

VILLAGE OF CRIDERSVILLE COUNCIL MINUTES
Regular Meeting – June 13, 2022
7:30p.m.

Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call

Present: Mayor Rick Walls, Council Members: Eric West, Joe Bailey, Dylan Lauck, Steve Numbers and Stacey Cook. Also present: Solicitor Angela Elliott, Fiscal Officer Susan Bassitt, Village Administrator Jarid Kohlrieser and Fire Chief Rick Miller. Dorance Thompson attended by phone. Chief Robbins was unable to attend.

It was moved by Bailey and seconded by West to accept the minutes of the May 13, 2022 Council Meeting. Motion passed 6-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Committee of the Whole: Mayor Walls stated there was a committee meeting on May 24, 2022. The topic of the meeting was how to keep police officers and find new officers. The Village is down to three full time and two part time officers. It was agreed that the Village will need to raise starting wages to compete with area towns and counties but no amounts were decided. Chief Robbin's mounting overtime which is usually given in comp time off was also discussed. It was agreed to pay Chief Robbins fifteen (15) hours of the comp he has earned per pay period. Current policy dictates that is to be paid at time and a half rate per the solicitor. The fiscal officer will need to keep track of his comp time hours earned and those paid and the balance he has yet to be compensated.

Utilities & Surface Water: Joe Bailey reported construction continues on the new sanitary sewer installation of E. Main Street. Work is currently in the 300 block. Village crews have completed the annual spring fire hydrant flushing program. The Village administrator is looking into a much-needed project to replace five lift pumps and piping at the wastewater plant. The current pumps are obsolete and repairs are not possible. The projected cost will be around \$500,000.00. Jarid is looking at various funding options for the project. It is most cost effective to replace all five pumps at the same time.

Planning: Dylan Lauck reported there were two zoning violations for the month of May. Both were for widening driveways using stone, which is not permissible. One of the violations has been brought into compliance and the other is in the process.

Finance: No Report

Park: Stacey Cook reported the Village Administrator on behalf of the Village accepted 3 bird houses built by local Girl Scout Troops 2005 and 2100. They have been installed in DeLong Pioneer Nature Park. The Administrator received a grant for \$5,000.00 from the Eagle's Wapakoneta Community Foundation to go towards additional stoning of the DeLong Pioneer Nature Park paths. Total cost of that projected is expected to be about \$10,000.00.

Mayor Walls asked about the culverts discussed last year for DeLong Park. Jarid said the engineers gave some scenarios which are extremely expensive and not an option for the Village at this time. Other ideas are still in the works.

Mayor Walls stated the Village has been approved for a grant off \$300,000.00 to go build a shelter house in Legacy Park from the Ohio 2023-2024 Capital Budget. Greg Myers and Mayor Walls applied for the funding in April. More information will be forthcoming later in the year.

Streets: The Mayor reported an incident on W. Sugar St. last week involving a tractor and cultivator that resulted in damage to the newly paved roadway. An estimate is forthcoming for the needed repairs.

Properties: Steve Numbers reported the Village clean-up day was another success with residents discarding roughly 140 cubic yards on unwanted items. The Village dump truck had repair to the tailgate done by Kalida Truck Equipment Company for \$608.00.

Safety: Fire Chief Miller stated there were 47 EMS calls and 6 Fire calls for a total of 53 calls in May. As of June 1, 2022 total calls were 337. He said the property where a house burned last week has been signed off and released back to the property owner. They have been told to get it cleaned up as soon as possible. The Auglaize County EMA website has a post accepting donations to the family.

Jamboree schedule is posted the Fire Department website.

Chief Miller said there will be a food drive behind the fire station on June 25, 2022 from 9am -12pm in honor of his daughter Emily who passed recently passed away.

In the absence of Chief Robbins, Mayor Walls read his report to council. There were 115 calls for service in May, 2022. There were 164 calls in May of 2021.

Patrolman Garlock resigned June 01, 2022 leaving the department with 3 full time officers and 2 part time officers. A new officer was hired to fill a full time position, Allen Madlock, but he does not take his state test until July so he can not start until that time.

Mayor Walls brought up again the topic of increasing our full time officer's pay. That would include one current officer and 2 possible new officers. They discussed an increase of \$2.00 making the rate \$20.00 per hour. This increase would amount to about \$15,000.00 per year. There would be no raise for the current Chief or Lieutenant at this time. After a lengthy conversation, no decision was made. Council would like to take a look at previous year's police department budgets, the current budget, proceeds from the levy and benefit packages and look ahead at how we can sustain the increases in the future and discuss the issue at the July Council meeting.

Mayor Walls asked Council about paying Chief Robbins 20 hours of his comp time per pay rather than 15 hours. No decision was made to make the change.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mayor Walls introduced Ordinance #1702, enacting Chapter 178 providing for an excise tax on lodging by a hotel or transient accommodation. The Ordinance would levy a three percent (3%) tax on accommodations in Cridersville. The ordinance states the money collected would be put in the General Fund. The ordinance would go into effect on January 01, 2023. A motion to pass Ordinance #1702 for the second of three readings was made by West seconded by Lauck. Motion passed 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

OTHER:

Steve Numbers asked about the trailer for the Police Departments speed sign. Jarid said the trailer has been received and is being modified at this time.

Steve Numbers also asks that everyone support our local Community Market. The manager is concerned how the E. Main St. Sewer project is going to affect their business. Jarid will be in contact with her.

Stacey asked about the house that was taken down on W. Main St. She said it needs filled in and cleaned up. Jarid said he did not know how the agreement was made. It was done through the police department so she needs to contact them.

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

Susan Bassitt, Village Fiscal Officer

Rick Walls, Mayor

