
Village of Cedarville



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Minutes of Cedarville Council **Held March 25th, 2024**

Council met in regular session on March 25th, 2024, with Mayor John Cody, Jr. presiding. Council members present were Ms. Becknell, Mr. Combs, Mr. Brooks, and Mr. Ruth. Mr. Dawes and Ms. Jones were excused from the meeting. Fiscal Officer Howdysshell recorded the minutes.

Council member Combs led prayer to start the meeting.

Minutes from the March 11th meeting was approved.

Mayor Cody

- The zoning and appeals committee meeting to hear the Cedarville Learning Center's request for rezoning is tentatively scheduled for April 8th. NIC is recommending that consideration be given to a conditional use zoning instead of a full rezoning of the property in question.
- The second regularly scheduled council meeting in May will be cancelled in observation of Memorial Day

Police Chief Smith:

- 127 calls between 03/11/2024 and 03/25/2024.
- Drug take back scheduled for 04/27/24 from 10:00am -2:00pm.

Village Administrator James Kannedy:

- Provided update for the crosswalk project at approximately \$3,700 to get crosswalk striping and signage with a yellow flashing light that is on all the time installed. Conversation amongst council was in favor but requested additional information on going with a more robust crosswalk that had push button, solar power, and more aggressive flashing lights. The cost for this type of project was identified to be in the 12k to 15k range. Council was in favor of installing this type of project and approved moving forward with this outlay. The crosswalk will be in the vicinity of Cedarville University's north entrance and the gravel lot on the east side of 72.
- Provided additional update and information on ongoing projects and progress related to the cannon, reaching out the statehouse for flags, pickle ball court donation from Greene County Parks and Recreation (\$2,500), water fountain at the park, and the potential need for an additional walk behind mower for the retention pond embankment.
- New village employee Brandon Hill started 03/25.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Warrants: \$60,458.95 were submitted for approval.

Ms. Ruth moved, and Mr. Combs seconded to approve the warrants. The motion passed with all ayes.

Committee Reports:

- Community Relations:
 - The meeting on 03/18 was used to discuss questions and answers with St. Mary related to the retirement housing on Main Street just north of Hearthstone Inn. Many were in attendance with questions pertaining to the project coming from community members and committee members alike. Several questions related to the size of the building, parking spots, etc., were asked by community relations committee members where a formal response has not been given by St. Mary's at the present time.
 - Many individuals were in attendance of the 03/25 council meeting to hear, or ask questions related to the project. Mr. Brooks identified that until a formal response has been given by St. Mary's the council could not give additional opinion or have the ability to answer further questions.
- Finance/Utilities:
 - Next meeting scheduled for 04/01/2024. The proposer for a hydrogen production facility will be present to give further information on the project outlay.
- Fiscal Officer:
 - Provided update that public postings of annual report submission and viewing are available around town and on the village website. Mr. Howdysshell also identified that contact information for the village aggregate utility programs is available on the village website as well.
- Solicitor:
 - Solicitor Bogenschutz was excused from the meeting.

Comments:

- Council:
 - No update.
- Guests:
 - Ms. Emily Coffman requested additional information on where the council stands on the retirement housing project on Main Street just north of Hearthstone Inn. Mayor Cody identified that the village does not have any additional comments until we receive responses from St. Mary's. Ms. Coffman requested that the village speak with other communities in the region that have had a similar project completed, how they feel the project went, and the how community has fared since the project was completed.

- Mr. Dave Webber asked how many college students were allowed to live in a single house. Mayor Cody identified that no more than three unrelated individuals can live in a home that is zoned single family residential. Mr. Webber identified that there are adds circulating through the community for dwelling scenarios that reside far outside the legal limits of housing within the community. Mr. Webber also suggested that there be additional enforcement on housing numbers being present on homes throughout the community as it is hard to tell what the addresses of several locations around town are due to no markings externally. A general discussion was held within the meeting around zoning requirements and limits, along with Council support to enforce ordinances pertaining to both.
- Ms. Sarah Garrison provided a general update and reminder as to the Revitalize Cedarville community meeting on April 10th from 6:00 to 8:00 in the high school cafeteria.
- Mr. Jacob Garrison discussed his perspective of the community relations committee that was held on the 18th. He feels that there are no benefits for allowing the project to go forward and cited his Facebook page – Cedarville Stay Informed – for his thoughts.
- Mr. Garrison requested that the village seek an update to the flood mapping within the village. He cited updates over the years that would potentially remove flood plane status within certain areas of the community and the high insurance premium it carries. Council discussed past attempts to do so, and outside the significant cost of doing so there are challenges related to the federal government running both sides of the change and insurance process.
- Mr. Paul Cope identified that approximately 65 individuals attended the previous community watch program meeting. Mr. Cope is working on getting refrigerator magnets manufactured to distribute throughout the community and was pleased with how the previous meeting had gone.
- Mr. Bill Prince identified that he felt previous zoning variances had been given to construction projects within the village for a number of reasons related similarly to concerns that the village is having with the retirement housing project. He was concerned that the village may not give the same courtesy to this project and advocated for the project to be allowed.
- Mr. Tom Wailes asked that the council receive a written notice from St. Mary's as to how many individuals could live in each apartment unit, and whether each person living within the unit was required to be a United States citizen.

The meeting adjourned at 7:47.