
Village of Cedarville



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Minutes of Cedarville Council **Held December 11th, 2023**

Council met in regular session on December 11th, 2023, with Mayor John Cody, Jr. presiding. Council members present were Ms. Becknell, Mr. Brooks, Mr. Combs, Mr. Dawes, Ms. Jones, and Mr. Ruth. Fiscal Officer Howdyshell recorded the minutes.

Pastor Shroyer from the Restoration Church led prayer to start the meeting.

Minutes from the November 27th meeting was approved with a couple grammatical corrections.

Mary Ann Wheeler was honored with a proclamation from the mayor for her retirement on 12/31/2023. Mary Ann provided exceptional service to the village for more than 23 years - under 4 mayors – and provided indispensable assistance to the village fiscal officers during that time. Monday, December 11th, 2023, is officially Mary Ann Wheeler day in the village.

Mayor Cody:

- No update regarding the 911 service to the community.
- The village has provided a letter of support to Cedarville University in their efforts to secure a community partnership grant.
- Announced that Kyle Calhoun has been voted as the nominee at large for the 911 oversight committee.
- Daddy daughter dance is taking place again in February. The village will provide donation to the event as in years past.
- A public hearing will be held on January 9th at 6:00 pm at the library to discuss Cedarville University's desire to rezone property along 72 for development purposes, as well as a variance request for construction of a handicap ramp at a location downtown.
- Mayor Cody reminded the group that the December 11th meeting is the last meeting of the calendar year.
- Mayor Cody presented James Kannedy to council as his nomination for the Village Administrator position. Mr. Kannedy walked through his professional and personal experience around the Village. Mr. Kannedy currently lives outside of the village but will be moving to the village soon. Council asked Mr. Kannedy several questions about his background related to fulfilling the duties of the village administrator where he provided answers. Mr. Brooks moved, and Mr. Combs seconded to offer the Village Administrator position to James. The motion passed with all ayes. James will start January 1st.
- Executive session was requested.

Police Chief Smith:

- 112 calls in the past two weeks.
- December 2nd Little Town of Lights was successful.
- Several of our officers are picking up shifts at the Clifton Mill to assist with traffic volume.

- We still have one full-time officer vacancy with no applications received.

Village Administrator Kannedy:

- We have a quote to finish the pickle ball court fencing at \$35,000. We are still assessing whether or not the installation can be completed by our staff or if a contractor will need to be hired.
- The village is seeking to identify locations for the 2024 collective paving project.
- The collections clerk is in need of a new computer. Council was in favor of purchasing a new computer for the clerk position, as well as a new phone for Cody.

Old Business: None

New Business: Ordinance 2023-10 and 2023-11

- Ordinance 2023-10 is a temporary appropriations operating ordinance to allow for resource expenditure until the permanent budget is approved in January of 2024. Ms. Jones moved, and Mr. Dawes seconded to allow for an emergency passing of the ordinance. The motion passed with all ayes. Mr. Brooks moved, and Ms. Becknell seconded to pass ordinance 2023-10. The motion passed with all ayes.
- Ordinance 2023-11 is an ordinance providing updated tax language coming from House Bill 33. RITA provided the language, and we were required to update to standard language provided by House Bill 33. Ms. Jones moved, and Mr. Brooks moved to suspend the multiple reading requirements and hear the ordinance and an emergency ordinance. The motion was passed with all ayes. Mr. Combs and Mr. Dawes moved to accept Ordinance 2023-11. The motion passed with all ayes.

Warrants: \$44,713.06 were submitted for approval.

Mr. Brooks moved, and Mr. Ruth seconded to approve the warrants. Motion was passed with all ayes.

Committee Reports:

- Community Relations:
 - The committee is currently considering whether there can be resources allocated to the community watch program and what that would look like.
- Finance/Utilities:
 - The finance committee is recommending the reduction of vendor permit fees from \$15.00 to \$5.00. Mr. Dawes moved, and Mr. Brooks seconded to reduce the fees for a vendor permit from \$15.00 to \$5.00. The motion passed with all ayes with Mr. Combs recusing himself from the vote.
 - The committee additionally recommended the reduction of camper parking at the village farm to be reduced from \$30.00 a month to \$100.00 per year. Mr. Ruth moved, and Mr. Dawes seconded to approve the reduction. The motion passed with all ayes with Mr. Combs recusing himself from the vote.
 - The finance committee has continued to evaluate budgets within the village to ensure a strong fiscal position moving forward.

- Fiscal Officer:
 - Mr. Howdyshell will be finalizing the 2024 budget for presentation at the January 8th city council meeting.
 - As many bills that we can be paid by the end of the year is preferable. Mr. Howdyshell was granted approval by the council to make payments over the holidays and include them on the warrants list at the January 8th, 2024, meeting.
 - Recommended the finance committee meeting be moved from January 1st, 2024, to January 2nd, 2024. The meeting time was changed to the 2nd.

- Solicitor: No update.

Comments:

- Council:
 - None

- Guests:
 - Mr. Preston Freeman presented ideas around safety guidance for personal electric/mobile personal vehicles from other cities around the region. He identified that we have unique safety needs and environmental differences than larger areas, but that we could still maintain a safe and effective policy around the use of personal electric mobile devices such as scooters, one wheels, etc., in town.
 - Pastor Shroyer from Restoration Church - 114 W. Elm Street, has an idea of putting a book box at the park. He is inquiring as to what would need to be done for the action to happen and if the village would allow it. Council was in favor to the idea and supportive if Restoration Church moves forward with the idea. There is some concern of vandalism, however, the church would be owners of box and repairs needed. A location by the park will be evaluated for the future project.

Ms. Jones moved to enter executive session and Mr. Dawes seconded. The motion passed with all ayes.

Mr. Combs moved, and Mr. Brooks seconded to leave executive session and discuss action from the meeting.

Mr. Dawes moved and Ms. Jones seconded to:

- Provide a \$100 bonus to all full-time village employees.
- Provide one personal day to be used during 2024 at the approval of their supervisor.
- Increase each full-time officer's pay by 5% starting 01/01/2024.
- Increase part time officer's pay by \$.75 starting 01/01/2024.
- Increase full-time village employees pay by 5% starting 01/01/2024.

The motion passed with all ayes.

The meeting adjourned at 10:13pm.