other options. Other costs include concreting the pickleball pad and sidewalks. Other monies were for income tax software.

Roll call. Yeas: 6; Nays: 0; Abstains: 0
Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Jarvis reported the dedication for the pickleball court was well received. Thanked Councilmen Kearns and Wise for playing for the crowd.

NEW BUSINESS

No comments were made.

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MISCELLANEOUS

No comments were made.

Motion by BACIN to adjourn
before the appointed hour.

Seconded by KEARNS.

Roll call. Yeas: 5; Nays: 0; Abstains: 0

Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Barton
Clerk of Council

Bob Jarvis
Mayor