

**VILLAGE OF WAYNESFIELD  
COUNCIL MEETING**

December 16, 2024

1. The meeting was called to order on December 16, 2024, at 6:30 P.M. with the following answering Roll Call: Mayor Luma; Absent; 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 \$1,580,939.30 in all funds. \$349,217.76 in the General Fund.
4. Fiscal officer also stated that the welcome letters were sent out from RITA to the residents. After January 1, 2025 everything should be done through RITA. That includes all 2024 taxes and anything from prior years as well. The Fiscal Officer stated that nothing should be coming from CCA. Council member Nickles asked if someone is working are they responsible for telling their employee. Fiscal Officer Montgomery stated she did not know that answer and will talk with RITA. Councilmember Nickles is concerned about confusion from residents.

Councilmember Nickles stated for the record that she appreciates all the work Fiscal Officer Montgomery has done to make this transition happen, as it will save the Village money. Council member Nickles knows that the Fiscal Officer Montgomery has done a tremendous job at getting this done. Councilmember Hutson asked if the file date for this month should be sent to RITA and Fiscal officer Montgomery said everything after January 1<sup>st</sup> will be sent to RITA.

5. 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.

**6. GUESTS: NONE**

**6. COMMITTEE REPORTS: NONE**

**7. POLICE REPORTS:**

**HOLIDAY LIGHTS COMPETITION ONGOING**

Chief Motter reported that the annual Holiday Lights Competition is going on now in the village until December 25th. The winners will be announced on the Waynesfield PD Facebook page on December 26<sup>th</sup>. Sometime between December 1 and 24<sup>th</sup>, three non-resident judges will canvass the village to judge the properties. All properties with holiday lights illuminated at the time the judges go by will be judged, so no one has to sign up to have their property viewed.

**EMERGENCY DISASTER PLAN**

The Safety Committee will meet in January to discuss this.

**TORNADO REIMBURSEMENT**

Still waiting on reimbursement check to arrive. Nothing new to report at this time.

**PMC UPDATE**

The PMC and Zoning Board will meet at a determined date sometime in 2025. The solicitor said he would be present for the joint meeting for purposes of answering questions, advising on proper enforcement steps going forward, due process, etc.

## **WG SCHOOLS SET FOR WINTER BREAK**

The first half of the 2024-25 school year is almost over already. W-G Schools will be on winter break from December 20 at 1 p.m. until 8 a.m. January 6, 2025. The first half of the school year went pretty well. For the first half of the school year, we had 14 issues that involved the SRO, ten of which required a documented call for service. This means a report had to be completed and filed, but does not necessarily mean a criminal complaint was filed.

## **END OF YEAR AND ANNUAL REPORT**

As we finally conclude 2024, Chief Motter reported he is currently transitioning the police department records in preparation of 2025. Thanks to the computer system we currently use, this is a much easier task than it used to be. Chief Motter reported he still has paper files that have to manually be transferred to our records storage, though. So, he will be spending a couple of hours transitioning from 2024 to 2025.

In the regularly scheduled January 2025 meeting, Chief Motter will be providing the end of the year statistics from 2024 as well as his annual report to council.

## **8. VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:**

### **Electric**

Administrator Bender stated the Power Poles were delivered late November. AMP was in last week to replace two power poles and remove some more open wire. Due to a software issue last billing cycle, the Electric portion of the utility bill had to be estimated. Since that time, we have trouble shot the issue and have it resolved. However, there is still a problem with radio reads. The village is trying to figure out what the problem may be and are working to resolve it.

Council member Nickles is concerned that bills will be higher due to having to estimate. She just feels bad for the residents and bills they may receive.

### **Water and Sewer**

Still working with Access Engineering on E. Wapak St. project.

### **Future**

The Village will have the survey this month for CDBG funding. Also, a letter explaining the survey will go out with the utility bills. The addresses were randomly chosen and if we do not get survey back from some residents there is also a backup list.

The Village will start getting things together that will be sold on GovDeals. Most of what will be sold is small items except for a couple large items.

## **9. MAYOR'S REPORT:**

- a. Mayor's Court Report- \$1,250.00 was recorded for the General Fund from the Mayor's Court Account for the month of November.

## **10. OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. **Board of Tax Review discussion**

Council member Nickles has a potential second person but has not heard back from them yet. She is hoping to know by January.

## **Ordinance 24-9-1**

Motion made by Nickles, seconded by Fox, to have the third reading of Ordinance 24-9-1. An Ordinance establishing a blanket purchase order amount limit of as required by Ohio Revised Code 5705.41 (D) 3.

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

#### **Ordinance 24-10-1**

A motion was made by Hutson, seconded by Walti, to have the third reading of Ordinance 24-10-1. An ordinance setting the 2025 Permanent appropriations for 2025.

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

#### **Ordinance 24-10-3**

Councilmember Nickles asked when this billing would take place. Administrator Bender confirmed it would take effect in February.

A motion was made by Nickles, seconded by Hutson, to have the third reading of Ordinance 24-10-3. An Ordinance establishing electric rate increases for the Village of Waynesfield.

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

### **11. NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **Ordinance 24-12-1**

#### **An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance 02-9-1 to approve Mailbox Rules and Regulations.**

Nickles stated that a Representative from the Village should talk to the Postmaster about the Ordinance before putting an Ordinance in place. Administrator Bender stated that this is the first reading and he will talk to the Postmaster before the next meeting.

A motion was made by Fox, seconded by Hutson, to have the first reading of Ordinance 24-12-1. An Ordinance to amend Ordinance 02-9-1, to approve Mailbox Rules and Regulations.

VOTE: Fox, Yes; Ball, Yes; Hutson; Yes; Nickles, No; Miller, Yes; Walti, Yes.

#### **INCOME SURVEY**

Motion by Nickles, seconded by Fox, to approve the income survey for CDBG Grant to be sent to residents for Grant purposes.

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

### **12. SOLICITOR REPORT: NONE**

A motion to adjourn at 6:51 p.m. was made by Ball, seconded by Walti.

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



Fiscal Officer



Mayor