

VILLAGE OF CRIDERSVILLE COUNCIL MINUTES
Regular Meeting – October 10, 2022
7:30p.m.

Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call

Present: Mayor Rick Walls, Council Members: Dorance Thompson, Dylan Lauck, Steve Numbers and Stacey Cook. Also present: Fiscal Officer Susan Bassitt Village, Administrator Jarid Kohlriseser, Solicitor Angela Elliott and Fire Chief Rick Miller.

Eric West notified the Mayor he would be out of town. No one had heard from Joe Bailey. Motion to excuse Eric West and Joe Bailey was made by Cook and seconded by Numbers. Motion passed 4-0

It was moved by Lauck and seconded by Numbers to accept the minutes of the September 12, 2022 regular Council Meeting. Motion passed 4-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Committee of the Whole: No Report

Utilities & Surface Water: Mayor Walls reported that Village crews drained and cleaned out both the north and south holding tanks. Maintenance was performed on all aeration equipment and replacement parts were ordered and installed. Both tanks are back online and in service. We did have a water leak on E. Main St. in front of Dollar General when construction crews were in front of the store. The line was shut down for repairs which were completed and back in service. The generator for the Village's new lift station for Crossroads Development was delivered and installed. The Village Administrator submitted a grant to Auglaize County through the Auglaize Development Fund program to go towards new water plant filter media and studies for the utility plants as well as a storm water study. Jarid Kohlriseser added the grant is from additional ARPA funds received by the county. Area municipalities were able to apply for some of those funds.

Planning: No report

Finance: A finance committee meeting was held September 29th at 7:30p.m. to discuss the 2023 Pay Ordinance. Mayor Walls said putting base pay ranges back in the ordinance was discussed. Angela Elliott is reviewing the comp time. She also said the Village needs to review the current policy and procedure manual to make sure it does not differ from the pay ordinance. The raise process was discussed, it was stated the employees do not receive any kind of annual cost of living increase. They usually receive a raise based on merit by their supervisors. No actual changes were suggested yet but the ordinance will be read again in November and December before it is made final so changes can be made until that time.

Dorance Thompson asked for a Finance meeting to discuss pay ordinance wages and the upcoming increase in minimum wage. Meeting was scheduled for October 18th at 7:30.

Park: Stacey Cook reported the second but smaller Delong Pioneer Nature Park sign was ordered and should be installed within a few weeks.

Streets: Dorance Thompson gave an update on the W. Sugar St. damaged by a tractor trailer earlier this year. The Village's insurance company's adjuster has sent the tractor operator letters pertaining to the situation. The adjuster said they allow a couple weeks before moving to any further steps. That time has now expired. The Village Administrator reached out to the adjuster today and is waiting for a return phone call to proceed further.

Dorance Thompson asked that residents not place leaves in the street. Jarid Kohlrieser added leaf pickup will be November 1st- 30th. Residents must bag leaves and place beside the street. No trash, garbage or yard waste is acceptable.

Properties: No report

Safety: Mayor Walls stated Chief Creech was out of town on a preplanned family commitment. Mayor Walls said there are two current applicants for part time officers that will probably be hired. Officer Madlock has been trained and is on duty independently. Officer Sturwold has had one week training but will need several more before being on duty on his own. Stacey Cook said that Officer Madlock is making himself well known around town. Mayor Walls commended him for being very outgoing and publicly involved. Mayor Walls would like to have all the officers at the Harvest Parade.

Dylan Lauck asked why there is no current advertising for police officers. Mayor Walls said right now he had a couple applications they want to look at, if they don't pan out then they will start advertising again. It was pointed out that the department can only train one new officer at a time which does take several weeks.

Jarid Kohlrieser asked if there was an update on a School Resource Officer. Mayor Walls said the SRO position is now in the hands of the Auglaize County Sheriff's Office. Wapak Police Department didn't hire anyone either. There is no official Memorandum of Understanding with anyone at this point. Angela Knotts asked if we did have applicants for the position. Mayor Walls said there were two applicants, one turned down the position, it was not offered to the other.

Chief Miller said there were 59 EMS calls and 7 fire calls for a total of 66 for the month of September. There have been a total of 629 calls for the year.

Chief Miller said they received an AFG grant for \$452,380.95 for a new tanker. The Village portion will be \$22,619.05. It will be ordered by December 1st with a hopeful delivery late in 2023 or in early 2024.

The Fire Department building improvements will be completed before the Harvest Festival.

He said Jamboree will be July 7th & 8th in 2023. They are trying to make it bigger and better. They are also having a Food Truck event on April 29, 2023.

Josh Bloomfield was in attendance with an update of the Crossroads Development Project. He said that Dr. Nicholson in conjunction with St. Rita's will be building a 20 acre medical park including surgery and training center and an urgent care facility. They expect to break ground the second quarter of 2023. Blass construction is building a group of triplexes. And Crossroads has entered into partnership with NXTGEN. They will explore solar street lighting, solar parking lot lighting and EV charging stations. They have filed four (4) applications for Auglaize County Development funds, one for road and utilities development to the Medical Park. One application is for the Roadway from National Road opening up the first residential subdivision by Blass. Another application was for roads in the back opening up over fifty (50) acres in the light industrial area. The fourth application is for various community studies. The balance of the construction project is set up with State bank. He expects to hear from Auglaize County by the end of October. There is a Crossroads Community Collaboration Survey on line at CrossroadsOFNWO.com that residents are encouraged to log into and complete to help shape the direction of the plans for housing, entertainment, shopping and more.

OLD BUSINESS: Nothing under old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Walls **introduced Ordinance #1703, establishing certain rates of pay, health and hospitalization insurance, sick leave, paid holidays and vacation for all non-elected Village Employees for the year 2023.** Motion to accept the resolution for the first of three readings was made by Thompson and seconded by Numbers. Motion passed 4-0.

Other:

Stacey Cook brought up concerns from resident Mike Cooper of 400 W. Main St. He said there are cars going through the alley north of Main St. driving too fast posing a risk to children and other vehicles accessing garages along the alley. Stacey asked if a 3-way stop could be placed at the corner of Washington St. and the alley in order to slow down the traffic. There is a 4-way stop further east in the alley. A Street and Safety Committee meeting was scheduled for October 18th at 7:00p.m.

Stacey Cook said the Harvest Parade on October 24th will begin at the church on Shawnee Rd. and end at Waverly this year due to the condition of Main St. as a result of the current E. Main sewer project.

Stacey Cook expressed serious concerns about the length of time the E. Main St. Sewer Project has taken. The project was originally expected to be complete by the end of July. She asked why the stones are still on Main Street. The Mayor said there is not enough room on 25a for the stone but the contractor is going to try to get them moved and get Main St. open. Stacey asked if there are retributions for the contractor being so far behind, and the condition of the street and sidewalks. Jarid said there is nothing the Village can do at this time to make them move any faster, they are doing the best they can. Retributions can be discussed when the project is finished if need be. Curbs and paving are to be completed before winter.

Mayor Walls said he has been invited to a meeting with the Auglaize County Library. The meeting is to discuss the Library purchasing the old Bear's Den building. He said there are funds available to the Library from a Reichelderfer Trust Fund. He said by purchasing and tearing down the building, the library could get the additional space they want and the Village could build a garage for the Cridersville Police Department. Dylan asked if the Library would make the entire purchase. Stacey Cook said the library would buy a portion of it, that we couldn't expect them to buy all of it so the Village would pay some of the cost. Dylan mentioned it would be cheaper to buy the dilapidated property behind the hall to build a garage. The Mayor said it is an informational meeting to find out how much is available and what the plans are. Mayor Walls said he will report back at the November council meeting.

Motion to adjourn was made by Cook and seconded by Lauck. Motion passed 4-0.

Susan Bassitt, Village Fiscal Officer

Rick Walls, Mayor

