

**VILLAGE OF CRIDERSVILLE COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting – November 12, 2018**

Mayor Rick Walls called the regular Council meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present-- Mayor Rick Walls; Council: Joe Bailey, Dorance Thompson, Eric West, Frank Oen, and Stacey Cook. Solicitor Angela Elliot, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer Susan Bassitt, Village Administrator Jarid Kohlriseser, and Fire Chief Rick Miller were also in attendance. Paul Lynch was absent.

It was moved by Bailey, seconded by West to accept the minutes of the October 08, 2018 regular Council Meeting as written. Motion passed 5-0.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Committee of the Whole:** The committee met November 8, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. Mayor Walls stated the 2019 Sanitary Sewer rehab project on East Main St. is waiting on funding. Hopefully the work will be done late in 2019. He also said Greg Myers was in attendance and they discussed CRA's (State of Ohio Community Reinvestment Area) and TIF's (Tax Increment Financing District). He said it would be a good idea to peruse them so when interested business's express interest in the Village these will already be in place. A planning committee meeting was scheduled for December 4, 2018 at 7:30p.m. to begin the necessary legislation to be started after the first of the year. Legislation will be read three times at regular council meetings before it is passes. They discussed possible renovations to the Tower Park Hall next year. The hall is rented out and does provide some income to the village. Jarid will ask Greg Myers to attend the planning meeting.

**Utilities & Surface Water:** Joe Bailey reported that the Northwest Sanitary Sewer Project should be completed this week. Crews have just one more manhole to finish, they are waiting for materials to complete it. All the maintenance/utility personnel have completed their water and sewer license renewals for another two years. Village crews also dug up and replaced a shut off valve on Onalee. The annual fire hydrant flushing has been completed as well.

**Planning :** No report

**Finance:** Eric West asked for a motion to permit the village supervisors to give their employees raises not to exceed fifty cents per hour, based on merit, attendance, production and annual reviews. Resident Bob White of West Main St. asked if these raises were in addition to the annual percentage increase given employees every year. West said the employees do not receive anything like that. The only raises village employees get are those granted by Council. The Mayor stated the employees used to get an increase based on longevity but Council did away with those years ago, employees are only given increases based on merit. Joe Bailey seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

The Mayor asked if they would like to discuss the clerk. Eric West stated that Candy Stevely who was the Village Clerk for many years, succumbed to cancer last month, so they are be working to replace her. He said council has been working with the Mayor and Solicitor to clear up some legalities. It is a Mayor appointed position. He asked the Mayor if he had any updates at this point. Mayor Walls stated he would like to appoint Susan Bassitt, (the current Assistant Village Clerk) he stated they have worked out a pay range for her with benefits that are acceptable to him. He said he discussed it with council at last week's Committee of the Whole meeting and that everyone was on board. So, he continued, she will be taking on the jobs of two people, (combining the Village Clerk's position with the Assistant Village Clerk's position) working her current duties during the day and the new ones at night, especially this time of year when there are huge amounts of reports to do for the state and county. He said he felt she is the only one with the skills necessary to be the Clerk for the Village without a lot of training. He then asked for a motion from council to approve his appointment of Susan Bassitt, motion made by West, seconded by Bailey. Stacey Cook asked what her title will be, The Mayor responded, the Village Fiscal Officer. (eliminating the Village Clerk and Assistant clerk positions) Motion passes 5-0.

Eric added that he has asked the Police Chief and Village Administrator to trim the budget for next year, realizing it's difficulty with rising costs of everything, but both have agreed to make as many cuts as possible and have new budgets for the next council meeting.

**Park:** Stacey Cook stated the new basketball poles have been installed at Legacy Park. The new backboards should be installed shortly as well. Then the final step should be getting the new fence needs put back up. She pointed out that funding is a result of a grant. (ODNR)

**Streets:** Dorance Thompson reported that the sidewalk repair/replacement project for this year should be completed this week. Delays occurred due to the rain but should be on track for this completion this week.

**Properties:** Frank Oen reported our annual leaf program continues through November 30<sup>th</sup>. Leaves must be bagged and set curbside. We only accept leaves, no other material will be accepted. If bags contain other materials or are too heavy to lift, they will not be picked up.

**Fire:** Fire Chief Rick Miller distributed the October report. There were a 50 EMS calls and 9 fire calls during October. As of November 01, 2018, there have been a total of 573 calls for the year. Chief Miller said the grass truck was advertised for sale by sealed bids. After advertising for two weeks he only received one bid of \$3,555.00, so it was sold and that money was deposited into the Fire Fund. He said their Helping Hands Christmas program is underway. There are cans set up at local and area businesses for spare change donations. Non perishable food and monetary donations can also be made at the Fire Station as well. The Fire Department will purchase toys as well and distribute to families in need on December 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Safety:** Chief Drake passed out a report to council to pass around containing information for the past four months during his absence. He noticed a decline in some activities, he is working to correct those issues. He is working with Larry Drain on the grass issues. He said our ordinance states grass over eight inches must be cut so he doesn't know why there was any confusion about it but he does have some sample grass ordinances coming to look at to see if they may be more clear. He stated that the properties that were sent certified letters for zoning violations have 30 days to pick up their letters so those properties will sit until December before anything can be done. Larry Drain asked council if they received the packets of information and photos regarding what he believes to be current violations he put on their council mail shelves. The Mayor said he did get them and has reviewed about three fourths of them, a few council members said they did receive them but there was no discussion. Resident Bob White asked council who is the currently running the police department. The Mayor stated John Drake is the Chief, and he is back on modified duty which will primarily keep him in the office performing administrative duties. Mr. White then complained that the street in front of his house on West Main has become a drag strip while all the police cruisers sit behind the station, and that if we can't get a decent police chief then maybe we should consider asking the Sheriff's department for coverage on the streets. The Mayor replied that that situation is being resolved with Chief Drake back on duty.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Frank Oen said there are two temporary pools that have not been taken down yet. One on Thomas Dr. and the other on Shawnee Rd. Jarid explained some pools that may have been considered temporary in the past are now actually permanent. Those individuals were issued building permits rather than temporary pool permits. Temporary pools are permitted to be up from May 1<sup>st</sup> until October 1<sup>st</sup>. Jarid will check on the two Frank is talking about.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

It was moved by West, seconded by Cook to pay the necessary bills for the month of November 2018. Motion passed 5-0.

**Ordinance #1683** establishing certain rates of pay, health and hospitalization insurance, sick leave, paid holidays and vacation for all non-elected village employees for the year 2019 was introduced by Mayor Walls. Motion to read **Ordinance #1683** for the third and final reading by title only was made by West and seconded by Oen. Motion passed 5-0. Mayor Walls read the ordinance by title only. West asked that paragraphs four and five be removed as they are

duplicates of paragraphs two and three. Motion to accept Ordinance #1683 as read, with the paragraph changes for the third and final reading was made by Oen, seconded by West. Motion passed 5-0.

**Resolution #2359** declaring the property at 221 Elizabeth Street, Cridersville, Ohio, aka Parcel #B0601601200, to be a public nuisance and authorizing the Village Administrator to remove such unlawful conditions if said owner(s) fail to do so within 45 days of notice and declaring an emergency was introduced by Mayor Walls. He asked for a motion to read by title only and declaring an emergency. Motion made by Thompson, seconded by West. Motion passed 5-0. The Mayor read by title, he stated the house had a fire the end of July or early August and has just set untouched since. The solicitor said the owner of the property is unclear from the Auglaize County Auditor's website but information will be sent to the address on file. If the owner does not comply, the Village crew can go on to the property and clean it up and access the property owner's taxes. The violation relates to bags of garbage, kitchen chair, cabinet, plastic tote, a broom and four pieces of soffit on the front porch, an air conditioning unit in the front yard, two garbage cans full of garbage, propane grill, plastic tote and miscellaneous trash in the driveway. Motion to accept Resolution #2359 and declaring an emergency was made by Thompson, seconded by Bailey. Motion passed-5-0.

Mayor Walls asked council members if they had anything else.

Joe Bailey made a motion to go into executive session at the conclusion of the meeting to discuss a personnel matter with no action being taken. Oen seconded the motion, motion passed 5-0.

Stacey Cook reminded the community that the Lion's Club Breakfast with Santa is November 24th at Cridersville United Methodist Church at 10:00a.m., Christmas on Main is December 8<sup>th</sup> from 9:a.m.- 1:00p.m. and the Annual Tree Lighting is December 3<sup>rd</sup> at the log cabin.

Larry Drain asked about the progress with 307 E. High St. The neighbor has asked Larry what is being done about the condition of the house and condemning the property, he has brought it to council before. The Mayor said the owner passed a few months ago and they are trying to get in touch with her children to see if they will do anything.

Chief Miller stated the Fire Department's Breakfast with Santa is December 8<sup>th</sup>. They will start serving at 8:00a.m.. Santa arrives at 11:00. Proceeds go to the "Right to Reprogram".

Mayor Walls called for a five minute break prior to the executive session.

Motion to return to regular session was made by West, seconded by Bailey. Motion passed 5-0.

Motion to adjourn was made by Cook, seconded by Thompson. Motion passed 5-0.

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Susan Bassitt, Village Fiscal Officer

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Rick Walls, Mayor