

VILLAGE OF WAYNESFIELD  
COUNCIL MEETING

July 24, 2023

1. The meeting was called to order on July 24, 2023, at 6:30 P.M. with the following answering Roll Call: Mayor Luma, present; Ball, present; Hutson, present; Miller; present; Walti present; Nickles, present; Winegardner; present.
2. The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.
3. Fiscal Officer reported \$ 1,529,282.63 in all funds. \$ 205,575.41 in the General Fund.
4. The Bills were read. A motion was made by Miller, seconded by Nickles to pay the bills presented.

VOTE: Ball, yes; Hutson, yes; Miller, yes; Walti, yes; Nickles, yes; Winegardner, yes.

5. **GUESTS:** Randy Carter and Brian Hardin

6. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Finance** - NONE

**Utilities**- NONE

**Records** - Councilmember Nickles stated that they completed a summary of the documents needed to create a records retention draft. The draft requests that the various department heads review the documents and review their respected areas of responsibility. There will be a tracking sheet for any errors or corrections that need to be made. The Records committee is asking for it to be completed and returned by August 4<sup>th</sup> so the committee is able to make corrections. Councilmember Nickles stated that the final draft will be available for the August council meeting so it can be approved and sent to Auditor.

**Park** - A copy of the minutes were provided to council. Administrator Bender provided update on the tunnel slide in disrepair at the park. There has still not been a return call from manufacturer regarding repair or replacement. A majority of the meeting was spent discussing projects at the park as proposed by the CDT. Administrator Bender and Chief Motter provided a list of cost estimates for each potential project. Costs/benefits of each proposed project discussed. Unanimously, it was decided that the playground should be a priority for future improvement, due to scale of use and safety concerns in present condition. Committee discussed potential benefits of putting a fence along the border of the playground, as well as designated, well-marked crosswalks. Additional bathrooms were also discussed as a priority, as well as increased parking. However, Committee is not in favor of additional parking in the wooded area of the park. A tentative ranking of potential projects was developed as follows:

1. Playground
2. Open shelter with restrooms
3. Additional parking (with the exception of wooded area)
4. Gaga ball pit
5. Concrete corn hole
6. New bleachers
7. Disc golf course

8. Open shelter in wooded area
9. Fencing for Diamond #1, scoreboards, and lights
10. Splash pad

**Zoning-** Councilmember Nickles stated that the Zoning document has been completed in its final draft by all members. She had a hard copy of it and will be sending all councilmembers a PDF so they are able to look over it. She gave the floor to Randy Carter and he stated that he first wanted to thank Councilmember Nickles for keeping them on track and he also thanked everyone on the Zoning Committee for their input and hard work. Carter also stated that after it is completed and it is finalized it will be accessible and printable. It will be available online and on the Village's website so everyone in the community can access it. He believes this will help with enforcement and also the process of enforcement.

Councilmembers Nickles wanted it on record that she thanked Mr. Carter, Mr. Hardin and Ms. Missy Hefner for all their hard work and input while creating the proposed Zoning Ordinance. She also thanked everyone on the Zoning Committee for all their extra time and effort that was put into it.

## **7. POLICE REPORTS:**

Chief Motter was absent from the council meeting however, his Police Report was provided to council. The Police Report was as follows:

## **3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER NEWSLETTER**

In your council packets, you will see the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter "Community Connections" newsletter. The newsletter is being well-received by the public and has been a conversation starter with several residents that may not normally communicate with the police department.

## **INDEPENDENCE DAY**

The 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday went well. Traffic definitely increased this year compared to the last several years. All in all, everything was fairly uneventful aside from some fireworks complaints and some traffic stops.

## **CDT UPDATE**

The Community Development Team met on Tuesday, July 18, and we discussed the priorities of the Parks Committee when it comes to different projects that need funding in the park. We will be meeting with State Representative Susan Manchester at the end of August to discuss some very specific state funding opportunities. We are optimistic we could qualify for some funding opportunities in the next biennial state budget that could transform the park. We will be meeting with Representative Manchester to get a better understanding of what we would need to do and how she can help advocate for our community. The CDT was in agreement with the Parks Committee on the priorities of the park. One CDT member complimented the Village and Administrator Bender on how nice the park has looked this season.

## **LEADS AUDIT**

On June 29<sup>th</sup>, the Waynesfield Police Department was audited by Ohio Department of Public Safety - State Patrol division to ensure we have adequate safety measures in to protect law enforcement sensitive information and LEADS (Law Enforcement Automated Data Systems) information. This comprehensive audit was completed in both an online and in-person format. We are audited every three years to ensure we are in compliance with state and federal standards that is aimed at protecting classified information.

## 2024 ECLIPSE MEETING UPDATE

On Thursday, July 20, Auglaize County had another eclipse planning meeting. A roundtable discussion was held on the creation of several subcommittees in the county. There are now 6 subcommittees within the county will focus on a variety of areas such as communications and operations, education, public safety and health, resources and logistics, transportation, and viewing/lodging/local support.

The county has received information that there may be busloads of people coming into the county. It is unknown if they will stay in Wapakoneta or if they will be spread throughout the county. There was lots of discussion on various locations being utilized for camping the weekend of the eclipse.

Planning for the event is ongoing. If the village is going to utilize the park (or any other location in the village) for any specific purpose for the eclipse weekend, the planning period should probably begin sooner rather than later. There will be a big public relations push in the next several months as people all over the nation are expected to travel into this area of Ohio and there could be a substantial financial benefit to the community if an event, such as a festival, was held.

### 8. VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

**Electric:** The Administrator discussed the power outage due to a traffic accident on July 18<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 am. He also informed the council of a scheduled power outage on Monday, July 24<sup>th</sup> for the school and gas station for preventive maintenance. Administrator Bender also discussed the short power outages on July 20<sup>th</sup> and informed the council that it was due to AES, not our systems.

**Water and Sewer:** Administrator Bender confirmed that the parts for the lagoon overflow are in and will begin being installed on July 27<sup>th</sup>. Administrator Bender stated that the Water tower will be getting drained, cleaned and painted the last week in July. He stated that the Village did receive blow off valves to be installed on fire hydrants to maintain water pressure throughout the Village.

**Storm and Sewers:** Administrator Bender gave an update on West Wapak St. He stated that paving should be taking place Friday and Saturday of this week July 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. The mail boxes and street signs will be put back up next week. The alley entrance to North end of park will be widened to make it more accessible for traffic and the final grade of dirt work and seeding will be mid-September. Administrator Bender also stated that while the paint striping is being done on West Wapak Street, the contractor will also paint the double yellow line on S. Westminster Street along with stop bars and crosswalk on the other 3 interchanges at the stop light.

**Park:** Administrator Bender stated that the House in the park that was sold and is scheduled to be removed July 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> and once it is removed, the Village will start site work. Administrator Bender stated that he met with the CDT and went over the park committee recommendation's as to the priority list. He stated that CDT will meet with Susan Manchester August 30<sup>th</sup> to hear what type of funding may be available.

#### Gov Deals

Administrator Bender stated that the last round of equipment sold on GovDeals brought in \$48,022.00. Items sold were the Tanker truck-\$27,300.00; Deicer Truck-\$10,100.00; Semi-Trailer-\$8202.00; Generator-\$1,580.00; Trailer-\$840.00. He stated that we will be starting another round of GovDeals with other equipment in a few weeks.

### 9. MAYOR'S REPORT:

- a. Mayor's Court Report- \$3258.00 was deposited into the General Fund from the Mayor's Court Account for the month of June.

**10. OLD BUSINESS:**

Councilmembers Nickles wanted to discuss the debt analysis from the audit. She created a spreadsheet with all the debts and explanation for what the loans are. Councilmembers Nickles also included a section for when the loans will be paid off and how much is still owed on them. She discussed it with all councilmembers.

Councilmember Miller discussed the food box and how he has noticed it is getting used. He stated it is good for the community.

**11. NEW BUSINESS:**

Councilmember Ball discussed how she has noticed many vacant buildings in town and was wondering if the Village has looked for businesses that would come into the community. She stated that we would need someone to come and make connections a few hours a week and she mentioned that maybe the Mayor could do this.

Mr. Carter was asked his input and he stated that it can be a very tough task for a Village. It has taken decades to evolve into our current state. Mr. Carter stated that The Village of Waynesfield has a very good school however there is not a lot of places for families to live. If we could begin to look at the properties, if people would sell, we could build and bring in more consumers. Consumers bring businesses.

Councilmember Nickles stated we would need to look at our infrastructure as well. Our electric, water, sewer to see if we would be able to support that kind of business.

Councilmember Winegardner stated this will be her last meeting and she will be resigning. She accepted a new job and will be moving to the Dayton area. She thanked everyone for accepting her in.

**12. SOLICITOR REPORT: NONE**

A motion to adjourn was made by Miller, seconded by Walti at 7:28 PM.

VOTE: Ball, yes; Hutson, yes; Miller, yes; Walti, yes; Nickles, yes; Winegardner, yes.



Mayor



Fiscal Officer