

**VILLAGE OF CRIDERSVILLE COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting – December 10, 2018**

Mayor Rick Walls was not in attendance due to illness. Council President, Eric West called the regular Council meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present-- Council: Joe Bailey, Dorance Thompson, Eric West, Frank Oen, and Stacey Cook. Solicitor Angela Elliot, Financial Officer Susan Bassitt, Village Administrator Jarid Kohlrieser, Police Chief John Drake and Fire Chief Rick Miller were also in attendance. Paul Lynch was absent.

It was moved by Bailey, seconded by Thompson to accept the minutes of the November 12, 2018 regular Council Meeting as written. Motion passed 5-0.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Committee of the Whole:** No Report.

**Utilities & Surface Water:** Joe Bailey reported that a representative from Data- Command, the company that provides the computer monitoring and alarm system at the water and sewer plants, came to look at some issues we are having on the system and found a bad sensor and the PLC for the system shorted out. A new sensor and new computer hardware components along with the labor will cost \$5,500.00. They will complete the job within the next couple months.

**Planning :** Stacey Cook reported the committee met on December 14<sup>th</sup>. We met with Greg Myers from the Wapakoneta Area Economic Development Council about a community reinvestment area. They are still waiting on comparables from other communities about incentives, such as tax breaks. No decisions have been made at this time. Mr. Myer's will gather some of that information and present to us. Another committee meeting was scheduled for January 9, 2019 at 7:30p.m.

**Finance:** Eric West gave an update on the local income tax reported by the city of St. Mary's. Collection has increased 7.5% at the end of November compared to the same time last year with a total of \$339,786.14 being collected so far.

**Park:** No Report

**Streets:** Dorance Thompson reported that since it is so late in the year, none of the trees (on Main Street that have died) will be replaced until next spring or possibly fall.

**Properties:** Frank Oen reported our annual leaf program has been completed. 40 cubic yards of leaves were picked up.

**Safety:** Chief Drake reported that in October, officers wrote 3 tickets. They have written 20 in November since he has been back. The total Mayor's court collected in November was \$1900.00, only \$800.00 in October. He said they are moving in the right direction getting the cars back on the street like they should be. He presented 4 dilapidated buildings reports that he would like to move forward on. The properties are 217 W. Main St., 218 W. Main St., 307 E. High St. and 16918 National Rd. He viewed the properties last week with the engineer. They are requesting the property on National Rd. be torn down and removed. The other 3 have the option of repairing or tearing down and removing the structures and cleaning up the property. Chief Drake said he and Larry Drain made rounds through town and sent out 33 more zoning violation letters about cars, trash and whatever else was in violation. He has had some people come in and ask for more time. He has also started to contact landlords and property owners on rentals properties that need attention, explaining that it is their responsibility to clean up their property when the renters do not. Frank Oen asked how much time they have. Chief said he wasn't sure off the top of his head, he told Frank to get with him after the meeting and he would look it up, but the information is turned over to the solicitor, she sends letters and that it does take some time to get all the paperwork in order.

**Fire:** Fire Chief Rick Miller stated there were 41 calls in November, for a total of 614 calls for the year. He thanked the community for a great turn out to pancake day on December 8<sup>th</sup>. The department will be able to make a nice donation to the Right to Read program at the Cridersville Elementary School.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Frank Oen asked what happened to the ticket issued to Rulon Smith, Chief Drake said that since it was never served, there is nothing he can do about it. No other information was given about the ticket.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

It was moved by Thompson, seconded by Cook to pay the necessary bills for the month of December, 2018. Resident Bob White spoke up and asked what the bills are that are being approved. Eric West explained they are the operating expenses the Village incurs that need paid each month, he pointed to folder of paperwork and said these are the bills from last month that the Finance committee reviews after the Fiscal Officer and the Mayor. Solicitor Angela Elliott said that anyone can look at them at anytime. Frank Oen said that Susan (Bassitt) said they are voting to pay bills we don't have yet. Eric West explained that is correct, if they didn't approve them then Susan would not be able to pay them when they come due. Joe Bailey stated he looks at the bills every month, if there are any questions he asks. Eric West agreed that he asks questions as well, stating 5 people review these. Susan Bassitt stated that the State Auditor's Office reviews them as well. This has been discussed in council before, and is a required procedure, council approves the Appropriations for these expenses for year at the December meeting of the prior year as we will be doing here tonight for 2019. Eric asked for a roll call to accept the motion to pay the bills. Motion passed 4-0 with Frank Oen voting not to pay the bills.

**Resolution #2360 to amend Resolution #2334, making permanent appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the Village of Cridersville, State of Ohio, during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018, and declaring an emergency** was introduced by Eric West. Susan Bassitt explained this is to move money within each fund from one line item to another to pay bills that are coming in. She said this is done a number of times throughout the year and that all members were given copies. Motion to accept Resolution #2360 was made by Bailey and seconded by Thompson. Motion passed 5-0.

**Resolution #2361 to make appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the Village of Cridersville, State of Ohio, during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2019 and declaring an emergency** was introduced by Eric West. He stated this resolution is to approve the budget for year 2019. Susan stated members were given a summary and the complete Resolution is on file in her office and the County Auditor's office. Resident Bob White asked for the amount of the appropriations. Eric responded \$2,134,796.09. Susan stated that with the help of the Police Chief and the Village Administrator, the amount was lowered by \$303,000.00. Eric asked for a motion to accept Resolution #2361, motion made by Thompson, seconded by Bailey. Motion passed 5-0.

Eric West stated that council member Paul Lynch submitted a letter of resignation. Motion to accept the resignation was made by Cook, seconded by Oen. Resident Cheryl Maier asked what Paul's responsibilities were on the Planning Committee. She asked if he planned events, Stacey Cook explained that it is about planning economic development, land annexation, anything about developing the Village further. Cheryl Maier then asked if anybody wanted to start a business in town would it come before one of these meetings. Stacey explained that businesses do not need to come before the Village unless they are looking for something like tax incentives. Solicitor Angela Elliott added if they need a zoning variance or perhaps a liquor license, council would be involved. Stacey said that if someone wants to put in a business, as long as it is going in the right place, they don't have to come to council. Cheryl said she heard a rumor about a "betting" business coming to town that she would not want to see happen. Council agreed, none of them have heard anything about such a business. Eric asked for a roll call to the motion to accept Paul Lynch's resignation effective November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

Motion passed 5-0. Eric said this leaves an open elected position and asked the solicitor to explain. Angela stated that Village Council can fill the position within 30 days which will be December 30, 2018, if the 30 days expires the Mayor is to appoint a replacement. Council decided applications will be accepted until noon on Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. They will conduct interviews prior to a Special Council Meeting on December 19, 2018 at 7:30p.m. to appoint a new council member. The newspaper reporter in attendance will include this information in the write up about the tonight's meeting in the Wapak newspaper.

Eric asked if there was anything else from council.

Joe Bailey asked Chief Drake if he hired new police officers. The Chief responded that he had rehired Paul Robbins as a full time officer and Nate Garlock as a part time officer.

Dorance Thompson said the only issue he had was about a couch but his question was answered earlier and will be taken care of shortly.

Stacey Cook thanked the community for their support for the Christmas on Main St. event last week.

Resident, Rick Allen asked Chief Drake if Officer Creech was going to be reprimanded for not serving that paper (Smith ticket) Chief Drake responded that he can't discuss personnel issues openly, He knows there has been some discussion but that is all he can say.

Resident, Tony Zuppardo asked why we paid a council member for being absent when he (Paul Lynch) was in jail. Eric West replied that no one on council knew he was in jail, he called the Mayor and said he would not be able to attend the meeting due to personal issues. Eric West stated Mr. Lynch resigned November 30<sup>th</sup> and that is why he was paid.

Resident, Steve Burtchin stated at the May council meeting the Mayor asked the Planning Committee to continue discussions about the zoning code about RVs and that planning meeting never happened. Eric asked Jarid if he has noticed if those rules are being followed as printed? Jarid said that he has issued violation letters and people have complied within the five days required, that it hasn't been an issue, same as in the past. Stacey Cook said that when the legislation was being written they did check other communities in the area and found some had similar regulations. Mr. Burtchin disagreed, he checked around and found that Bath has some but does not enforce them, that you can drive around and see stuff up on blocks, etc. Stacey politely disagreed and said she knows we did check around and other areas did have regulations, Jarid reiterated that fact and said we are not the only community with rules about RVs.

Steve Burtchin asked about children getting prizes at the Christmas on Main St. event at the fire station. Stacey Cook began a response, then Eric West said that this was not a council issue. Stacey said the Cridersville Lions Club spirit heads that event and explained the prizes are given by a drawing, and that unfortunately, due to funding, not all the children can receive a prize.

Eric asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting, motion made by Bailey, seconded by Thompson. Motion passed 5-0.

---

Susan Bassitt, Village Fiscal Officer

---

Rick Walls, Mayor