

VILLAGE OF CRIDERSVILLE COUNCIL MINUTES
Regular Meeting – February 5, 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: Eric West, Dorance Thompson, Steve Numbers, Stacey Cook, 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.

It was moved by Thompson and seconded by West to excuse Joe Bailey from the meeting due to prior vacation arrangements. Motion passed 5-0.

It was moved by West and seconded by E. West to accept the minutes of the January 8, 2023, Regular Council Meeting. Motion passed 5-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Committee of the Whole: There will be a Committee of the Whole meeting on February 21, 2024, starting at 7:30 located at the Village Hall.

Utilities & Surface Water: Mayor Walls stated National Water Services was in to evaluate and provide us with services to rehab our existing wells as a routine maintenance program. Quotes for each well are forthcoming. The new replacement air compressor unit for our wastewater plant has been ordered at a cost of \$12,430.00. Global Electric was in to look at electrical issues we were having with one of our blower units at the wastewater plant. A new cooling fan has been ordered and will be replaced shortly. CorrPro was in and inspected our anti-corrosion equipment in our big tower which is in good condition. Bid opening for our W. Main St. Phase 2 sanitary sewer project will be this coming Thursday. Phase two includes N. Waverly to North St. which was grant funded through the states Infrastructure Program. Lastly, our village administrator was notified that we will receive a \$6,045.00 equipment grant that he submitted last year. These dollars will be used to purchase a valve exerciser and accessories.

Planning: Lauck stated our village administrator met with Scott Cisco from Auglaize County Solid Waste District regarding the need for more space for more recycling containers. Further discussion on this topic will take place during the Committee of the Whole meeting.

Finance: West stated there was a Finance Committee meeting held on January 18th to carry out Chief Fried's request to discuss the use of ARPA funds for the Police Department. The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds must be spent by the end of 2026. Chief Fried mentioned that he would like to spend the ARPA funds on camera systems around town, new computers for the cruisers, add additional AEDs to the Department, update the police department signage and a new front door for the police department. The police department has also asked Back the Blue to help with purchasing e-bikes for the department. The Finance Committee voted unanimously to send the following items to council for the police department: hold off on the camera project until further legal information is received from the Village Solicitor, to allow the police department to update the current AED they have, and to allow the department to purchase the new computer system.

During the Finance meeting Village Administrator Kohlrieser asked to be allowed to purchase a new Village Hall sign of up to \$40,000.00 out of the ARPA funds. The Finance Committee voted unanimously to bring a resolution to council to allow Administrator Kohlrieser to purchase a new sign.

Additionally, Finance Committee member further discussed a better schedule for the Police Department to cut back on overtime hours, and looking at what the wants and needs are for the Police Department to operate to allow the Village of Cridersville to have 24/7 coverage for its residents.

Park: Cook stated our village administrator has reviewed the plans for our Legacy Park shelter house and those plans have been submitted to the builders' engineers for final approval. The shelter house is currently right on schedule with what was proposed at purchasing and still is scheduled for delivery sometime in late May to early June. Steve Numbers added that he has a meeting with the Park Golf builder for the Tri- State area soon and once we have a better idea on equipment cost we will have a better quote.

Streets: Thompson stated that himself and Village Administrator Kohlrieser have been looking at the potholes in town to see if repairs need completed. Village Administrator Kohlrieser also stated he would like to discuss the handicap painted spots in town at the Committee of the Whole meeting.

Properties: Numbers stated our big dump truck was being taken to Miller's Auto for repairs and service due to it not running right. It then had to be towed to the Hino Findlay dealer for further diagnostics and is currently still there being evaluated. Also, our village administrator has ordered our new Village Hall sign from IC Signs which should take about eight weeks. The funds used for the new sign purchase is coming from the ARPA fund.

Safety:

Fire:

Chief Miller reported that there were 78 EMS calls and 11 Fire calls for a total of 89 calls for service for the month of January for a total of 89 calls for the year of 2024. Chief Miller also stated the new chassis is to arrive at the end of February/ beginning of March as it is currently in the paint shop. The Fire Department has found an ambulance, but Chief Miller is looking into further details to see about purchasing the ambulance. The department would use the county grant money for this purchase. The Fire Department is currently finishing the door opener project at the fire station in hopes that it will be completed by the end of the week. Lastly, the Food Truck Festival and Jeep Invasion is scheduled for April 27th with 45 craft vendors and 32 food trucks thus far.

Police:

Chief Fried reported there were 217 calls for service last month with a total of 28 tickets issues for the month along with 37 warnings and 5 crashes. The total for the tickets issued in the month of January was \$2,225.00. Chief Fried has been in touch with the grant writer, Stacey, and is looking to either apply for a retention or equipment grant for the Police Department. Those grants are scheduled to open in May. Chief Fried has been working closely with Solicitor Hearn regarding updating fines and fees for the Village of Cridersville. Lastly, the Police Department is looking into getting officers certified through Apollo to drive the ambulance if an emergency were to take place and the Fire Department is short-staffed.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Walls introduced Resolution 2477, a resolution to authorize the Village Clerk to establish a new fund for Opioid Settlement funds, declaring an emergency. Mayor Walls read the resolution by title only. Motion to accept the resolution as read and declaring an emergency was made by Lauck and seconded by West. Motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Walls introduced Resolution 2478, authorizing the Village Mayor to enter a Contract with Logan Township, declaring an emergency. The Cridersville Volunteer Fire Department will provide the Logan Township with EMS services for 2024 for an annual fee of \$10,000.00. Motion to accept the resolution as read and declaring an emergency was made by Thompson and seconded by Numbers. Motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Walls introduced Resolution 2479, authorizing the Village Mayor to enter a Contract with Duchouquet Township, declaring an emergency. The Cridersville Volunteer Fire Department will provide the Duchouquet Township with for 2024 for an annual fee of \$56,766.82. Motion to accept the resolution as read and declaring an emergency was made by Numbers and seconded by Cook. Motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Walls introduced Resolution 2480. A motion was made by Cook and seconded by West, which passed 5-0 to change the verbiage of Resolution 2480 to read Resolution 2480 as a resolution requesting the Auglaize County Auditor to certify to the Village of Cridersville the current tax valuation of the Village and the dollar amount of revenue that would be generated by a renewal of 3 Mill Fire Tax Levy and declaring an emergency. Motion to accept the amended resolution as read and declaring an emergency was made by Cook and seconded by West. Motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Walls introduced Resolution 2481, a resolution to authorize the village clerk to establish a new fund for police training funds, declaring an emergency. Mayor Walls read the resolution by title only. Motion to accept the resolution as read and declaring an emergency was made by West and seconded by Lauck. Motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Walls introduced Resolution 2482, a resolution to allocate and distribute American Rescue Plan Act Funds held by the Village of Cridersville, Auglaize County, Ohio for Police Equipment and declaring and emergency. Mayor Walls read the resolution by title only. Motion to accept the resolution as read and declaring an emergency was made by Thompson and seconded by West. Motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Walls introduced Resolution 2483, a resolution authorizing the administrator to purchase a new sign for the Village Hall and declaring an emergency. Mayor Walls read the resolution by title only. Motion to accept the resolution as read and declaring an emergency was made by West and seconded by Cook. Motion passed 5-0.

Other:

Josh Bloomfield, WEDAC Executive Director was present at the council meeting and wanted to inform the Village of Cridersville if there is any development need to reach out to him. Additionally, Bloomfield gave an update on the Crossroads of Northwestern Ohio development. Bloomfield stated that the financing on the Urology Center has not received bank board approval yet. The Urology Center will be a \$40 million dollar project that will offer labs, urgent care, and family practice to individuals in the area as well. Bloomfield added that RD Jones won the bid to install the 1600-foot roadway that will allow for 50 acres of development and lead to the Urology Center. The medical road project will take roughly 7 months to complete, however, it will be completed by the end of 2024. Currently there is a residential builder who is interested in 200+ units and a gas station anchor, but both would like to see the Urology Center completed first.

Mayor Walls opened the floor to the residents that attended the meeting.

Angela Knotts resident of 313 West Main Street Cridersville, Ohio stated that Bayliff & Son Funeral Home would be interested in donating to the camera project that the police department would like to install around town. The funeral home thinks that the camera system would allow for a safer area for residents to live, benefiting the Village of Cridersville.

John Bayliff resident of 311 West High Street Cridersville, Ohio stated that he would also like to contribute to the camera project for the Village of Cridersville as a citizen and is willing to donate towards whatever is needed.

Kim Hines resident of 504 Thomas Drive Cridersville, Ohio stated that she was a manger of Sprucewood homes through Fairfield Homes management company for five years and thinks that a security system back at Sprucewood would be very beneficial to help solve crimes that are taking place due to current poor camera quality and less management hours. Hines also thanked Chief Fried for all his hard work to help make Sprucewood a better place for

residents to live. Hines stated that she does not want individuals to feel as if they can come into Cridersville and create issues due to having a small police force as she feels safe residing in Cridersville currently.

Mayor Walls and Council Members graciously thanked the residents for the kind words and greatly appreciated the want to help donate towards the camera projects. Council Members asked the residents to allow time for legal advice from our solicitor to be determined before donations were made.

Administrator Kohlrieser stated he is willing to buy one of the cameras out of the water fund and put it up at Tower Park/Water Plant to make sure the cameras are what the Village wants.

Village Administrator Kohlrieser stated the Community Garage Sales will be held Saturday May 11th and Clean Up Day will be held May 18th.

The Village Council will be looking to change the April 8th meeting date due to the Solar Eclipse. Council Member Eric West asked Mayor Walls to check with Cridersville Elementary School about when they would like the council meeting to be at the school.

Village Administrator Kohlrieser stated that the November 11th meeting date will need to be changed due to it falling on Veterans Day.

Council Member Numbers added that he would like to talk about reinvesting money back into the shelter house that is rented out back at Tower Park. Further discussion will take place at the Committee of the Whole meeting.

Council Member Thompson wanted to thank the Police Department for going door to door during the snow fall to ask residents to move their vehicles off Main Street to allow for better snow removal.

Motion to adjourn was made by West and seconded by Numbers. Motion passed 5-0.

Taylor West, Village Fiscal Officer

Rick Walls, Mayor