

**March 10, 2015**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

New Richmond Village Council met in Council Chambers in regular session on Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at 7 pm. Present: Richard Hilt, Richard Feldkamp, Amanda Davidson, Mary Allen and Paul Vanderbosch - members; Ramona Carr, Mayor; Donna Hammons, Clerk; Mike Wylie, Administrative Assistant Police Chief and Greg Roberts, Village Administrator; Vince Bee, Fire/EMS Chief.

Also attending:

Kelly Doran - Clermont Sun

William Marsh - Cemetery Board

Mayor Carr opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken by the Clerk with Hilt, Feldkamp, Davidson, Allen, and Vanderbosch answering present. Skeene was absent due to family emergency.

Minutes of February 24th meeting were presented for approval. Feldkamp motioned to approve. Seconded by Hilt.

Mr. Hilt: yes

Mrs. Davidson: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes

Ms. Allen: abstain - absent

Mr. Skeene: absent

Mr. Vanderbosch: yes

**Greg Roberts, Administrator:**

The County has recently been designated as an Entitlement Community under the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and as such will be eligible to receive an annual allocation of Federal funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) approximately \$932,702 in CDBG funding for Fiscal Year (FY) 2015, providing we meet applicable program requirements. Application from the village is due to County Economic Development Office in early April.

Potential for flooding in the village remains. Rain forecasted for later this week is of uncertain volume. The village water supply was switched from well #4 to well #2 early last week.

Water leaks continue to be an almost daily event. Short Hill leak has been repaired. We will be seeking a solution to bypass this line. Feldkamp said he had been told by former Administrator David Kennedy some months ago that the water pressure had been increased. Feldkamp had to put a 'reducer' on the line at his home and is wondering if this increase in pressure could be a cause or contributing to the line breaks. Roberts replied he was not aware if there had been any increase in pressure but will check this out.

**Richard Hilt, Finance/Personnel:**

Fire/EMS Chief Bee mentioned that he has not been able to land a grant for heart monitors as yet but is still trying. He can purchase reconditioned units starting about \$5,000, but would prefer to purchase new units. Unfortunately, new units cost \$25,000.

Roberts stated that we only have one more tree to cut down. Typically, the cost for this year should have been about \$25,000 but he has been able to get the total cost so far to about \$12,000.

Mayor Carr reported that Knothole Baseball wants a reduced lease amount for the ball fields on Old U.S. 52. The consensus of the committee was to let the lease amount remain the same at \$1,500 per year. Vanderbosch wished it noted that he was in favor of Knothole Baseball paying nothing. Allen and Hilt recommended the lease amount stay the same.

Fiscal Officer Baird said the fund transfers will be necessary later this year.

Baird explained the Earnings Tax Legislation Ordinance 2015-4 which is a clarification of who is eligible for the ½% credit. The state recommended passage of this ordinance since the present legislation does not mention that people in neighboring states qualify for the credit.

Baird is trying to get more information on medical insurance renewal for July. The cost is expected to increase as usual. Baird also mentioned that dental insurance costs will rise by 5% this year. The committee discussed spousal waivers as well as lowering the village's contribution to medical insurance.

Baird is discussing "Capital Plan/Purchasing" with department heads.

Baird has met with the County Auditor and the Beckjord plant closing will affect Duke's January 2016 tax payment. The fund balances will begin showing a negative balance in 2020. These are only estimates and could change,

Hilt motioned to pay bills #35210 - #35229 and electronic bills #38 - #132. Seconded by Allen.

Mr. Hilt: yes

Mrs. Davidson: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Skeene: absent

Mr. Vanderbosch: yes

**Mary Allen, Public Works/Parks/Recreation:**

Allen was nominated and voted to remain as Committee Chair.

Lights were purchased for Rose Vesper Park and are in storage; but no current timing exists to install the lighting. Greg is going to follow up with Mike Ober, the electrical contractor we frequently work with to get the cost estimate we previously requested. If necessary Roberts will solicit estimates from others, to get this effort on track. Once we get a price and agree on timing, several steps remain. We'll need to pour pads, run the electricity, and get county approval. Then we'll have lights. The goal is to be more aggressive about completing this. Sycamore & Walnut Streets were identified as the gateways into New Richmond. Completing this work will be very complimenting to Sycamore Street.

Roberts attended the last meeting of the Garden Club and they are still very interested in helping the village wherever they can.

Roberts is continuing to look for a new tenant for the boat harbor space on Susanna Way. Vanderbosch asked if Joe Vogel had been officially notified that we have accepted his email where he said he would not be renewing his lease which expires December 31, 2015. Roberts said Vogel has been sent a letter.

Roberts informed the committee that Historic New Richmond and the New Richmond Library have applied to the Ohio Chautauqua for 2016. The theme will be "The Natural World".

Roberts has connected with and attended a meeting of the Ohio/Kentucky/Indiana Regional Government Council. This should be a good group to have a connection with for various reasons.

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

Chief Bee reported all is well with the Fire/EMS Department. He is searching for refurbished cardiac monitors. The fire hydrant at the bottom of Long Hill is leaking and it is amazing it didn't break with the hard freezes we've had.

Jim Taylor, Zoning Inspector, discussed with the committee the situation of the mobile home at 1000 Front Street. It is there because of a 1997 variance with Mrs. Catherine Price. Mrs. Price has since died and the variance was in effect through her lifetime or as long as she lived there. With her death the variance is no longer in effect. Her son, Rick Price, lives there now and won't honor the request to move the trailer out of the flood plain or elevate the trailer. Taylor is asking permission to send letters to the State and FEMA removing all assistance to this trailer and Mr. Price in the event of a flood or other emergency. Feldkamp motioned to grant permission to Taylor to send the letters. Seconded by Allen.

Mr. Hilt: yes

Mrs. Davidson: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Skeene: absent

Mr. Vanderbosch: yes

Greg Roberts, Administrator, reported of dead or dangerous tree removal throughout the village as mentioned before.

Roberts is also investigating who owns and is responsible for the maintenance of the cameras throughout the village.

In reference to the 'Entertainment District' designations by the legislature Roberts reported we are not eligible because of our population and the number of liquor licenses we already have. If a business wants a liquor license they would have to go through the TREK process of purchasing a license from elsewhere in the state.

**Mike Wylie, Administrative Assistant Chief:**

All of the Police cruisers now have personal flotation devices and have three extra. He has spoken with Chief Bee to see if his department would have use for them. These are pretty much on permanent loan.

Corporal Henderson is taking a four day 'Leadership/Professional Development' course and will be back by the end of the week.

Wylie has called a Departmental Meeting on Saturday, March 14th. There will also be continuing professional training. There is a State Mandate of a minimum of 4 hours per year. One of the four hour units is on family violence, domestic violence and sexual violence. This is not part of the Saturday training, but will be available at a later date.

Last week Chief Bee, Sergeant Smith and Wylie met with School Superintendent Bird and some of his personnel to discuss the school's emergency plan. Another meeting has been scheduled for March 24th.

Wylie has met with John Kiskaden, 911 Director for Clermont County about radios. We are in dire need of radios for the Police Department. We have two brand new ones. The new system goes on line next month. Kiskaden thinks we may get some temporary help from the County Communications Center. Wylie will continue working with Kiskaden on this issue. Next week the tower across the river will be kicked on and that will increase communications all up and down the river.

Vanderbosch asked about the monthly report for the department. Mayor Carr answered that Sgt. Smith is working on this report and it will be ready at our second monthly meetings.

Vanderbosch surprised that our officers purchase their own weapons. Assistant Chief Wylie explained that this is common in smaller departments. Each department has policy on what weapons are acceptable. The officers are tested on their weapons.

Vanderbosch asked about felony arrests for heroin possession. Wylie will check and get this information for council.

**Mayor Carr:**

The Ad Hoc Committee created at the last meeting is changing the name from Strategic Planning to Economic Development.

Paul Vanderbosch has withdrawn from the Economic Development Committee. As of now the members are Mary Allen and Gary Skeene. If any other council member wants to serve to let her know.

**Mary Allen, Economic Development Committee:**

She and Roberts have been putting together ideas on how to begin. She gave council a framework of planning ideas, etc. Allen said there will be a core group of 10 to 12 people on the committee.

**FIRST READING OF RESOLUTION 2015-6 RESCINDING RESOLUTION 1999-1 CREATING A PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

**FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 2015-4 AMENDING THE NEW RICHMOND INCOME TAX ORDINANCE 2009-54**

**SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 2015-6 AMENDING THE NEW RICHMOND FLOOD PLAIN REGULATIONS**

**THIRD READING OF RESOLUTION 2015-4 ACCEPTING AN ANNEXATION OF 2.846 ACRES.** Davidson motioned to adopt. Seconded by Feldkamp.

Mr. Hilt: yes

Mrs. Davidson: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Skeene: absent

Mr. Vanderbosch: yes

**THIRD READING OF ORDINANCE 2015-5 APPROVING THE 2015 APPROPRIATIONS.** Hilt motioned to adopt. Seconded by Davidson.

Mr. Hilt: yes

Mrs. Davidson: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Skeene: absent

Mr. Vanderbosch: no

**THIRD READING OF RESOLUTION 2015-3 AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER THE COOPERATIVE BOATING FACILITY GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR THE AUGUSTA STREET BOAT RAMP IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.** Feldkamp motioned to adopt. Seconded by Allen.

Mr. Hilt: yes

Mrs. Davidson: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Skeene: absent

Mr. Vanderbosch: yes

**CALL OF MEMBERS:**

**Vanderbosch** - Complimented the Street Department for the good job they did after last week's big snow fall.

**Allen** - Commented on 'Cans at the Curb' which will change over to 'New Richmond Can'. This change is because cans will no longer be picked up; but there will be a centrally located location to deposit them. The money collected will be turned over to the village for deposit in the Street Department Fund to help with mowing costs.

**Davidson** - nothing to report.

**Feldkamp** - nothing to report.

**Hilt** - nothing to report.

Feldkamp motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Allen.

Mr. Hilt: yes

Mrs. Davidson: yes

Mr. Feldkamp: yes

Ms. Allen: yes

Mr. Skeene: absent

Mr. Vanderbosch: yes

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

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Mayor

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Clerk of Council