

**July 12, 2016**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

New Richmond Village Council met in Council Chambers in regular session on Tuesday, July 12th 2016 at 7 pm. Present: Gary Skeene, Richard Feldkamp, Amanda Davidson, Mary Allen, Rodney Henry and Paul Vanderbosch - members; Ramona Carr, Mayor; Kelly Painter, Clerk; Vince Bee, Fire/EMS Chief; Randy Harvey, Police Chief and Greg Roberts, Village Administrator.

Also attending:

Patrick and Jennifer Blair- Lights Pointe

Captain Thomas Mitchell- NRF/EMS

Tyler Cahill- F.F. /Paramedic NRF/EMS

Tim Feldkamp-NRF/EMS

Mayor Carr opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken by the Clerk with Henry, Skeene, Feldkamp, Davidson, Allen, and Vanderbosch answering present.

Minutes of June 28th were presented for approval. Richard Feldkamp motioned to approve, Seconded by Mary Allen.

Mr. Henry: Abstain (Was not a member of Council at the 6/28/16 meeting) Mrs. Davidson: Yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes

Mr. Vanderbosch: yes

The Mayor welcomed Mr. Henry to Village Council. Mr. Henry was sworn in on Thursday prior to the Planning Commission meeting.

**Greg Roberts, Village Administrator:**

Greg's report will be included in the Personnel/Finance Committee report.

**Personnel & Finance, Paul Vanderbosch:**

**Personnel/Finance Committee Chair Person:**

Gary Skeene nominated Paul Vanderbosch as chair of the Personnel/Finance Committee. Mary Allen advanced her name for consideration as chair. The committee elected Paul Vanderbosch as chair.

**Lynn Baird, Fiscal Officer:**

Lynn was on vacation and unable to attend the meeting. She provided the June financial reports to all Council members. Council and committee members were asked to review the list to ensure that there were no conflicts of interest present.

**Pay the bills:**

Paul Vanderbosch motioned to pay bills 311-2016 through 450-2016 and warrants 35601 through 35642 as listed in the June financial reports, seconded by Gary Skeene.

Mr. Henry: yes

Mrs. Davidson: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes

Mr. Vanderbosch: yes

**Greg Roberts, Village Administrator:**

**Sewer Expansion:**

Greg indicated that most of the main sewer line on Grays Lane has been installed. Discussions about connections with homeowners are on-going. He estimates about 75% of the residents want to tap in. Two adjacent property owners have expressed an interest in being annexed into the Village to take advantage of the sewer expansion.

**Sewer Expansion Sign:**

A large sign and a number of smaller signs have been ordered to post around the Village letting residents know about the expansion

**Underground Railroad/Legacy/Bicentennial Signs:**

Underground Railroad/Legacy/Bicentennial signs are in. Greg has asked permission from two property owners to install the signs on their property structure. There are several videos about these signs on the website that were assembled by NKU grad students. Greg also stated he would like to initiate a similar project about the Village's steamboat history.

**Tax Increase Discussion:**

Greg raised the tax increase discussion and pointed out that the second reading of the resolution and ordinance is scheduled for the July 12th Council meeting. A long discussion ensued about the tax increase with the Committee needing input and guidance from Council in several areas.

- Should an additional 0.5% credit be part of the legislation? *The discussion in Council was as follows.*

*Mayor Carr, Amanda Davis, and Richard Feldkamp feel that including the credit would show good will to the citizens. Mary Allen clarified that citizens will only get the credit if they pay where they work. The village currently receives \$500,000 a year in income tax. The 1/2% credit given to village residents who work and pay a municipal income tax to other municipalities decrease village revenue by approximately \$50,000.*

Amanda Davidson motioned to move forward with the additional 1/2% tax credit on the 1% proposed tax increase included in the 2016 Annual Income Tax increase legislation, seconded by Mary Allen.

Mr. Henry: yes

Mrs. Davidson: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes

Mr. Vanderbosch: yes

- The language in Paragraph 1 of draft Ordinance 2016-11
- Should the revenue from the tax increase be designated for Emergency Services or should specific amounts or percentages be identified for Fire/EMS and Police? *The discussion in Council was as follows.*

*There was much discussion about the needs of both the Fire/EMS and the Police Dept. Both departments are understaffed. Richard Feldkamp suggested that the revenue from the tax increase be divided between the two departments 50/50 or the village hold onto 1/3 to be dispersed to each department as needed, give 1/3 to the Police department and 1/3 to the Fire/EMS. Paul Vanderbosch felt that dividing the funds 50/50 would be the most reasonable and it would also make it easier to track each departments spending.*

Richard Feldkamp motioned to split the tax increase revenue 50/50 between the New Richmond Fire/EMS department and Police Department, seconded by Paul Vanderbosch.

**Discussion:**

*Mary Allen believes that splitting the revenue 50/50 would increase the probabilities of the levy to pass, however she would split the revenue 60/30 in order to fully staff the Police department. Amanda Davidson questioned the need to specify what percentage went to each department. Fire chief Bee stated that the Fire/EMS is understaffed as well. After Chief Bee clarified the staffing issues Mary Allen stated that a 50/50 split would be more than fine with her.*

Mr. Henry: yes

Mrs. Davidson: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes

Mr. Vanderbosch: yes

- Increasing the earnings tax from 1% to 2% is a 100% increase in the tax, not 1% as stated in the draft ordinance. How best to clarify this language?

The final resolution and ordinance must be to the Board of Elections by August 10.

**Randy Harvey, Police Chief:**

**Monthly Report:**

Chief Harvey explained that the monthly report is usually distributed to Council at the second meeting of the month.

**Recruiting, Interviewing, and Hiring of Officers:**

Recruiting, interviewing, and hiring of officers continues to be a problem. Candidates are generally lacking needed verbal and reading skills to even qualify on the written test.

**National Police Night Out:**

After discussion, in addition to the August 2, 2016 National Police Night Out observance, the Police and Fire/EMS will plan and conduct a joint open house/meet and greet, likely in October.

**Assistant Fire/EMS Chief Tim Feldkamp:**

Chief Feldkamp was filling in for Chief Bee who was attending a funeral.

**Monthly Report:**

The Fire/EMS monthly report is also to be distributed at the second Council meeting of the month.

**Reclassify Desirae Murphy and Natasha Simmons:**

Requests are being made to reclassify Desirae Murphy & Natasha Simmons from paid per call to part-time EMT-B at \$11.00 per hour effective immediately.

Paul Vanderbosch motioned to reclassify Desirae Murphy & Natasha Simmons from paid per call to part-time EMT-B at \$11.00 per hour effective July 12th 2016, seconded by Gary Skeene.

Mr. Henry: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes

Mrs. Davidson: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Vanderbosch: yes

**Resignation of Kaitlyn Combs:**

Request is being made to accept the resignation of Kaitlyn Combs effective immediately. She leaves in good standing.

Paul Vanderbosch motioned to accept the resignation in good standing of Kaitlyn Combs effective July 12th 2016, seconded by Mary Allen.

Mr. Henry: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes

Mrs. Davidson: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Vanderbosch: yes

**Monthly Report Presentation:**

Mary Allen said she would find it helpful if the monthly reports could be presented in graphic illustrations. No additional data are needed but the presentation change would be helpful. The two chiefs and Greg will work on this.

**Amanda Davidson, Public Works:**

**Sewer Expansion:**

Update: Robin Hill/Grays Lane is almost complete. There has been a meeting with the homeowners to determine their preference on the location of the grinders and the sewer main. The engineer suggested running the sewer line under the road. Greg stated that EPA rules require a 10ft. clearance between water and sewer lines. Village residents along Grays Lane agree to easements for the sewer main to allow required clearance. The engineer's original plan was to run the main under Grays Lane. Greg said "no" to this suggestion, because it would require the road to be torn up every time a repair or tap-in occurred. The line at Country Place will be started within two weeks if no problems arise. The cost for the homeowners will be approximately \$2,000. The homeowners were also made aware of the discount they will receive if they tap-in now rather than later, while other homeowners are looking into annexation in order to receive the benefit.

**Cemetery:**

The new contractor is doing an excellent job; we haven't received any complaints about the state of the cemeteries during any of the recent holidays.

**Cemetery Board Disbandment:**

The cemetery board wants to disband; currently it is made up of Greg Roberts and Bill Marsh. They would like to take on more of an advisory board position. The mayor and Greg Roberts will be meeting to discuss adding these duties to an in house employee/employees duties.

**Green Mound:**

The new section of Green Mound will be open and available for plots by this fall. Bill Marsh and Greg Roberts are looking into having it plotted by an outside company to see what it would cost. They are also interested in having a section plotted for cremations.

Vault repair- Greg Roberts had four contractors look into quoting repair work on the current vault in Green Mound however; three contractors declined giving a quote. The remaining contractor agreed to give a verbal quote. Greg requested help with getting the word out that we are in need of quotes for the repair. Greg stated that the person handling the repair needs to be a restoration carpenter.

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

**Electric Outages:**

Greg spoke about the two long term power outages that have occurred in the last few weeks. It was discussed that we are running out of replacement bulbs for the traffic lights and they are going to need to be replaced with LED fixtures. The cost to replace each light is \$7,000 apiece reaching a total of \$21,000 which includes wiring the lights for emergency generator backup.

**Texas Police Shootings:**

Police Chief Harvey talked about a country wide watch for suspicious activity since the officer shootings in Texas.

**Possible Policy Change:**

One of the new police candidates has tattoos on one arm that are visible. We discussed possible policy changes for the future.

**Assistant Fire Chief Tim Feldkamp:**

Assistant Chief Tim Feldkamp brought up the resignation of Kaitlyn Combs from the FIRE/EMS effective immediately. She leaves in good standing.

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

**Fire/EMS Staffing Concerns:**

Chief Bee wanted to clarify the staffing concerns of the Fire/EMS department. Ambulances require at least 2 people in order to operate (per policy). The New Richmond Fire truck does not roll without at least 3 people for safety issues. This is not a state mandate. Chief Bee went on to say that the volunteers are the backbone of the fire department, without them we would have to close the doors. Council member Allen thanked Chief Bee for clarifying this issue.

**Randy Harvey, Chief of Police:**

Nothing to report.

**Kelly Painter, Clerk of Council:**

Nothing to report.

**Mary Allen, Economic Development:**

**Leave Behind Document:**

As discussed at the last meeting, Mary made major changes and shared the Leave Behind Document. She also asked for feedback during this meeting. Members are supposed to provide their updates before the next meeting. Mary will connect with Greg Roberts to obtain copies of some pictures from the New Richmond website archive. Mr. Henry was quickly updated on the document being reviewed and Mary agreed to send him the Vision, Mission, and Action Plan documents since he is interested in working on the committee. Once the Leave Behind Document is finalized, Mary will begin work on the New Richmond marketing document. Anyone interested in helping was encouraged to do so.

**The 100th Anniversary of Goodwill:**

Mary discussed the thought of contacting Goodwill and asking them if they'd like to participate in a New Richmond Cares initiative during this year's RiverDays Festival. She made contact and Goodwill was very receptive. The Goodwill contacts will work with Gary Skeene for RiverDays logistics and with Mary for marketing the New Richmond Cares campaign. **The Goodwill/New Richmond Cares donation center will be at the corner of Walnut and Front Street from 12-6 on August 20th.**

Paul Vanderbosch motioned to disband the Cemetery Board due to lack of members. Bill Marsh will stay on in an advisory position, seconded by Richard Feldkamp.

Mr. Henry: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes

Mr. Skeene: yes

Mrs. Davidson: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Vanderbosch: yes

**Appointment of Nathan Alley:**

Mayor Carr appointed Nathan Alley as alternate for the Planning Commission Board.

**Legislation:**

**Second Reading:**

**ORDINANCE 2016-11: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN INCREASE IN THE ANNUAL INCOME TAX RATE FOR THE VILLAGE OF NEW RICHMOND (INCLUDING ANY/ALL CHANGES MADE DURING THIS MEETING)**

**RESOLUTION 2016-09: A RESOLUTION FOR THE INCREASE OF THE ANNUAL INCOME TAX RATE FOR THE VILLAGE OF NEW RICHMOND (INCLUDING ANY/ALL CHANGES MADE DURING THIS MEETING)**

**Third Reading:**

**ORDINANCE 2016-10: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF THE 2017 TAX BUDGET**

**RESOLUTION 2016-07: AN RESOLUTION ADOPTING A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

Paul Vanderbosch motioned to adopt ORDINANCE 2016-10: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SUBMITTAL OF THE 2017 TAX BUDGET, seconded by Gary Skeene.

Mr. Henry: yes  
Mr. Feldkamp: yes  
Mr. Skeene: - yes

Mrs. Davidson: yes  
Ms. Allen: yes  
Mr. Vanderbosch: yes

Mary Allen motioned to adopt RESOLUTION 2016-07: AN RESOLUTION ADOPTING A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, seconded by Amanda Davidson.

Mr. Henry: yes  
Mr. Feldkamp: yes  
Mr. Skeene: - yes

Mrs. Davidson: yes  
Ms. Allen: yes  
Mr. Vanderbosch: no

**CALL OF MEMBERS:**

**Vanderbosch** - Stated that the barricades from the 4th of July were still up. Mayor stated they were left up for the 5k on Saturday.

**Allen** - Nothing to report.

**Davidson** - Asked if anyone would like a digital copy of the Public Works minutes sent to them

**Skeene** - Nothing to report

**Feldkamp**- Nothing to report

**Henry**-Nothing to report

**Comments from audience:**

Patrick Blair came to council asking for an update about the weeds on the lower end of town as well as the fire hydrant at Union and Center Streets that has been damaged for three months. Chief Bee stated that the Water Department is responsible of repairing hydrants.

Mayor Carr gave Greg Roberts the approximate locations of the weeds.

**4th of July Fireworks:**

The fourth of July fireworks have been rescheduled for Sat. August 19th during the RiverDays Festival. The fireworks display will be much larger with double the finale.

Fire/Ems Chief Vince Bee asked for clarification on the street closure policy for National Night Out on August 2nd.

Mayor Carr-" We will discuss it at the next meeting".

Paul Vanderbosch motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 pm, seconded by Gary Skeene.

Mr. Henry: yes  
Mr. Feldkamp: yes  
Mr. Skeene: -yes

Mrs. Davidson: yes  
Ms. Allen: yes  
Mr. Vanderbosch: yes

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm.

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**Mayor**

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**Clerk of Council**