

**July 26, 2016**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

New Richmond Village Council met in Council Chambers in regular session on Tuesday, July 26th 2016 at 7 pm. Present: Rodney Henry, Gary Skeene, Richard Feldkamp, Amanda Davidson, Mary Allen, 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:

David Vornholt -310 Susanna Way  
Megan Alley- Clermont Sun  
Ken Ruhland- 608 Market Street  
Teresa Daniel- New Richmond  
Melanie Slade- 699 Greenmound  
Jason Hannah- 610 Market Street  
Anna Marck- 610 Market Street  
Justin Keely- 111 Compass Court  
Bob Lees 1515 Indian Ridge  
Scott Wolf 128 Front Street, New Richmond

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 July 12th were presented for approval.

Amanda Davidson motioned to approve the minutes of July 12th, Seconded by Gary Skeene.

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

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

**Visitors:**

**Bob Lees:** Mr. Lees made several comments and suggestions regarding the proposed Income Tax Increase.

- Loves his hometown.
- Respects the EMS/Fire Department and the Police Department.
- Would like each department to get the funding they need.
- Thinks the village runs a tight ship.
- Administrative and the Street Department need additional funds due to no recent pay increase.

- Would like to see the Fire Department combine with other fire departments.
- Study ways to improve the budget.
- The best way to improve the budget is by economic growth.
- Realizes Beckjord leaving causes major financial problems.
- Supports past 1% RITA tax.
- Concerned that a tax increase will stunt growth. Due to the cost of flood insurance and other cost of running a business or living in the village.
- The village needs to work on getting rid of the negatives in the village in order to increase appeal.
- Is against the proposed income tax increase.
- Is not against the issue being placed upon the ballot.
- Feels that the income tax increase will punish young working people and discourage growth.
- Would like the village to look into incentives for developers.

Paul Vanderbosch stated that he understands Mr. Lees concerns about an earnings tax punishing the young people, however; an increased property tax would punish older people.

**Scott Wolf:** Mr. Wolf spoke from the standpoint of a fireman first.

- Fire department will need more money by next year.
- Fire department is running on bare bones.
- Volunteers are falling off.
- Difficult to keep employees due to minimum pay.
- Police Department needs more police to fight drugs and crime.
- Agrees with Mr. Lees that if the village has no more money we will see more crime and less ability for the Fire/EMS department to respond to emergencies resulting in more deaths.
- In favor of increasing income tax.

Mr. Wolf followed with his thoughts as a citizen.

- The village needs to work on economic development.
- Spotlight our good school district, fire/EMS and police departments.

Mayor Carr- "The village has met with Fischer homes and they have stated that people do not want to move to New Richmond". "The village is currently reaching out to several builders".

- Village needs to work on development.
- Made several suggestions of different housing options and incentives for builders.

Mayor Carr- "We have made several suggestions to Fischer regarding housing options. We will negotiate with any interested developers". The mayor feels that this council will do what needs to be done in order to see the village grow.

**David Vornholt:** Mr. Vornholt stated that he sees talent on the council and the Business Association. He would like to have three town hall meetings regarding the Income Tax increase between now and November.

**Anna Marck:** Miss Marck stated that she is a recovering addict and does not feel there should be more taxes placed upon New Richmond citizens due to the fact that people are economically strapped. She also stated that her family is considering moving away from New Richmond due to the increased utilities and the possible increase in income tax. She is not pleased with New Richmond's Police or Fire Departments.

**Greg Roberts, Village Administrator:**

**Sewer Expansion:**

Country Place mains may be complete by the end of next week. The contractor could start running mains to Indian Ridge Trail as early as the 2nd week of August. Initial grinder pump delivery is scheduled for August 30th. Installation of individual residences will follow shortly thereafter. Signs to inform the public about the project are up.

**Summer Youth Employment Program:**

Three New Richmond students started working this morning as part of the Easter Seals Summer Youth Employment Program. We are cooperating with New Richmond Schools as lead on the project. The workers worked very hard and did a great job. Their ages range from 16-18 years old. Easter Seals cover all related cost and insurance.

**National Night Out August 2nd:**

Are street closures required?

Gary Skeene motioned to close Front Street from Union to Main on August 2nd from 5-8 P.M. for National Night Out, Seconded by Richard Feldkamp.

Mr. Henry- yes

Mrs. Davidson: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Skeene: - yes

Mr. Vanderbosch: yes

**Living Lands & Waters River Cleanup:**

Clermont Soil and Water Conservation office has coordinated a river cleanup for the Thursday July 28th at 9 A.M. commencing at the boat ramp. Volunteers can sign up at livinglandsandwaters.org. The organization comes in with Jon Boats and hauls the trash to a recycling barge in the river. Greg handed out a flyer describing the organization and what to expect at the event. Greg stated that "volunteers make the village the great place it is".

Mr. Feldkamp commended Greg on the clean-up behind the Water Treatment Plant. He also asked about the boat ramp replacement status.

Greg stated that he advertised for bids last week and there has been some interest from smaller companies.

**Randy Harvey, Chief of Police:**

**Opening the hiring process:**

Chief Harvey would like to reopen the hiring process.

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

Nothing to report.

**Kelly Painter, Clerk of Council:**

Mrs. Painter stated that she needed to clean-out council member's legislative binders and she will place all legislation left in the binders in the council member's mailbox.

**Legislation:**

**Third Reading:**

**ORDINANCE 2016-11: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN INCREASE IN THE ANNUAL INCOME TAX RATE FOR THE VILLAGE OF NEW RICHMOND**

**RESOLUTION 2016-09: A RESOLUTION FOR THE INCREASE OF THE ANNUAL INCOME TAX RATE FOR THE VILLAGE OF NEW RICHMOND**

Richard Feldkamp motioned to adopt Ordinance 2016-11: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN INCREASE IN THE ANNUAL INCOME TAX RATE FOR THE VILLAGE OF NEW RICHMOND, seconded by Mary Allen.

*Discussion- Paul Vanderbosch stated that Council is in a bad place either way they vote. Council needs to come up with a Plan B if the Income Tax Increase doesn't pass. Mayor Carr stated that tonight's vote is to place the issue on the November ballot. Mary Allen agrees with Mr. Vanderbosch and stated that no one wants to raise taxes or service fees. We need to educate the village on the consequences if the increase doesn't pass. One example of consequences would be cuts in service. Amanda Davidson stated that the village has investigated the possibility of shared services with the Fire Department and having the Sheriff department take over the Policing of the village. These two options would cost the village more than having our own departments. The village has budget meetings and is trying to optimize our budget. The issue needs to be put before the voters and let them decide. Mr. Vanderbosch would like the village solicitor to provide council with a list of items the village is allowed to do and not allowed to do. Mr. Henry stated that if the Income tax increase passes it does not have to be permanent. Ms. Allen stated that the village has an Economic Development Committee to include citizens in plans for growth, however not enough people volunteer to work towards this outcome.*

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

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

Amanda Davidson motioned to adopt Resolution 2016-09: A RESOLUTION FOR THE INCREASE OF THE ANNUAL INCOME TAX RATE FOR THE VILLAGE OF NEW RICHMOND, seconded by Mary Allen.

*Discussion- Scott Wolf asked if there will be verbiage included in the legislation that specifies where the money will be spent. Mayor Carr responded "yes". Mr. Wolf was informed that there is a copy of the proposed legislation posted on the village web-site.*

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

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

**CALL OF MEMBERS:**

**Henry**- nothing to report

**Vanderbosch** - Mr. Vanderbosch requested an update on the amount of overdoses that have occurred in the village and results (survival/deaths). He also requested information on the amount of Narcan that has been used. Mr. Vanderbosch also commented that there has been no felony arrest last month.

**Allen** - Ms. Allen met with GoodWill and they have advertised on their marketing sites that they will have a donation truck at RiverDays. New Richmond Cares brings a positive influence to our village. Ms. Allen also stated that the 1937 flood anniversary exhibit is coming along. She is working on the project with Historic New Richmond.

**Davidson** - nothing to report

**Skeene** - nothing to report

**Feldkamp** - Mr. Feldkamp stated that our community does many things in order to involve its citizens including RiverDays, concerts etc.

**David Vornholt:**

Mr. Vornholt stated that if anyone is interested in a tour of the Thomas Moore Field Station to contact him. He also commended Mr. Feldkamp for being an advocate for the needs of the Fire Department.

**Bob Lees:**

Mr. Lees was very pleased with the new Underground Railroad signs that are being displayed throughout town at various sites. He also stated that the docents (tour guides) from the Freedom Center ( Underground Railroad Museum) and the staff will be coming on Sept. 12th to spend the day and tour the Underground Railroad sites located in our village .

**Mayor Carr:**

The Monday Night Big Band concert that was cancelled due to heat is rescheduled for August 6th. The Greenhill's Band concert that was cancelled due to rain is rescheduled for Labor Day.

**Harley's Against Heroin:**

Mr. Vanderbosch reminded everyone that the Harley's Against Heroin event is this Saturday.

Richard Feldkamp motioned to adjourn the meeting, 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 7:50 pm.

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**Mayor**

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**Clerk of Council**