

VILLAGE OF CRIDERSVILLE COUNCIL MINUTES
Regular Meeting – December 13, 2021
7:30p.m.

Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call

Present: Mayor Rick Walls, Council Members: Joe Bailey, Dorance Thompson, Dylan Lauck and Stacey Cook. Also present: Solicitor Angela Elliott, Fiscal Officer Susan Bassitt, Administrator Jarid Kohlrieser, Police Chief Paul Robbins and Fire Chief Rick Miller. Eric West arrived late. Rick Allen was not feeling well so did not attend. Motion to excuse Mr. Allen was made by Thompson and seconded by Bailey.

It was moved by Cook and seconded by Bailey to accept the minutes of the November 08, 2021 Council Meeting. Motion passed 4-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Committee of the Whole: Mayor Walls said Council met on December 2nd and interviewed two applicants for the empty Council seat left open when Rick Allen decided not to run for another term. Residents Steve Numbers and Matt Zwiebel were both interviewed for the position which will be from January 01, 2022 until December 31, 2023. Council decided on Steve Numbers to fill the position. He is a long term resident of the Village and has always been involved in community activities. Mayor Walls welcomed him. The Mayor thanked Rick Allen for his service.

Utilities & Surface Water: Joe Bailey reported the computer system at the water treatment plant contracted a virus through a hacker which has been resolved with a new unit being installed. No services or operations were affected and the new unit will be more protected from this happening again.

Planning: Mayor Walls stated the lift station for the Crossroads of Ohio Project has been installed as well as fencing around it. Electric is being trenched into the lift station currently. He said Josh Bloomfield from Crossroads said the event in Las Vegas was very successful with about 20 brokers expressing interest.

Eric West arrived at 7:45.

Finance: Eric West reported that income tax revenue increased 11.2% for the month of November compared to last year.

Park: Stacey Cook reported the stone pieces for the Ram statue base are to be delivered within the next couple months. Construction of that base will most likely be in the spring of 2022.

Streets: Dorance Thompson stated that there were a few minor parking issues along N. Gay St. with the new parking pattern but motorists have since complied with the changes making it safer for those driving as well as parking. Stacey Cook brought up someone parking against the flow of traffic across the street across from her house. She sees people parking on the wrong side of the street and even people parking in their yards now. She will look into it further.

Properties: Dylan Lauck stated that Village crews had to replace a brake caliper and hoses on the 2011 Ford F250 pickup truck and replaced a blown hydraulic line on the big dump truck. The leaf pick-up program ended November 30th with our crews collecting about 30 cubic yards of bagged leaves.

Safety: Police Chief Paul Robbins stated there were 125 calls for service in November. Chief Robbins said Detective Pack is retiring at the end of December. Pack has 38 years in law enforcement. The Chief wishes to thank him for his service with the Village and wishes him the best in his retirement. He said the department will also be losing one part time officer this month as well as one full time officer the first of the year. Both are going to other departments. He does not have replacements at this time. He will keep Council informed.

Dorance Thompson thanked the Chief for staying on top of the situation and getting the house on Main St. taken down.

Chief Robbins said he would like to reschedule the Finance meeting to discuss employee vacations. Mayor Walls said changes have been made to the proposed pay package in regards to that issue. He asked the Chief to take a look and if he still wants a meeting one will be scheduled.

Chief Miller stated there were 69 EMS calls and 8 Fire calls for a total of 77 calls for the month of November. Total calls for the year as of November 01, 2021 are 731 making this the highest of all time. He is considering compensating members to be on station from 4-11. He has some plans in place to implement after the first of the year.

The annual Pancake Breakfast raised \$1,000.00 for the Right to Read Program at the school. Stacy Cook added that they had a great Christmas on Main with 210 people attending and 131 children received gifts from Santa from Toys for Tots.

Chief Miller said he will be planning next year on replacing the oldest ambulance. They will try to stay as local as they can.

The Chief thanked Council for the flowers and support shown for the loss of his daughter.

Mayor Walls asked for two council members to serve as representatives on the Fire Fighter's Dependents Fund for 2022. Joe Bailey and Dorance Thompson volunteered.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mayor Walls introduced **ORDINANCE #1701 ESTABLISHING CERTAIN RATES OF PAY, HEALTH AND HOSPITALIZATION INSURANCE, SICK LEAVE, PAID HOLIDAYS AND VACATION FOR ALL NON-ELECTED VILLAGE EMPLOYEES FOR THE YEAR 2022 FOR THE THIRD OF THREE READINGS.** Mayor Walls said he asked Susan Bassitt to add a paragraph in section eight addressing when an employee receives their first week of vacation. In determining the number of years an employee has worked for the Village, the first calendar year (January-December) an employee worked more than six (6) months shall be considered their first year of employment. If an employee works less than six (6) months in their first calendar year, they shall be entitled to a prorated number of vacation hours on their one year anniversary date of hire which must be used before the end of the current year. The employee will then be awarded vacation time on January 1st of every year thereafter. All vacation hours are expected to be used in the year in which they are earned. And are not to be paid out or rolled over to the following year unless specifically approved by Council. (The pay ordinance goes into effect the first full pay of the year.) A motion to accept Ordinance #1701 as read for the third of three readings was made by West and seconded by Bailey. Motion passed 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Walls introduced **Resolution #2422, to approve the necessary transfer of funds for the Village of Criderstown and declaring an emergency for the year 2021.** The resolution transfers \$11,454.24 in order to pay the Village's portion of the OPWC-2021 Street Paving Project. Motion to accept the resolution was made by Thompson and seconded by Lauck.

Mayor Walls introduced Resolution #2423, to make appropriations for current expenses and other expenditures of the Village of Cridersville, State of Ohio, during the fiscal year ending in December 31, 2022 and declaring an emergency. Eric West asked if Bassitt would be providing a synopsis of the appropriations. She said she would when she has it prepared. After brief discussion, motion to accept Resolution #2423 as read and declaring an emergency was made by West, seconded by Lauck. Motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Walls asked for a motion to pay the 2022 membership in the Wapak Area Economic Development Council in the amount of \$3,850.00. The Mayor stated they are more involved with the Village than ever before with the new Crossroads Development. Motion to pay the membership fee for 2022 was made by Thompson and seconded by Cook. Motion passed 5-0.

OTHER:

Jarid Kohlrieser asked Council for permission to give his employees a raise of up to \$1.00 per hour effective in January. Council did approve.

Eric West said he would like to look into online bill paying for the water and sewer bills. The Village does have a system for residents to pay their bills online, but they can't view their bill. Dylan Lauck said Wapak has a system in place. Jarid explained the Village has investigated it before and it wasn't feasible. Jarid said he can look into it again.

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

Susan Bassitt, Village Fiscal Officer

Rick Walls, Mayor