

**VILLAGE OF CRIDERSVILLE COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting – May 13, 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, 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 Joe Bailey from the regular council meeting due to family matters. It was moved by Numbers and seconded by Cook to excuse Bailey. Motion passed 5-0.

It was moved by Thompson and seconded by West to accept the minutes of the April 26, 2024, Regular Council Meeting. Motion passed 5-0.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Committee of the Whole:** Mayor Walls stated that discussion was held in regard to property inspections that are conducted by the Village Code Enforcement officer to try and make the process more uniform.

**Utilities & Surface Water:** Mayor Walls stated Bierly Well Drilling was in and pulled our well number one due to pump failure. A new pump, motor, and check valve was ordered and installed at a cost of \$9,100. That well has since been put back in service. Crews also dug and replaced a water shut off at 231 E. Main St.

**Planning:** Lauck stated our village administrator has been working on trying to acquire ground in order to make room for a new water well location within Tower Park. Those talks are ongoing, and more information will be provided as they develop.

**Finance:** West stated our village administrator has been able to save the village in natural gas supply expenses by an average of 57% per month which has already shown us a savings of \$343.92 from this last month's bill with the same usage as last year.

**Park:** Cook stated village crews installed chair hangers in the Tower Park Community Building storage room where now all tables and chairs can be stored and put away neatly inside that room.

**Streets:** Thompson stated there is still an issue with semi-truck traffic turning onto Oak St. since last meeting. Our village administrator has purchased a sign to hopefully help alleviate this issue and have the semi-truck use Water St. in order to make deliveries to the grocery store. The sign should be installed within the next week.

**Properties:** Numbers stated as many have noticed, we have gotten our new Village Hall sign installed out front. The sign was installed by I.C. Signs and was funded by ARPA dollars. The sign cost \$32,742. Lastly, as mentioned in the last meeting, our village administrator received a \$1,000 grant through the MidWest Electric Community Connection Fund to go towards the cost of a handicap door operator for the Village Hall front door.

**Safety:****Fire:**

Chief Miller reported that there were 67 EMS calls and 10 Fire calls for a total of 77 calls for service for the month of April for a total of 339 calls for the year of 2024.

Chief Miller states that the new tanker truck is in service, and the fire department has done the necessary training to be able to operate the vehicle. There has also been equipment that has been added to the tanker as well. Due to receiving a federal grant to cover most of the costs of the new tanker, it has allowed the fire department to replace Engine 441. The chassis is currently in South Dakota with a build number waiting to be built. Due to receiving a grant, Engine 441 has been retired and is not able to be used in the United States as a Fire/EMS vehicle. Chief Miller asked Village council if they would approve the engine being donated to other countries where the equipment could still be used to help fight fires. Motion was made by Thompson and Seconded by Cook to allow Chief Miller to donate the Fire Engine 441. Motion passed 5-0.

The department has also found an ambulance that they would like to purchase out of Houston, Texas with the help of grant money that was received. This would allow the department to only have to spend roughly \$6,000.00 out of the Fire and Rescue fund for the purchase. The ambulance will be trailered to Ohio and is a 2013 model. The new ambulance would replace the departments 2001 ambulance, leaving the department with the oldest ambulance as a 2010.

Chief Miller stated that the Jeep Invasion and Food Truck Festival went very well with 137 Jeeps entering the Jeep show. The Fire Department is now planning and working on the Jamboree which will be held July 12-13. There will be five forms of entertainment this year at the Jamboree in addition to a Bike Show on Saturday after Blessing of the Badges. New this year, the Jamboree 5K will be held on Thursday night as a glow run starting around 8 p.m.

**Police:**

Chief Fried reported there a total of 19 tickets issues for the month along with 37 warnings.

Chief Fried reported that he met with individuals from the camera company to get a project quote for 11 total cameras around town. The estimated cost for all locations would be roughly \$36,826.50. Chief stated that he looked into cheaper cameras that would allow for a 360-degree view instead of a straight shot.

Chief Fried stated he has talked with businesses and residents regarding donations and believes to have \$4,800 confirmed in donations for the project. The Chief also stated that the department has \$40,699.87 left in ARPA funds and would be willing to spend those funds to cover the rest of the project cost.

Lauck asked if Village Administrator Kohlrieser was still looking into getting a camera to try out on the Water Plant back at Tower Park. Kohlrieser stated that he was interested, however, when the camera prices doubled, he decided to wait before pursuing the project. Kohlrieser believed that the cost that was initially given was just for the cameras and not installation costs as well, which made the product jump in price.

E. West stated that his concern with the camera project was that he would like public areas of safety to be observed and not private areas. Cook added to the conversation asking about placement of the cameras and what areas of town would be covered, as there were not 11 locations listed. Chief Fried stated some of the locations would have two cameras to allow for different angles of streets and alleys to be covered.

Lauck stated that the camera project is new territory for the village as it is new to everyone but is concerned about purchasing 11 cameras up front and not easing into the project. He stated that instead of having to pay out a large amount of money when the cameras become worn down, the village could implement a rotation for replacing cameras over the years.

Lauck stated that there has been some disconnect with the camera project moving forward, therefore a plan needed to be set and followed going forward with the project. E. West was concerned as to why Village Administrator Kohlrieser was not part of the meeting with the individuals to look at locations around town. Numbers stated that he would like Village Administrator Kohlrieser to test out a camera back at the Water Plant and then move forward with the project from there to ensure these cameras are going to be the best option for the village.

Chief Fried also mentioned that Patrolman Herzog finished his time with the Cridersville Police Department on May 12, 2024, and he would be leaving to pursue his career at Lima Police Department. In addition, Patrolman Madlock has put in his two-week notice making his last day with the department May 29, 2024.

Chief Fried has been able to get ahold of Stacy at Rosewood East & West regarding the shape that the trailer park is in. Stacy stated that there have already been 10 to 12 evictions filed between Rosewood East & West.

Chief Fried is also currently working on paperwork for a retention grant through a grant writer.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Mayor Walls introduced Resolution 2485, a Resolution declaring it necessary to levy a tax in excess of the ten-mill limitation and said tax levy being a renewal for fire protection and related services. The third of three readings.** Mayor Walls read resolution 2485. Motion to pass the third of three readings was made by West and seconded by Cook. Motion passed 5-0.

**Mayor Walls introduced Resolution 2486, a amend resolution 2283 to amend section 1(E) to change the late fee penalty on water sewer charges. The second of three readings.** Mayor Walls read resolution 2486. Motion to pass the third of three readings was made by West and seconded by Lauck. Motion passed 5-0 for the third reading.

**Mayor Walls introduced Resolution 2487, a resolution to approve the necessary transfer of funds for the Village of Cridersville and declaring an emergency for the year 2024.** Mayor Walls read resolution 2487. Motion was made by Thompson and seconded by West. Motion passed 5-0.

**Mayor Walls introduced Resolution 2488, a resolution to authorize the village clerk to establish a new fund for police donations and declaring an emergency.** Mayor Walls read resolution 2488. Motion was made by Numbers and seconded by Cook. Motion passed 5-0.

**Mayor Walls introduced Resolution 2489, a resolution to amend Resolutions #2471, #2476 & #2484 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 2489. Motion was made by West and seconded by Thompson Motion passed 5-0.

#### **Other:**

Councilmen Lauck stated that he had created a Word document with the current ordinances that the Village of Cridersville has in place to try and clean up the gray areas with enforcing ordinances such as trash and mowing. Lauck also stated that the village has it listed that individuals are not allowed more than one warning in 180 days, but instead a citation would be given. Lauck has asked the council to reach out with any feedback to help make our ordinances more uniform. Lauck is also working on new tags to be given to residents who are not following the local ordinances. It was also mentioned that if residents have an issue, it should be communicated with the village in a timely manner so the issue can be addressed. Discussion regarding local ordinances with code enforcement will continue to be discussed.

Councilmen Thompson mentioned that it is important to not blow grass clippings into the streets or storm drains due to the local ordinances that are in place. Thompson is currently waiting on answers from Cleveland regarding the zip code change for the land to the East of I-75.

Thompson asked what the village would like to do regarding the handicap spot located in front of 200 West Main as it is a public parking space. Cook stated that she has had residence concerned about not being able to see traffic coming from West Main Street if the handicap spot was turned into a loading zone. After discussion, a motion was made by Thompson to remove the handicap spot in front of 200 West Main and replace the parking spot with a regular space. Motion was seconded by Numbers. Motion passed 5-0.

Council member Cook thanked the Village of Cridersville for the donation of \$500 dollars to the Cridersville Garden Club to allow for flowers to be planted around town. Cook also stated that people were wondering about the income tax that goes towards the Police Department budget. T. West explained that the income tax .5% gives the police department a .5% head start with their budget costs. Lauck added to express the first money spent out of the police department budget comes from what was received from the income tax and then the general fund supplies the rest of the costs that need to be covered in order for the department to run. Resident Rick Allen of 304 West Main Street thanked council for explaining how the income tax works when it comes to budgeting.

Administrator Kohlrieser stated the Annual Community Clean Up Day will be held on May 18, 2024, from 8 a.m. – Noon back at Tower Park. This is an event that is only for current residents of the Village of Cridersville.

Chief Nathan Fried asked to go to executive session to discuss personnel matters. Motion to go into executive to discuss personnel matters with action to be taken was made by West and seconded by Cook. Motion passed 5-0. The Village Council entered executive session at 9:11 p.m. Motion to adjourn from executive session and return to the regular council meeting was made by West and seconded by Lauck at 9:49 p.m. Motion passed 5-0.

West made a motion to raise the wages of Patrolman Haehn to \$21.00 an hour, after he has been with the department for three years as a part-time officer, and Patrolman Gaines to \$23.00 an hour for his commitment and time to the department over the last year as a full-time officer. West stated he would like both raises to begin with the payroll starting May 13, 2024. Motion was seconded by Numbers. Motion passed 5-0.

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

---

Taylor West, Village Fiscal Officer

---

Rick Walls, Mayor