

VILLAGE OF CRIDERSVILLE COUNCIL MINUTES
Regular Meeting – November 13, 2023
7:30 p.m.

Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call

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

It was moved by Bailey and seconded by West to accept the minutes of the October 25, 2023, Regular Council Meeting. Motion passed 6-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Committee of the Whole:

Utilities & Surface Water: Bailey reported our village administrator met with engineers from Jones & Henry regarding the completed utilities studies they conducted regarding future capacities and upgrades at our water and wastewater plants. The studies concluded that our wastewater treatment plant has plenty of capacity yet to handle future loads. Upgrades to pumps and headworks would be recommended, which we have been working on already. For the water treatment plant, the study concluded that we should expand the water plant and install more water filters to handle more demand to the distribution system and that a new well will need to be installed soon to service more users. Conversations regarding planning for those projects have begun. Village crews conducted routine maintenance on all our blower units at the wastewater plant. In doing so, we contacted Aerzen, the manufacturer of the blowers, and they will be on site to install and rebuild the blower units as they have reached their current lifespan. Lastly, village crews repaired a 4" water main that was struck by a contractor on Onalee.

Planning: Lauck reported there was one zoning violation for the month and that has been brought into compliance.

Finance: West reported our village administrator applied for and received a grant for two heart defibrillators in the amount of \$931.22. One defibrillator will be mounted inside the Village Hall hallway area and one defibrillator will be for our maintenance personnel.

Park: Cook reported the Gaga Ball pit has been installed and placed for use within Tower Park. Additionally, village crews are planning to have the pickleball courts painted this year as well.

Streets: Thompson stated there was no report

Properties: Numbers reported the sealed bid auction had been completed last month with the result of our 2005 Pioneer 1500 utility vehicle being sold to the Buckland Recreation Dept. for \$2,500.00. Our village administrator is still working with IC Signs on further designs for the new Village Hall sign.

Safety:
Fire:

Chief Miller reported that there were 63 EMS calls and 5 Fire calls for a total of 68 calls for service for the month of October for a total of 777 calls for the year of 2023 as of November 1st. Chief Miller started the chassis for the new Tanker is currently in South Dakota and the Fire Department hopes to have the new Chassis by Jamboree next year.

Chief Miller added that on December 9, 2023, Christmas on Main will be held from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. The Fire Department will have their annual Pancake Breakfast from 8 a.m. – 11 a.m. when Santa arrives.

Our Helping Hand at Christmas Program is off and running. The Fire Department is currently accepting nonperishable canned goods to fill food boxes for selected residents. They are also accepting monetary cash donations as well to help purchase food. The department has cans out at several local businesses.

Chief Miller added that the Fire Department is taking applications for the food truck festival vendors on their Facebook page at this time. The department currently has 15 food trucks lined up already for the 2024 festival. Like previous years, there will also be a Jeep event held during the food truck festival.

Chief Miller wanted to thank all the surrounding communities and the Cridersville Police department for all their support during the procession for the late Darrel Chapman.

Police:

Chief Fried reported there were 177 calls for service in the month of October with a total of 30 tickets issues for the month of October. The new equipment for cruisers and body cameras have been installed and are in use by the department. Chief Fried is currently working with local businesses on a community funded project to place cameras around town. There are no final figures currently.

Chief Fried mentioned that April 8, 2024, is when the eclipse will take place and to please notify the Health Department, Cridersville Police Department, and the Cridersville Fire Department if a large gathering is going to be held in case of an emergency. Chief Rick Miller added that if there are more than five families on one property, you will need to call the Health Department to purchase a permit. The eclipse is expected to bring in anywhere from 120 to 150 thousand people, therefore, get the items you need ahead of time for that week.

This is the last week to get Back the Blue tickets as they must be turned in on November 16, 2023. Each ticket costs \$50.00. Chief Fried would like to thank TopMark Federal Credit Union for their help selling Back the Blue tickets.

Chief Fried mentioned Shop with the Blue applications will be due soon. Any individuals that are interested can stop in the Police Department to pick up an application. Additionally, it was mentioned that the Police Department is running out of space so Chief Fried asked council to bring any ideas regarding this issue to him. Council member Dylan Lauck said the Police Department should find out this week if the grant that has been applied for was awarded to the Cridersville Police Department. Additionally, there are many other grants that will be opening in the month of November. Council member West gave a shout out to Chief Fried for a job well done in the interview with Your News Now Lima.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Walls opened the floor to the residents.

Chris Spinnati of 306 East High Street had questions regarding the trapping of cats inside the Village of Cridersville. Sheryl Maier of 214 South Dixie Highway also had concerns with the trapping of cats inside the Village of Cridersville and being relocated.

Chief Nathan Fried stated that no village employees are trapping and relocating cats. The Park Manager of Hideaway Trailer Park is the responsible individual for taking care of the issues with cats as the issue is located on private property. Chief Fried has asked the Trailer Park owner to please take care of the cat issue in a human way. Chief Fried asked if there were any solutions for the stray cats in town to please bring those ideas to the police department, however, our Police Department is unable to police all the issues revolving around stray cats.

Mayor Walls introduced Ordinance 1705, 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 2024. The second of three readings. Mayor Walls read the ordinance by title only. After Discussion, West made a motion to add that there will be no overtime for salaries employees, however, these employees will still need to turn in timesheets. Additionally, both probation periods for the Water Sewer Department and the Police Department will be extended to 180 days. When it comes to Holiday Pay, the verbiage will be changed to state Full-time officers may not have to work the holiday if scheduling permits, and both full-time and part-time officers if working the holiday will be paid at a rate of 1.5 for the

day. Lastly, there will be added language stating Comp time can be earned by salaried employees after working 45 hours in a week. The accumulation of Comp time will be accumulated at time and a half. The motion to pass the second of three readings with the amended changes was made by West and seconded by Lauck. Motion passed 5-1. With Cook voting no.

Mayor Walls introduced Resolution 2469, a resolution to approve the necessary transfer of funds for the Village of Cridersville and declaring an emergency. Mayor Walls read the resolution by title only. The motion to pass the resolution was made by Bailey and seconded by Numbers. Motion passed 6-0.

Other:

Mayor Walls added that the Village has been working with TSC to reduce the monthly phone bills by upgrading to a new phone system. The new phone system will bring all residents to an auto attendant who will then allow the caller to pick an option as to who they want to speak with. The new phone system will save the Village of Cridersville roughly \$200.00 a month. The phone system is to be installed at the end of November with training as well.

Council member Joe Bailey mentioned he has some Back the Blue tickets for sale still. Those tickets must be turned in on November 16, 2023. Tickets are \$50.00 each.

Council Member Steve Numbers asked to discuss the issues of Fireworks at the next meeting, but to also have the Police Department make a post on their Facebook page stating what citizens can do now with fireworks via the new State legislation.

Council member Dorance Thompson asked Village Administrator Kohlrieser if he had heard anything about ODOT and the EV stations. Village Administrator Kohlrieser stated that Casey's plans to put two EV charging stations, but he is unsure when as this is newer information. Thompson asked if Cridersville has been a recipient of one of the 175th trees from Auglaize County. Council Member Cook stated that Cridersville has received one of the trees from the Historical Society and will be planted soon.

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

Taylor West, Village Fiscal Officer

Rick Walls, Mayor