

VILLAGE OF CRIDERSVILLE COUNCIL MINUTES
Regular Meeting – October 14, 2024
7:30 p.m.

Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call

Mayor Rick Walls called the regular meeting to order and lead with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Mayor Rick Walls, Council Members: Dorance Thompson, Steve Numbers, Stacey Cook, Joe Bailey, and Dylan Lauck were present. Also present: Fiscal Officer Taylor West, Police Chief Nathan Fried, Fire Chief Rick Miller, Village Administrator Jarid Kohlrieser and Solicitor James Hearn.

Mayor Walls asked for a motion to excuse Eric West from the regular council meeting due to traveling for work. It was moved by Thompson and seconded by Numbers to excuse West. Motion passed 5-0.

It was moved by Bailey and seconded by Lauck to accept the minutes of September 9, 2024, Regular Council Meeting. Motion passed 5-0.

It was moved by Bailey and seconded by Lauck to accept the minutes from September 19, 2024, Special Council Meeting. Motion passed 5-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Committee of the Whole:

Utilities & Surface Water: Bailey stated Toms Construction has continued working on N. Waverly sanitary sewer repair. They had some problems while working in the E. Main & Waverly intersection which took them longer than expected and we appreciate everyone’s patience to get that work completed. Tom’s Construction also repaired two culvert areas on each side of the railroad tracks that were in dire need of repair and presented safety issues along with other issues. Pelton Engineering was in to do a complimentary inspection on our south final tank at the wastewater plant and found no issues and the representative was very pleased with the condition of the hardware. Schaub Excavation dug and tied in a catch basin into the main storm sewer line on Elizabeth St. that previously was draining into a private pond area. We have had many issues with this for several years and after reviewing this project with our engineers on how this should have been installed, feel this should not present any further issues. Schaub Excavating also dug and installed a new storm sewer line to resolve the issues that we have been having for many issues on W. Main St. with water laying in the street gutters and deteriorating the roadway.

Planning: Lauck stated Josh Bloomfield from Crossroads has passed information that Crossroads is in a holding pattern with USDA funding and that the medical road will not be started until they have the approval in hand.

Finance: No Report

Park: Cook stated the Legacy Park Shelter House electric has been finished up and we are working with the manufacturer to fine tune a couple minor issues before the facility is opened to the public. Having said that, this facility is seasonal which means it will be winterized and closed for the winter and then be reopened come spring.

Streets: Thompson stated our village administrator was notified that we received an additional \$10,000 grant for our OPWC funding for next year that will go towards our street paving project which will be completed next year.

Properties: Numbers stated the village purchased a new street sweeper for our skid steer at a cost of \$7,908. The old unit had been repaired many times and needed replacement. The original unit was purchased back in 2007.

Safety:

Fire:
Chief Miller reported that there were 66 EMS calls and 3 Fire calls for a total of 69 calls for service for the month of September for a total of 717 calls for the year 2024. Chief Miller stated last year the department responded to 840 calls, therefore, he expects the 2024 run total to surpass the 2023-year total.

The new engine will be in town hopefully by the 23rd of October. The new engine will then have to have new lighting and lettering put onto it. Chief Miller is hopeful that the new engine will be in service in the first week of November. Chief Miller also stated there have been many hits on the old tanker, which is now listed at \$95,000.00. The department is also trying to sell an ambulance for \$35,000.00 and the heavy rescue for \$65,000.00.

Police:

Chief Fried reported there were a total of 15 tickets issues for the month along with 25 warnings. The department responded to 110 calls for service. Chief Fried stated after the request at last month's meeting to patrol Main Street, the department was able to slow down the speed of traffic traveling on Main. Chief Fried welcomed Donnie Chiles to the Cridersville Police Department as he started with the department on September 30, 2024. Chief Fried stated the department is very excited to have Donnie on staff.

The police department is currently testing out Rhombus cameras and Chief Fried is very pleased with the quality of the cameras. Chief Fried stated that with the use of the Rhombus cameras the police department was able to find a suspect of a crime as the cameras depict different types of movement whether it be a person or vehicle. The test cameras are currently located at Bayliff & Son Funeral Home and consist of a fisheye camera along with a bullet camera.

Chief Fried stated that Otterbein as that we move forward with the camera project as they are wanting to donate to the camera project and have the money allocated for the year 2024. Chief Fried stated he was also able to talk with some of the residents and see what they would like in the community. Chief Fried stated that the residents would like to have a path to get into town from Otterbein. After further discussion it was determined that the village would speak with Wapakoneta City Schools regarding making the sidewalk into the school handicap accessible, but also that Otterbein could potentially put in a sidewalk with village permission on their property. Chief Fried also stated the residents of Otterbein would like to see a council meeting come to their facility. On November 12th at 9 a.m. Chief Fried will be going to Breakfast with Residents at Otterbein.

Chief Fried mentioned that Back the Blue has purchased an access control for the police side of the building, dog catching poles, hats, and internet devices for FirstNet for the department. Council member Lauck asked Chief Fried how much these items from Back the Blue cost. Chief Fried stated it was roughly \$3,000 in equipment that the department received. Lauck asked if the department had applied for any state or federal grants this year, of which Chief Fried replied that the department had not applied for any state or federal grants this year.

Chief Fried announced that decals for the backs of the cruisers are being installed currently. Chief Fried also asked to have a finance meeting sometime before the next council meeting. Lastly, Chief Fried mentioned that the department encountered an incident with 4 Haitians at one of the churches in town. The men were looking for the Post Office to get a money order but ended up at the church. Chief Fried just wants to make everyone aware of the situation as there have been articles on the news lately.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Walls introduced Ordinance 1712, an ordinance establishing certain rates of pay, health and hospitalization insurance, sick leave, paid holidays and vacation for all non-elected village employees for the year 2025. The second

of three readings. Motion to pass the second reading was made by Numbers and seconded by Thompson. Motion passed 5-0 for the second reading.

Mayor Walls introduced Ordinance 1713, an ordinance amending various rates, fines, and penalties contained in the codified ordinances in the Village of Cridersville and declaring an emergency. Mayor Walls read ordinance 1713. Motion to pass ordinance 1713 by emergency was made by Lauck and seconded by Thompson. Motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Walls introduced Ordinance 1714, an ordinance approving, adopting, and enacting American Legal Publishing's Ohio Basic Code, 2024 Edition, as the code of ordinances for the municipality of Cridersville, Ohio, and declaring an emergency. Mayor Walls read ordinance 1714. Motion to pass ordinance 1714 by emergency was made by Bailey and seconded by Numbers. Motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Walls introduced Resolution 2497, a resolution to amend Resolution #2471, #2476, #2484, & #2489, #2491, #2493 Making permanent appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the Village of Cridersville, State of Ohio, during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024, and declaring an emergency. Mayor Walls read resolution 2497. Fiscal Officer West explained the reason for amending appropriations of current expenditures is for a reimbursable grant that the sewer department has received from the State of Ohio. The funds must be paid upfront and will be paid back by the state each month they are spending. Motion to pass resolution 2497 was made by Thompson and seconded by Bailey. Motion passed 5-0.

Other:

Chief Miller stated that he has been to Dollar General twice for clutter hazard and the store has been served paperwork. Ten days after the paperwork has been completed, which is this weekend, Chief Miller will go back and reinspect the store. If the store is not up to code, he will be shutting the store down until it is cleaned up. Chief Miller stated he has asked the store to come up with a detailed process on how to maintain the clutter hazard as it is a problem with safety for everyone who enters the store. Chief Miller also stated the fire department will hold an open house on October 26th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Council member Cook stated the Scarecrow contest will be Sunday at 3:00 p.m. If anyone would like to participate in the scarecrow walk, please bring your scarecrow to Legacy Park. The Halloween Festival will be on October 28th and Trick-or-Treat will be held on October 31st from 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. On Saturday October 26th the Historical Society will be holding a non-scare walk through the Cridersville Historical Society Museum. This year the costume contest for the kids will be held at the fire house after the parade on October 28th. The Lion's Club has donated candy for the treat bags again this year and local businesses have generously donated funds to allow the winning costumes to receive prizes. The annual quarter auction will be held at the fire station on November 9th. Lastly, Cook stated that this is the final year for the United Methodist Church peanut brittle.

Council member Bailey stated that Back the Blue tickets are still being sold at \$50.00 a ticket. Back the Blue is very kind to our police department and any tickets sales greatly help!

Council member Thompson asked to have a finance meeting on October 29, 2024, at noon to discuss wages, policy, and ARPA funds. Council member Lauck asked that proposed ideas be brought with information such as cost of items now, cost of items over the years, and what other municipalities do.

Fiscal Officer West asked to move the November 11th council meeting to November 18th due to the offices being closed on Veteran's Day. Council agreed that the November regular council meeting will be held on November 18th at 7:30 p.m.

Motion to adjourn was made by Lauck and seconded by Cook. Motion passed 5-0.

Taylor West, Village Fiscal Officer

Rick Walls, Mayor