
Village of Cedarville



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Minutes of Cedarville Council **Held November 27th, 2023**

Council met in regular session on November 27th, 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.

Dr. Thomas White from Cedarville University led the invocation to open the meeting.

The council meeting opened at 7:00pm and the Minutes of the November 13th, 2023, regular meeting was approved with one edit. Mr. Dawes name was incorrectly identified as one of the council members re-elected when it should have been Mr. Brooks name listed with Mr. Combs.

Dr. Thomas White began the meeting presenting the Cedarville University vision for property development on the east side of 72 going north of Kyle Drive. Dr. White broke down the development vision into several phases with the project progressing through the phases as the phases were both needed and financially viable. The first phase of the project focused on developing the property in consideration of an ongoing discussion with Wendy's to bring a fast food restaurant placed close to the gravel lot on the north side of the intramural fields. The second phase would consider the construction of apartments built in phases as demand warrants. The apartments would be used to meet growing demand for graduate student housing, transitioning faculty and staff, as well as the potential for undergraduate students. Lastly, the project would consider retail space and a hotel along 72.

Council asked several questions of the project related to timing and need. Dr. White articulated the needs for the project in consideration of growing demand in student food service options, graduate housing, faculty and staff transitional flexibility, as well as potential undergraduate housing. The timing would be based on the financial viability of the project in conjunction with demand.

In conclusion, Dr. White also identified a potential grant that the university is seeking funding for related to sidewalk and roadway safety development along 72 north of Kyle Drive. This project will be discussed at the 12/06/23 Community Relations Committee meeting.

Mayor Cody:

- Asked Josh Kaster to attend the council meeting to discuss the desire for use of the Massie Creek Park soccer fields at the high school level.
- Mr. Kaster outlined the growing push for high school soccer within the community and expressed interest in future consideration of Massie Creek Park usage if needed. Council members discussed the timing of the need in coordination with existing soccer uses at the park, along with any financial implications. Mr. Castor outlined that the expense associated with field lining would be covered by outside individuals or organizations and the field would be used in conjunction with the existing SAY soccer league that uses the park. Mr. Castor also identified that the majority of those pushing for varsity high school

soccer are actively involved in the SAY program in town. Council was favorable towards the allowance of the field usage, but final approval would be made if the need was officially presented.

- Mayor Cody is looking forward to Little Town of Lights on December 2nd.
- The village will not have a second council meeting in December.
- No update on the 911 dispatch service agreement.
- The full-time Village Administrator position has officially been posted with applications coming in for consideration.

Police Chief Smith:

- 100 calls in the past two weeks.
- December 2nd is Little Town of Lights with preparation on going in providing food and fun.
- Still has one full-time officer vacancy with no applications received.

Village Administrator Kannedy:

- Ms. Kannedy invited engineer Brandon Shoop to the meeting to discuss a proposed sidewalk alteration that would be done to make a properties entrance ADA compliant. The owner of the property has hired Brandon to develop plans surrounding the project and a variance to place part of the alteration on village property was identified as needed. Council heard his presentation, asked general questions surrounding the need, and identified that the request would need to be processed through the Zoning and Planning committee for recommendation to Council.
- Ms. Kannedy gave general updates to ongoing projects that have been in progress for the past several months. No major completions or progress has been made, but they are still on going.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Warrants: \$47,408.50 were submitted for approval.

Ms. Jones moved, and Mr. Dawes seconded to approve the warrants. Motion was passed with all ayes.

Committee Reports:

- Community Relations:
 - Next meeting scheduled for 12/06/23
- Finance/Utilities:
 - Next scheduled meeting for 12/04/2023
- Fiscal Officer:
 - Mr. Howdyshell mentioned ongoing needs to discuss at the Finance Committee meeting on the 4th related to budget approval moving into the new year.

- Mr. Howdyshell was pleased to recommend Ms. Andrea Kannedy as the new Utilities Clerk in replacement of the retiring Ms. Wheeler. Mr. Brooks moved and Mr. Combs seconded to approve Ms. Kannedy in the role. The motion was passed with all ayes.
 - Mr. Howdyshell presented a request from Mr. Cope of Beans-n-Cream to reallocate a portion of a previously approved business grant they had received towards a new use. Council heard request from Mr. Cope who was present in the meeting and was not in favor of reallocating the funds. The purpose of expenditure was identified as outside the original intent of the award to Beans-n-Cream.
- Solicitor: No update.

Comments:

- Council:
 - Ms. Jones requested an update on the pickle ball courts and whether or not netting has been ordered. Ms. Kannedy gave an update that we still have project questions needing brought to resolution before an order is placed, and that we are still waiting on quotes for the fencing. The county still has resources available for the project and the village is trying to meet those deadlines for application.
- Guests:
 - Mr. Preston Freeman delivered a power point presentation identifying the benefits of electric micro transportation (scooters, etc.) within the community. He identified micro transportation as low speed mobility devices that are increasing in usage and popularity. Mr. Freeman conducted significant research on existing laws and regulations within the community and recommended several changes to our ordinances, or updates to include certain aspects of safety within the micro transportation model in town.
 - Council was appreciative of his work on the project and discussed the need to consider future conversations around the topic. Mr. Freeman was invited to the 12/6.23 Community Relations meeting discuss his ideas in that forum as well.
 - Mr. Bogenschutz reiterated the need to await changes made at the state level before considering legal language change around the passing of Issue two in November.

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

Ms. Jones moved, and Ms. Becknell seconded to leave executive session and adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with all ayes.

The meeting adjourned at 9:28 pm.