

VILLAGE OF WAYNESFIELD
COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

April 22, 2024

1. The meeting was called to order on April 22, 2024, at 6:30 P.M. with the following answering Roll Call: Mayor Luma; arrived at 6:51 pm; Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson; Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller; Yes; Walti, Yes.
2. The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.
3. Fiscal Officer reported \$1,539,607.29 in all funds. \$325,861.70 in the General Fund.
4. The Bills were read. A motion was made by Walti, seconded by Ball to pay the bills presented.
VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson; Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller; Yes; Walti, Yes.

5. **GUESTS:** Angela Veazey with Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA).

Angela Veazey came from RITA. She introduced herself. She went over her PowerPoint presentation that she provided to council.

6. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Utilities:

Per council recommendation, a letter will be sent with next billing outlining new billing parameters and water saving tips. Website utilities info discussed as being mostly electric. New verbiage will be added to reflect water usage.

An ordinance may need passed to accept current utility guidelines being used from the past Board of Public Affairs.

Contrary to sales pitch from homeowners' solar and wind power generating equipment, the village does not reimburse for generated power.

Two thirds of new water meters are installed with the end of May being a hopeful finish date.

New overflow at the lagoons was overwhelmed with the recent rainfall. Possible corrective options being considered.

Power rerouting discussed with no new information as well as for the new electric meters.

Records Commission:

The committee went over the Public Request Policy. Solicitor Dinkler asked to get a copy of it to review. She also suggested we look into adding additional requests to it. Dinkler would also like to review any requests that may come in to ensure we are using best practices.

The committee also discussed the Records Retention Policy. Solicitor Dinkler recommended that we send it to the State and have them give us their approval.

Building and Property Maintenance:

Committee Member Nickles mentioned to Administrator Bender of getting a tour of the Village's buildings and grounds to have a better understanding of it. Solicitor Dinkler said this can be done, but no discussion of any official business will be permitted. The committee understood and Committee Member Nickles asked if Administrator Bender could coordinate it. He stated he could.

Finance:

The Finance Committee was called to order at 4 pm on April 16th.

The Finance committee discussed the Uniform and Clothing allowance.

Cell phone stipends were discussed. This would be paid monthly.

The committee will be taking both recommendations to Council.

Zoning:

Administrator Bender talked to the property owner on Wayne Street regarding the storage container. He would like to be on next month's agenda.

The members are concerned with a resident that has a storage unit on their property. At the time, the Village did not have an application. The committee made a temporary application. Administrator Bender approved the application to be used. Solicitor Dinkler recommended adding a cost of living adjustment into the temporary storage enclosure application so in the future it does not need to be revisited.

Committee Member Nickles entertained a motion to recommend to council to add the specific wording of COLA (Cost-of-Living Adjustment) to the storage enclosure application.

7. POLICE REPORTS:

ECLIPSE SUMMARY

The eclipse on April 8th saw people from all over Ohio, Arkansas, California, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin (17 states in all!) visited the Waynesfield Veterans' Park today to see the total eclipse! Chief Motter estimated 200-300 people in the park starting at 6 a.m. that day.

All in all, the weekend and day of the eclipse went well. Chief Motter did have one issue when he had to handle a car versus pedestrian crash right after the totality of the eclipse was reached. Thankfully there were no major injuries. The eclipse weekend also saw two of our residents get arrested for two separate domestic incidents. Both individuals have since been released on bond from jail and their cases are still pending.

TORNADO AND ECLIPSE REIMBURSEMENT

The paperwork for the disaster response and for the eclipse response have been submitted to the Logan and Auglaize County Emergency Management Agencies seeking reimbursement. We don't yet know how much of the resources will be reimbursed, but we are hearing that we may see as much as 75% reimbursement from the disaster area. We don't know about the eclipse reimbursement because we are not sure how the state is going to disperse the funds. In both cases, we were able to apply for reimbursement for manpower, fuel consumption, equipment used, and any materials we purchased that applied to our response.

MOCK CRASH AND PROMENADE AT W-G SCHOOLS

Saturday, April 20th was the Waynesfield-Goshen Prom and to prepare for that, the Wayne Township Fire and Rescue Department held a mock car crash at the school in the afternoon on Friday, April 19. We attended and spoke at the event, reminding kids to make good choices and avoid drinking and driving. The Waynesfield Police Department was on duty patrolling on prom night to ensure that everyone is safe. Chief Motter was happy to report there were no issues on prom night.

MULTIPLE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS UNDERWAY

The last three weeks has seen an incredible increase in criminal investigations in Waynesfield. The call volume, in general, typically goes up when the weather warms. So, we expect an increase in overall calls. However, the most concerning part to Chief Motter is the number of criminal cases. We are seeing several underage cases, drug investigations, fraud cases, and domestic violence cases. Additionally, we are also starting to have numerous civil issues and neighbor disputes starting to come in.

SENATE APPLICATION SUBMITTED FOR PARK ENHANCEMENTS

On Wednesday, April 17th, Chief Motter received a call from Senator Matt Huffman's Office regarding the funds being sought for our park enhancements. Chief Motter had to complete an application for the Senate, similar to the one he submitted to Representative Manchester's Office. That application was completed and submitted on the 17th. The legislative aide he spoke with seemed to be very optimistic about the possibility of us receiving at least some funding. However, until the Governor signs the bill, we won't know the exact amount of funding or how the funding can be spent. But, Chief Motter still thinks this is good news as the process is moving forward.

ODOT AND SCHOOL ZONE

The final piece of information Chief Motter had for council was regarding a phone call he received late this past week from the Ohio Department of Transportation. The district that represents this area is studying all the school zones that are on state and U.S. routes to see how they are functioning and if any improvements could be made. They are contacting our schools, law enforcement and road departments to get feedback.

W-G Superintendent Pence, the Village Administrator and Chief Motter all spoke with the ODOT representative. Chief Motter suggested they review the crosswalk within the school zone as well as the other two crosswalks on North Westminster Street as kids use the crosswalks regularly. Chief Motter explained to the ODOT representative that they don't appear to be as well marked as they could be because vehicles rarely stop for someone who is in the crosswalk area waiting to cross.

The ODOT representative said they would review the request and possibly enhance the crosswalks. The representative said ODOT may add additional pavement markings first and see how that goes. If there is still a problem, then ODOT

could potentially entertain the possibility of adding flashing lights similar to what Westminster has at their crosswalks. That warning lighting is expensive, however, so the hope is that additional pavement markings will suffice. The focus will be on the school crosswalk first, since there is dedicated funding for school zone enhancements.

8. VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

Electric

AMP will be here in May to help with upgrades to the distribution system. Residents affected will be notified prior to the work being done.

Sewer and Water

220 water meters out of 360 have been replaced. The balance will be installed as work flow allows. Required notices to residents for billing changes will go in the next month's bills. Along with the notice are some conservation tips for water usage.

With the recent rains we have had, the overflow at the lagoons will not work as designed. Access Engineering was out to see how full the ponds were. We spoke of other ways to take the amount of inflow we receive during a heavy rain event. We also spoke of looking into grant funding for Inflow and Infiltration issues.

Storm and Streets

Access Engineering has been out to start the beginning phases for the potential new storm line. All residents that have land needing to be used have given verbal commitment.

New veteran banners have been received. Most of the first allotment of banners have been put up. When the others are in, we will put them on the work schedule.

Park

The restrooms are open. Some repainting was done along with new faucets. We will start weed spraying as weather allows. The north end parking lot enlargement has started. We will be working on that along with mowing and other work also as weather allows.

9. MAYOR'S REPORT:

- a. Mayor's Court Report- \$918,00 was deposited into the General Fund from the Mayor's Court Account for the month of March.

Councilmember Nickles would like a Proclamation for the Auxiliary before they disband. She asked the Mayor if he would be able to do this. The mayor agreed.

10. OLD BUSINESS: NONE

11. NEW BUSINESS:

A motion made by Miller, seconded by Walti to suspend the rules of three readings and to adopt Ordinance 24-4-1, an Ordinance Authorizing the Village Administrator and Staff to execute and adopt Anthem Health Plan SOCA Benefit Plan Blue Access PPO 6350E/0%/6350 W/HAS-AHY6 with Ohio Insured Services for the Village of Waynesfield to declare an emergency.

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller, Yes; Walti, Yes.

A motion was made by Nickles, seconded by Ball, to pass Ordinance 24-1-1, an Ordinance Authorizing the Village Administrator and Staff to execute and adopt Anthem Health Plan SOCA Benefit Plan Blue Access PPO 6350E/0%/6350 W/HAS-AHY6 with Ohio Insured Services for the Village of Waynesfield.

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller, Yes; Walti, Yes.

A motion was made by Nickles, seconded by Fox, to have the first reading of Ordinance 24-4-2, an Ordinance terminating the contract with Miller's Textile.

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson, Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller, Yes; Walti, Yes.

A motion was made by Miller, seconded by Hutson to have the first reading of Ordinance 24-4-3, an Ordinance adopting the Uniform and Clothing Allowance.

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson; Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller; Yes; Walti, Yes.

A motion was made by Nickles, seconded by Ball, to have the first reading of Ordinance 24-4-4, an Ordinance approving Cell Phone Policy for the Village of Waynesfield, Ohio. With the following changes. Full time employees will be \$25.00 monthly. Part time employees be \$12.50 monthly. There will also be an opt out form available for those employees that do not want the cell phone allowance.

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson; Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller; Yes; Walti, Yes.

A motion made by Miller, seconded by Walti to suspend the rules of three readings and to adopt Ordinance 24-4-5, An Ordinance Repealing Chapter 95: Unclaimed and Abandoned Vehicles of the 2024 Edition of the Ohio Basic Code adopted by Ordinance 24-2-1. And replacing it with Junk and Abandoned Motor Vehicles, attached as Exhibit A, and Declaring an Emergency.

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson; Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller; Yes; Walti, Yes.

A motion was made by Nickles, seconded by Fox, to pass Ordinance 24-4-5, An Ordinance Repealing Chapter 95: Unclaimed and Abandoned Vehicles of the 2024 Edition of the Ohio Basic Code adopted by Ordinance 24-2-1. And replacing it with Junk and Abandoned Motor Vehicles attached as Exhibit A.

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson; Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller; Yes; Walti, Yes.

12. SOLICITOR REPORT: NONE

A motion to adjourn was made by Nickles, seconded by Fox at 8:16 pm.

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson; Yes; Nickles, Yes; Miller; Yes; Walti, Yes.

Sarah Montgomery

Fiscal Officer


Mayor