

# VILLAGE OF WEST ALEXANDRIA COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING	Tuesday, January 21, 2020	7:00 P.M.	TVS MEDIA ROOM
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CALL TO ORDER TIME: 7:00 pm – Jeff Hickey, Mayor

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE: Jeff Hickey, Mayor

ROLL CALL COUNCIL MEMBERS: - Wendy Chesney- Fiscal Officer

- All Present: Geoff Justice, Jeff Hickey, Ashley Myers, Holly Robbins, Zach Shafer, and Shannon Smith,
- OTHERS PRESENT –Village representatives/employees
- Village Administrator – vacant as of 5/17/19, Fiscal Officer-Wendy Chesney, WAPD Chief- Tony Gasper, Jo Ellen Hickey- Zoning Inspector, Clifford Scott- EMS/Service Department, WAPD Officer, Mike McDonald, Jim Hans-Water/Wastewater Superintendent

At 7:03pm, ***Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to ORC 121.22*** G 3- Conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action; and G (1) To consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee was ***made by Ashley Myers and seconded by Zach Shafer, Roll Call vote: 5 yeas, 0 nays, Motion Carried.***

At 7:31pm, ***Ashley Myers Moved to come out of Executive Session with no action taken. Motion was seconded by Shannon Smith. Roll Call vote: 5 yeas, 0 nays, Motion Carried.***

MAYOR’S REPORT- Jeff Hickey, Mayor

- Vectren plans to begin replace gas lines with RA Miller Co., along Summers Alley running East and West. Call 911 if you smell gas
- WWTP construction progressing ahead of schedule. Expected completion date is May 11<sup>th</sup>. Project is \$225K under budget with three change orders to-date.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES- Jeff Hickey, Mayor

- 01/06/2020 Regular Meeting of Council- ***Motion to approve the 01/06/2020 Regular Meeting Minutes by Shannon Smith. Motion seconded by Zach Shafer. Roll call vote: 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.***
- 01/14/2020 Special Meeting -remove “WAPD Chief” ***Motion to approve the 01/14/2020 Special Meeting Minutes with the amendments stated, by Dan Utsinger. Motion seconded by Holly Robbins. Roll call vote: 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.***

APPROVAL OF BILLS AND OTHER FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Council reviewed the invoices presented by the Fiscal Officer totaling \$573755.18 including construction costs and engineering costs for the Wastewater Treatment Plant project. ***Motion by Shannon Smith to pay the bills, seconded by Dan Utsinger. Roll call vote: 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion Carried***

READING OF RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES- Two items read by title by Mayor Hickey:

“Ordinance Amending and Modifying Section 220.01 of the Village of West Alexandria, Ohio Code of Ordinances to Provide for Four Minutes for Guest Speakers to Address Counsel and to Reduce the Regular Council Meetings to One Meeting Per Month.”

- Discussion included thoughts of Council Members. ***Dan Utsinger moved to amend the ordinance to allow guests to speak 10 Minutes rather than 4 min as stated and hold one regular council meeting per month typically falling on the third Monday of the month, depending on holiday schedules. Seconded by Zach Shafer. Roll call vote: 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried. Shannon Smith moved to accept the first reading as amended. Seconded by Holly Robbins. Roll Call vote: 6yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.***

“A RESOLUTION AMENDING 2019 APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE VILLAGE OF WEST ALEXANDRIA, OHIO, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY” # 2019 – 029.

- Fiscal Officer discussed that the appropriations needed amended due to the loans being closed and the village expending the monies for the construction costs for the wastewater plant construction. ***Motion by Shannon Smith to accept the first reading of the Resolution, seconded by Ashley Myers, Roll call vote: 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion Carried. Motion by Holly Robbins to waive the second and third readings of the Resolution # 2019-029, seconded***

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*by Shannon Smith. Roll call vote: 6 yes, 0 nays. Motion Carried. Motion to adopt Resolution # 2019-029 by Holly Robbins, seconded by Shannon Smith, Roll call vote: 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.*

DEPARTMENT REPORTS – Mayor Hickey stated that the Department heads will report once per quarter unless there are items of action to be taken.

Water / Wastewater Department: Jim Hans Water/Wastewater Superintendent reported the following:

- o Water meter upgrades will soon be necessary as the brand/software currently in use will soon be obsolete.
- o EPA nonfiction received of requirement of an Asset Management Program for the Water department. Will work on finding the GPS information that Kramer and Associates put together. No timeline on required completion date.
- o Consideration of Replacing Service Dept. employee vacancy of third worker for safety and succession planning

WAPD Department: Chief Gasper reported the following:

- o Recommendation for hiring Robert J Bernhardt as an Auxiliary Police Officer for one year probation period. Successful drug screen completed. Mayor Jeff Hickey appointed Robert J. Bernhardt as a West Alexandria Auxiliary Police Officer under the recommendation of Chief Gasper. ***Shannon Smith moved to hire Robert J. Bernhardt as an Auxiliary Police Officer for one year probation period. Motion was seconded by Zach Shafer. Roll call vote: 6 yes, 0 nays, Motion carried.***
- o Annual WAPD Report for 2019 presented to council
- o Introduced the Neighborhood Watch Program implementation. – going to meeting with local business owners to go over security plans
- o Coverage of the WAPD is nearly 24hrs/ 7 days currently

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**SOCIAL MEDIA ADMINISITRATION** – Ashley Myers/ Geoff Justice to take over website

**NEWSLETTER-** Dan Utsinger is preparing to have it ready for review by Council at the Feb meeting- then mail to residents at the end of February.

**FACEBOOK PAGE-** Dan Utsinger will update Facebook page after this evening's meeting

**SAFETY/FIRE** – Holly Robbins is working on contacting state to finalize the speed limit change on North end of town, Will also look into the status of the school crosswalk near Subway, as well as the Light Pole at the Corner of Voge and Rte. 35 that acts as a school crossing – needed repairs- State may be able to replace without cost to Village

**SIDEWALK/CURBS/GUTTERS:** Shannon Smith and Geoff Justice have nothing to report

**STREET/ALLEYS/ STORM SEWERS:** Shannon Smith and Geoff Justice have nothing to report

**HEALTH/SANITATION:** Dan Utsinger and Zach Shafer reporting under old business

**PUBLIC BUILDINGS/GROUNDS:** Dan Utsinger and Zach Shafer reporting:

- o Zach Shafer reported he has the keys to the Depot building recently donated to the Village from Mary Bullen. Keys were given to Ron Dafler of the West Alex Archives so they can begin to move to the Depot from the Library. Village will generate a lease for the Archives to use the building. Details of when the Archives plans to open will come soon.
- o 10 N Main St Property- Owner agrees to sell the property to the Village. Quotes for demo of the building have been obtained. ***Zach Shafer moved to cash one of the \$50K CDs and for money to be spend in approximate amount of \$30K to purchase and demolish 10 N Main Street, Barn at 40 W Third Street, and Building at 1 W Dayton Street. Motion was seconded by Shannon Smith.*** Discussion followed with items concerning liens against certain properties, costs to purchase the properties, resolutions required to outline agreements to purchase properties with respective property owners, back taxes owed on certain properties, timeline of the whole process, and lack of necessity to remove CD at this time. ***Discussion led to Zach Shafer moving to withdraw the original motion, and seconded by Shannon Smith. Roll Call vote: 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion Carried.***
- o ***Dan Utsinger moved for the Village to proceed with tasks and expend no more than \$30,000.00 total to demolish the barn at 40 W. Third Street, purchase and demo the Building at 10 N. Main Street. Motion was seconded by Zach Shafer. Roll call vote: 4 yeas (Zach Shafer, Dan Utsinger, Shannon Smith, Holly Robbins), 2 nays (Geoff Justice and Ashley Myers) Motion Carried.***

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- Zach Shafer is working on getting quotes for Water Tower repairs and has a meeting with Jim Hans on the upcoming Thursday, January 23, 2020.
- Holly Robbins reported the village is moving forward with using Kramer and Associates to submit a project for \$300K for a splash pad at the old swimming pool site.
- Holly Robbins reported that she is working on the project of the Veterans' Banners for the street light posts.

## NEW BUSINESS

- Mayor Hickey asked council to entertain a motion for posting a position of part-time Village Administrator. Zach Shafer moved to post the opening for the position of Part-Time Village Administrator for West Alexandria with the duties as outlined in the ORC and Village Ordinance, and to have the applications be accepted through February 29, 2020 to the Mayor. Dan Utsinger seconded the motion. Roll call vote: 6 yeas, 0 nays, Motion carried.
- Mayor Hickey also entertained a motion from Council to approve request made by Fire Chief Shafer to spend \$60.00 toward food for a work session being held for the Fire Dept. Volunteers. ***Holly Robbins moved to allow the Fire Chief to spend \$60.00 on food for a work session for the Fire Dept. Volunteers. Second of the motion by Shannon Smith. Roll call vote: 5 yeas, 1 abstention (Zach Shafer). Motion Carried.***
- Mayor Hickey announced that he approved necessary repairs to the Town Hall roof to eliminate leakage issues in the amount of \$1500.00, that are being caused by the overhang of the tree on the South side of the building.

## OLD BUSINESS

- **Sewer Surcharges-** Rates Study is in progress by GLCAP.
- **LGS** – Fiscal Officer has sent requested documents remainder of outstanding documents will be completed this week.
- **WWTP Fact Sheet** - Dan Utsinger will generate for Council review and will include the information from the rates studies once they are completed, before it is sent to village residents.
- **SWOCA** – Ashley Myers- nothing new to report- this item has been tabled.
- **Spectrum Services-** Ashley Myers reported: internet services were ordered but invoice appears that the costs have not reflected the changes that were to take place.
- **Status of changing the speed limit on State Rte. 503 N.** (from edge of Village to New Lexington) was changed to 45 MPH- but still waiting on the state to finalize. Holly Robbins to call Bri at the Lebanon Office
- **Insurance Rates-** Jeff Hickey to meet with Fiscal Officer to review and inquire with Roselius.
- **Water Tower** – Dan Utsinger and Zach Shafer to meeting with Jim Hans and get quotes for repairs, intentions are to use the Fire/EMS levy funds to cover the costs of this project.
- **Brenda Latzana** –Preble Co. Economic Development Membership. Village doesn't feel that there is a benefit to paying a membership fee. Previous Village Administrator, Chris Day signed a 5 year pledge, but is not a contract. Ashley Myers moved to remove West Alexandria from participation of membership for 2019 and 2020. Seconded by Holly Robbins. Roll call vote: 5 yeas, 2 nays (Zach Shafer and Dan Utsinger). Motion carried.
- **Codifying of Ordinances** – Kelsey Creech has worked on this and will continue. Mayor Hickey to follow up with Kelsey.
- **Spectrum Name Change from "City" to "Village" of West Alexandria** - Fiscal officer filled out the paperwork and sent to Spectrum to change the name on accounts for Village. - will look into why it has not been changed.

ANNOUNCE NEXT MEETING: Monday, February 3, 2020 at 7:00pm at the TVS Media Room

ADJOURNMENT – ***Dan Utsinger moves to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 pm. Seconded by Ashley Myers, Vocal Vote: 6 yeas, 0 nays. Motion carried.*** Meeting adjourned.

Date Passed \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor \_\_\_\_\_

Fiscal Officer \_\_\_\_\_