

VILLAGE OF CRIDERSVILLE COUNCIL MINUTES
Regular Meeting –October 12, 2020

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic gathering restrictions, the meeting was held at the indoor shelter house at Tower Park.

Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call

Present: Mayor Rick Walls, Council President Eric West, Council Members: Rick Allen, Joe Bailey, Stacey Cook, Frank Oen and Dorance Thompson. Also present: Fiscal Officer Susan Bassitt, Administrator Jarid Kohlrieser, Solicitor Angela Elliott, Police Chief Paul Robbins and Fire Chief Rick Miller.

It was moved by Bailey, seconded by Allen to accept the minutes of the September 14, 2020 regular Council meeting. Motion passed 5-0. Thompson abstained because he did not attend that meeting due to illness.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Committee of the Whole: No report.

Utilities & Surface Water: Joe Bailey reported the Village crews dug and fixed a water leak on Marcella. G.H. Bierly Well Drilling Inc. looked at pumping issues with one of the wells. Diagnosis on that well is yet to be completed. The raw sludge pump that needs replaced is obsolete. The Village Administrator has been in communication with a couple firms to find a replacement.

Planning: Rick Allen reported the Crossroads Project and the Village are continuing talks with one another to comprise the developer's agreement and TIF legislation. Documents will hopefully be ready for review within the next couple weeks. There were eight (8) zoning violations which all have been brought up to code.

Finance: No report.

Park: Stacey Cook reported the Legacy Park Gateway Project has been submitted to the manufacturer for the pieces of the structure. The timeline for those pieces may be up to eight (8) weeks. The mason confirmed that considering that timeline and cold weather approaching, construction should wait until spring. The shelter house bathroom project is progressing nicely and should be completed within the next few weeks. Stacey said the shelter house will now have a single coed bathroom. The other bathroom is being converted into a storage room for tables and chairs.

Streets: No report.

Properties: Frank Oen reported that the turbo on the 2007 Ford F-450 was replaced by Reinke Ford at a cost of \$1,890.00. He said he would like to have a committee meeting to go over a couple things. The meeting was scheduled for Monday, October 19th at 6:00p.m. at the Village Hall.

Safety: Police Chief Robbins said his newest part time officer Jason Snipes was sworn in. He is from the Lakeview area and is a recent graduate of Apollo Career Center's Police Academy. He is employed full time by Lima Memorial Hospital's Campus Police Department. He was unable to attend this council meeting due to his schedule there. Chief Robbins said he now has seven (7) officers, three (3) of which are part time. He would like to hire three (3) more part time officers but not before Snipes is finished with his field training.

The Chief said there were 140 calls in September. There was \$1,300.00 taken into Mayor's Court. As far overtime for September, Creech had three (3) hours, Rayoum had two (2) hours and the Chief had four (4) hours comp time.

Chief Robbins said the new 2020 cruiser which is 402 is in service. He has switched to using the 2014 Interceptor designated as 401 with the Sheriff's Office. He said the department now has four (4) vehicles. He feels the 2008 Crown Victoria is no longer needed and would like to put it out for bid or donate it to Apollo Career Center Police Academy. Cook asked what the estimated value of the car is. Chief Robbins said about \$300.00 to \$1,000.00 depending on its condition, it has 160,000 miles on it. Eric West said he was in favor of donating the car to Apollo as they would get more use out of it than the couple hundred dollars the Village might get for it. Stacey Cook agreed with West and pointed out that the Village has donated a vehicle before. The Mayor asked for discussion, each council member agreed that the donation was a good idea. **A motion was made to donate the 2008 Crown Victoria to Apollo Career Center Police Academy by West and seconded by Cook. Motion passed 6-0.**

Joe Bailey asked Chief Robbins since two (2) of the part time officers had to return to their full time jobs (school resource officers) after being off all summer, if that was making him have to work more overtime. Allen asked what his comp time hours were. Chief said he has about two hundred thirty six (236) comp time hours and that as of today he has worked thirteen (13) days in a row. He did say that Creech had been on vacation. Chief Robbins also said he had not tried to hire more officers because of the budget restraints. Bailey said his concern is that the Village may over work him to the point he wants to leave. The Chief said that "as long as he has a plan and knows he can bring his part time numbers up and knows there is a light at the end of the tunnel", he will be alright. He said he "is not planning on putting up this kind of comp time hours next year." He said the only alternative is to have a lot of costly overtime hours and he does not want to do that. He said he will make it through the end of the year and he will go from there.

Stacey Cook said that when the Police Chief's position was changed from hourly to salaried that it was agreed that two hundred (200) hours of overtime would be included in the considered salary amount. Chief Robbins said that is not in the pay ordinance. Bailey and Allen said they were not on council at that time but have not seen it mentioned anywhere. Oen said he remembers it being discussed at a meeting when Paul was hired. Stacey said she would look for her notes and bring them in.

Fire Chief Rick Miller said his department had fifty two (52) EMS calls and six (6) fire calls in September for a total for the year of five hundred thirty one (531). They have had thirty two (32) calls already this month. So calls are on the increase.

Chief Miller said he found something out about Cares Act money given to Auglaize County to be distributed to local Fire and EMS Companies. The Mayor said that we have looked into Cares Act funds but have not been eligible for any compensation. Chief Miller said he was sent six thousand and eight hundred dollars (\$6,800.00) which they did not have to apply for. Bassitt said we have kept an eye on it but have not found anything we qualify for.

Rick Allen asked Chief Miller who covers the Village if all his crews are tied up on calls, should another come in. The Chief assured him that he has it all covered. The surrounding departments would be immediately notified and respond.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mayor Walls introduced **Resolution #2394**. A motion to read the resolution by title only, for the third of and final reading. A motion was made by Cook and seconded by Thompson. Motion passed 6-0. Mayor Walls read **Resolution #2394, A resolution replacing Resolution #2283 passed on December 14, 2015 and authorizing the Village Administrator to set water and sewer rates and fees for the Village of Cridersville for the general operation, maintenance, and debt service of the Village water and sewer systems and creating a STORM WATER MAINTENANCE FUND**. The resolution keeps the current water and sewer rate increases as established in Resolution #2283, in addition, the resolution adds a \$2.00 per residence, and \$2.00 per unit of multi-family residences as well as \$2.00 for each commercial and each industrial property a monthly fee for storm water maintenance. The new fee will be added to the monthly water and sewer bill as a separate charge. **Motion to accept Resolution #2394 as read for the third reading was made by Thompson and seconded by Oen. Motion passed 6-0.**

Rick Allen said a trash ordinance is still a work in progress. He set a meeting with Dorance Thompson and Chief Robbins to discuss the issue on November 17, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at the Village Hall. There was a new trash ordinance presented to council in March, Ordinance # 1694. Council wasn't completely satisfied with it and decided to table it until there could be more discussion.

Mayor Walls asked the Village Administrator for an update on the 316 E. Sugar St. drainage issue. Jarid said he has been in contact with the Village Solicitor about it. Angela Elliott said she doesn't have a definite answer yet. She had not been able to find a situation quite like the one presented here. They will continue looking into it.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Walls introduced **Resolution #2398, A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE NECESSARY TRANSFER OF FUNDS FOR THE VILLAGE OF CRIDERSVILLE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY FOR THE YEAR 2020.** Motion to read the resolution by title only was made West and seconded by Allen, motion passed 6-0. The Mayor read the resolution by title only. Bassitt stated the transfers are to move budgeted money into the debt service accounts to pay annual payments for the water, sewer and street loans. There was no discussion. **Motion to accept Resolution \$2398 as read and declaring an emergency was made by Bailey, seconded by West. Motion passed 6-0.**

Mayor Walls introduced **ORDINANCE #1695, ESTABLISHING CERTAIN RATES OF PAY, HEALTH AND HOSPITALIZATION INSURANCE, SICK LEAVE, PAID HOLIDAYS AND VACATION FOR ALL NON-ELECTED VILLAGE EMPLOYEES FOR THE YEAR 2021.** A motion to read by title only for the first of three readings was made by Bailey and seconded by West. Motion passed 6-0. Mayor Walls read the Ordinance by title only. West stated the only change from last year was in SECTION THREE: LAW ENFORCEMENT defining part time officers as those who work less than thirty (30) hours in a one (1) week period, unless approved in advance by the Mayor. It previously stated up to twenty five (25) hours. **Motion to accept Ordinance #1695 as read for the first of three readings was made by West and seconded by Bailey. Motion passed 6-0.**

Mayor Walls thanked the Village crew for their hard work during a really busy September and October digging and repairing leaking water mains and sewers. He said they did a great job.

Jarid Kohlreiser stated his crew will be doing the annual fall flushing of the fire hydrants during the nights of October 16th and 17th.

Jarid said annual leaf pickup will begin Monday, November 2nd through Monday, November 30th. Residents are asked to bag leaves and set them by the street and to please be mindful of the weight of the bags. The Village crew will make a daily round through town, if bags are too heavy they will not be picked up.

Joe Bailey met with a representative from an Auglaize County organization called "Let's Back the Blue", not to be confused with the political group "Back the Blue." This organization focuses on fund raising to help small area police departments with current expenses, such as the purchase of equipment. There are nine chapters within the larger county chapter. Currently Minster, New Bremen, New Knoxville, St. Mary's, Wapakoneta, Waynesfield, Allen County Sheriff and Ohio State Highway Patrol and now Cridersville are all part of it. They are having a raffle, selling tickets at \$50.00 each with hopes to raise \$50,000.00. Rick Allen is helping Joe Bailey, they both have tickets available. Many cash and other prizes will be awarded to people that purchase tickets. Joe also has a number of blue light bulbs to be placed in porch lights showing police support available for a nonperishable food donation.

Frank Oen asked for a Properties Committee Meeting to go over a couple things. A meeting was scheduled for Monday, October 19th at 6:00p.m. at the Village Hall.

Stacey Cook said as an alternative to the annual fall parade and festival there will be a "Costume Reveal" on Monday, October 26th at Bayliff's Funeral Home parking lot under the lights at 6:30p.m. Attendants must bring their own chairs. Masks and social distancing are required. Parents are asked to bring a paper with their child's name, age and brief description of their costume. The children will walk a runway showing off their costumes and will receive a treat bag.

Trick or treat will be Thursday, October 29th from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Rick Allen said he would like to put the Assistant Clerk position back in place. He said if anything would happen to Susan Bassitt there would be nobody to do the books. The Mayor said they will look into it and report back next month.

Rick Allen stated there is a trailer on W. Main St. that he is not happy about but he would like to turn it over to Mr. White to discuss. Bob White of 327 W. Main St. stated there is a fifth wheel camper parked in his neighbor's back yard with the intentions of letting their kids live in it. Mr. White said they park cars in their front yard and now have put up a privacy fence around the camper with no gates. He feels he is living in a ghetto. Mr. White has spoken to the Village Administrator and the Police Chief. Both Jarid and Chief Robbins said they have looked into it and at this time the resident is not doing anything against Village codes. Somebody living in the trailer would be a violation of zoning codes. Mr. White asked council to make emergency legislation at tonight's meeting regulating against this particular property located at 321 W. Main St. He was told that no zoning changes can be done tonight, zoning changes require public hearings and any new regulations apply to all residents not just one. The Mayor said he would meet with the Village Administrator and Police Chief and they will look into it.

Darrell Chapman of 318 W. Main St. said he has problems with the conditions of some of the properties in the Village as well. He is especially unhappy with the conditions along the railroad. He said he mows along the railroad by his business on Gay St. and thinks it would be great if other residents along the tracks would mow the sections by their property as well. And if not then the Village should take care of it. Mr. Chapman also said there are many properties along the alleys whose backyards are terribly over grown and spreading to their neighbors. He says there are laws in place and they need to be used. The Village Solicitor said that the Village cannot step foot on the railroad property without their permission. Mayor Walls said he will contact CSX and see what can be done.

Motion to adjourn was made by West and seconded by Cook. Motion passed 6-0.

Susan Bassitt, Village Fiscal Officer

Rick Walls, Mayor