

**November 8, 2016**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

New Richmond Village Council met in Council Chambers in regular session on Tuesday, November 8, 2016 at 7 pm. Present: Gary Skeene, Richard Feldkamp, Mary Allen, Rodney Henry, Amanda Davidson and Paul Vanderbosch - members; Ramona Carr, Mayor; Kelly Painter, Clerk; Randy Harvey, Police Chief ; Vince Bee , Fire Chief and Greg Roberts, Village Administrator.

Also attending:

Mike and Dianne Dobbins 110 Susanna Way

Bill Marsh 2423 Country Place

Mayor Carr opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council members present were Henry, Skeene, Feldkamp, Allen, and Vanderbosch, and Davidson.

Minutes of October 25th were presented for approval. Rodney Henry motioned to approve, Seconded by Gary Skeene.

Mr. Henry: abstain (absent Oct. 25th)  
Mr. Feldkamp: yes  
Mr. Skeene: yes

Mrs. Davidson: abstain (absent Oct. 25th)  
Ms. Allen: yes  
Mr. Vanderbosch: yes

Mayor Carr stated that the motion made during the October 11th Council meeting to reimburse Mary Allen for expenses incurred during her attendance of the Ohio Economic Development Conference on Oct. 19-21 did pass. The motion was not an Ordinance and due to the fact that there was a quorum for the vote. Mary is to file an expense report with Lynn for reimbursement.

**Visitors:**

**Mike Dobbins 110 Susanna Way**

Mr. Dobbins came to council with potential plans involving the property where the Ice House is located. Mr. Dobbins would like to tear down the Ice House and build high end Condominiums. The condominiums would be tailored to residents over 65 and be handicapped accessible. People have already expressed interest in purchasing properties. Mr. Dobbins would also like to build a serpentine wall along the riverfront on his property. He expressed concerns about Water Street and Plum Street. He would like to request council to abandon the two streets. Mr. Dobbins provided documentation of past street abandonment. He provided tax maps and pointed out mistakes on them. Greg stated that tax maps are only guidelines. Mr. Dobbins would like to begin building in the spring. He would take care of the riverbank and any issues with the Corp. of Engineers. The property has been surveyed. Mr. Dobbins handed out a proposal regarding the project.

Mr. Feldkamp expressed his support for the proposal and was aware of the Water Street abandonment.

Mary Allen would like the issue to be discussed further in Public Works in order to develop a process and setup criteria for this and future request.

If the Village decides to abandon any streets or property it would need to be done via an Ordinance. It does not need to go through zoning.

Mr. Dobbins did not come to council for a decision tonight. He was presenting his idea.

Mayor Carr asked about a timeline. Mr. Dobbins stated that everything depends on council's decision regarding Plum and Water Streets. Dianne Dobbins stated that the plans are handicapped accessible; however the property is not specifically for handicapped or elderly individuals. The condominiums will not be rental units. The Dobbins are open to any suggestions or recommendations.

Council will investigate what needs to be done and a possible process. Possibilities mentioned included selling the abandoned property etc. Council will come to a decision as soon as possible.

**Greg Roberts, Village Administrator:**

**U.S. 52:**

The recently completed expansion joint work on the four-lane is not in preparation of finished paving any time soon. According to the most recent information received from ODOT this work was done in lieu of finished paving. Paving is not scheduled until 2024.

The village has contacted legislators in Columbus. Greg would like to go straight to the governor regarding this issue.

Mayor Carr stated that we have complained to Congressman Wenstrup when we met with him a couple of months ago.

**Sewer Expansion Project:**

The first customers of the new sewer system in the Robin Hill/Grays Lane neighborhood are scheduled to be connected tomorrow. Installation of grinder pumps on Indian Ridge could be as early as next week.

**Well #4:**

Well #4 was cleaned and put back into service. Analysis of the raw water from well #2 vs. well #4 indicates the water from well #2 has significantly higher mineral content than well #4. The treatment plant is currently incapable of equalizing the hardness of the processed water delivered from the plant. We are investigating options that will result in more consistent water quality from the plant.

There was much discussion about hard water. Paul asked if Greg returned Mr. Walrivens call. (Greg will return call tomorrow).

**Personnel & Finance, Paul Vanderbosch:**

**Lynn Baird, Fiscal Officer**

Lynn reviewed the October 2016 financial reports.

Lynn also mentioned that there will be the first reading for the 2016 appropriation changes and the 2017 temporary appropriations.

**Pay the bills:**

Paul Vanderbosch motioned to pay bills 652-2016 through 772-2016 and warrants 35703 through 35720 as listed in the October financial reports, seconded by Amanda Davidson.

Mr. Henry: yes

Mrs. Davidson: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes

Mr. Vanderbosch: yes

**Greg Roberts, Administrator**

Greg updated us on the sewer expansion and boat ramp repairs—those items will be covered in the Public Works report.

Greg is also beginning the process to renew the Waste/Recycling contact with Rumpke and to secure bids from other vendors.

**Vince Bee, Chief Fire/EMS**

Chief Bee continues to seek bids to replace the concrete and steps at Hamilton Street.

**Randy Harvey, Chief Police Department**

Chief Harvey reported the resignation of Auxiliary Office Jamie Cherry.

He recommended the hiring of Auxiliary Officer Marc Heuer.

He also wanted guidance from Council for his 2017 budget should the tax increase not pass, namely to what extent will the General Fund subsidize the Police Budget.

Mary Allen discussed the Beckjord property and described an old agreement in which that property would revert to Pierce Township after Duke de-commissions it.

Paul Vanderbosch asked about: the Walriven sewer/water issue; the problems for the mailer about the tax increase; water billing issues; the potential for Frisbee golf on mitigated property; and for fire/police calls to 108 Main, 223 and 312 Front Street.

**Mary Allen, Public Works:**

**410 Columbia Street water leak and resolution:**

Robbin Kinney has had billing problems and although Greg approved an adjustment in her water bill due to the water leak she had, there remains a billing issue. Also, she would like the Village to pay all or something toward costs she was charged by her plumber for areas that the Village owns. There was no clear reason why she and the plumber didn't wait for the Village to make the repairs they should have made. Greg will continue to investigate and try to obtain an itemized bill from the plumber so we know exactly what she was charged for.

**Frisbee Golf:**

Paul Vanderbosch asked Greg about the possibility of having Frisbee Golf on some of the Village owned mitigated property. Greg said he didn't think there was any reason why we couldn't, but we didn't have enough property in any one place for the normal 9-18 holes. Maybe we could do 3-4 holes.

**Sewer:**

Most grinder pumps are installed and things are progressing along Robin Hill and Grays Lane. Primary of work completion is being driven by the most heavily affected sections first.

**Sewer Request from Mr. Scheu and the Little Indian Boat Club:**

Greg had done a little investigating and there's already an easement where the sewer could run. Also, they are already one of our water customers and have a tap and meter. Per Greg's recommendation, we asked Council to entertain a policy change to allow current water customers to tap into the sewer at a higher rate and pay all costs. We'd like to also apply during sewer expansion for those close by-where we have water customers who are outside the Village limits. There have

already been a few exceptions to the policy in the past. So for the Little Indian Boat Club and anyone given this exception; there would be one water tap and one sewer tap. No sub-dividing would be allowed without annexation into the Village. Greg has done further investigation and still maintains we need to consider this exception.

**Family Dollar Move:**

Progress continues on the new building and the store is projected to open in February 2017.

**Boat Ramp:**

The boat ramp has been installed.

**Sewer Request from Mr. Rosemeyer:**

Mr. Rosemeyer is a Ford retiree and is eligible for legal work done as part of his retirement benefits. He wants to use that legal benefit to annex into the Village so he can tap into the sewer. However, the process is moving very slowly and from a timing perspective, our project might end in his area, before he gets annexed. The request to Council is to consider receiving some type of legal "intent to annex" document from his attorney so he can get the sewer hook-up before the annexation is completed. We would need to run this by our solicitor, but the Committee is asking Council to consider the request as an exception. There was much discussion about exceptions and /or changes in policy.

Paul Vanderbosch motioned to maintain our current policy regarding this issue. There was no second.

There was much discussion regarding exceptions and/or changes in policy. The problem is when Mr. Rosemeyer is able to annex the workers will be gone. Amanda Davidson and Paul Vanderbosch are opposed to making exceptions to our current policy. Mary Allen would like to look into having legal documentation to allow Mr. Rosemeyer to annex into the village. There was much discussion about pros/cons.

Mary Allen motioned to allow Mr. Rosemeyer to have a legal document drawn up for intent to annex into the village. No second.

Crews may be in the area up until March. Time is of a major concern. Mayor Carr would like Greg to consult with Matt Faris regarding the situation. The Mayor also suggested that annexation paperwork be filed prior to approving a sewer connection. Mary concurred. Mary stated that she would like criteria to be established for these types of circumstances.

**Tom Dix Request for the Needs of the Soccer Association:**

Tom Dix approached the committee with a proposal for the village to assist in the purchase of the former Gold Driving Range property. He stated he has found a municipal lease arrangement with 100% lease financing at a very low rate of about 3.5%. The Committee advised him we would need considerably more information before we could entertain the possibility of purchasing the property. His intent was for us to purchase it as it is contiguous to the area we own that is used by the Knothole Association. He feels we could allow the Soccer Association to use it for now since they have to vacate the Duke property. If we wanted to use it for economic development in the future, we could ask the Soccer Association to vacate the property. But in the short run, the Soccer Association would have a space. Mary would like a committee to investigate further. Mayor Carr is concerned about how things have gone with Knothole and fears the same type of situation may occur with the Soccer Association. Mary feels we may want to consider it as a potential investment opportunity.

**Cemetery:**

Bill Marsh has recently provided a 28 page report on 2016 cemetery actions he has been involved with. Greg stated that we need village employees to handle some key operations vs. a volunteer. Especially, grave sales and interment services. Lynn uses UAN and UAN has a cemetery component. We are thinking we may be able to use that vs. buying a cemetery software system. We believe village personnel can pick up the required work.

**Richard Feldkamp, Safety/Laws/Rules Committee:**

**Greg Roberts, Village Administrator:**

**Traffic Lights:**

All traffic lights have been replaced with LED lights. The culvert on Grays Lane has been replaced and the boat ramp replacement is complete.

**Randy Harvey, Police Chief:**

**Abandoned Vehicles**

Chief Harvey talked about abandoned cars on the streets. He advised that the owners will be notified prior to towing of the vehicles. A police officer must be registered through the ORC in order to have vehicles towed.

**Personnel Changes:**

Resignation of Jamie Cherry and hiring of Marc Heuer.

Richard Feldkamp motioned to accept the resignation of Auxiliary Officer Jamie Cherry and to hire Marc Heuer as Auxiliary Officer, seconded by Paul Vanderbosch.

Mr. Henry: yes

Mrs. Davidson: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes

Mr. Vanderbosch: yes

**Mary Allen, Economic Development:**

**Economic Development Conference:**

**1937 Flood Exhibit:**

Progress is being made on the 1937 Flood Exhibit. The library has agreed to host the exhibit. We now have two dates for the National Weather Service to speak. One evening for a generic audience and one Saturday for elementary school age children, probably grades 3-6. The exhibit is planned to run from January through March. Possible local business discount coupons

**Ohio Valley Goodwill:**

Ohio Valley Goodwill's mobile donate trailer is up and regularly receiving donations.

**Circus:**

Mike Finlan announced that the New Richmond Business Association will again be hosting the Circus in 2017. We will have one Thursday evening. After 2017, the intention will be to have the circus come to New Richmond every two years, vs. annually.

**Ohio Economic Development Association Annual Summit:**

Mary attended the Ohio Economic Development Association Annual Summit on October 19-21 and came away with a number of new contacts and a wealth of information. She and Greg Roberts have printed the handouts and they will comb through them. Mary will prepare a formal high level summary of learnings for Council within the next few weeks. From information obtained and shared, she and Greg both feel New Richmond's presence at the summit was very worthwhile. Mary has already had two contacts reach out to her. One identifying potential grant opportunities for brownfield sites in New Richmond. This will need to be investigated further.

**Randy Harvey, Chief of Police:**

Nothing to report.

**Ramona Carr, Mayor:**

**Landmark Committee:**

Mayor Carr appointed Gary Skeene to the Landmark Committee with his term ending December 31, 2017.

**Kelly Painter, Clerk of Council:**

Nothing to report.

**Vince Bee, Fire/EMS Chief:**

Nothing to report.

**Legislation:**

**First Reading:**

**ORDINANCE 2016-12: AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE 2017 TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS**

**ORDINANCE 2016-13: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2016 APPROPRIATIONS**

**Second Reading:**

**RESOLUTION 2016-13: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF A REQUEST FOR ADVANCE OF 2017 FIRST AND SECOND HALF TAXES TO THE CLERMONT COUNTY AUDITOR**

**CALL OF MEMBERS:**

**Vanderbosch** - Nothing to report

**Allen** - Ms. Allen offered condolences to Gary Skeene for the loss of his sister

**Davidson** - Mrs. Davidson thanked everyone for their support during her absence.

**Skeene** -Nothing to report

**Feldkamp**- Nothing to Report

**Henry**- Nothing to report

Amanda Davidson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 PM, seconded by Gary Skeene

Mr. Henry: yes

Mrs. Davidson: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Skeene: -yes

Mr. Vanderbosch: yes

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

---

**Mayor**

---

**Clerk of Council**