
Village of Cedarville



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Minutes of Cedarville Council **Held October 9th, 2023**

Council met in regular session on October 9th, 2023, with Mayor John Cody, Jr. presiding. Council members present were Ms. Becknell, Mr. Brooks, Mr. Combs, Ms. Jones, and Mr. Ruth. Mr. Dawes was excused from being at the start of the meeting. The Fiscal Officer recorded the minutes.

Mr. Daniel Ackerman from Grace Baptist Church led the invocation to open the meeting.

Council Meeting opened at 7:00pm and the Minutes of the September 25th, 2023, regular meeting was approved as presented.

Mayor Cody:

- The council room was to hold a CPR class but it was cancelled due to lack of participation.
- The council room will be open from 6:00pm to 8:00pm on the night of trick or treat.
- Election day is November 7th. There are local seats and state issues on the ballot. Mayor Cody gave a reminder to make sure everyone is registered to vote by October 10th.
- Senior Lofts had attempted to get a grant from the state but were declined. They applied for a HUD grant and were awarded the grant. One of 25 awarded. The project will be moving forward but the timing of the project will take several years to complete. Mayor Cody expressed satisfaction in our current conversations about bike traffic safety around the village and the work being done on the pickle ball courts.
- Mayor Cody identified that a decision on whether we partner with Yellow Springs dispatch, or sign with the county, is becoming more presently needed. Jamestown has officially decided to move forward with the county, making it more challenging to warrant moving forward with Yellow Springs financially. Council discussed the financial ramifications of moving forward with both Yellow Springs and the county, and the future implications to the village budget will be challenging regardless. Conversation was held around the Police budget and future challenges we may face as a result of increased 911 dispatch cost. Council expressed favorability in signing with the county. Mr. Brooks moved and Mr. Ruth seconded to discuss the terms of the county 911 dispatch service agreement and whether to sign the contract in its current offered format. Terms of the agreement were then discussed by council and Mr. Bogenschutz, and contract remedies were advised prior to signing with the county. The council felt that we need some answers to some questions before we sign. The motion to sign the agreement failed with one present vote and four nays. We will seek remedy on a few contractual items before seeking to sign at a later date.
- Discussion was held around a 911 dispatch committee that will be formed and comprised of leaders amongst stakeholder communities. This yet to be formed committee will seek to provide leadership direction of the county 911 dispatch program moving forward.

Police Chief Smith:

- 192 calls in the last two weeks.
- All full-time officers attended a Greene County Prosecutors training at Soin Medical Center.
- There will be a drug take back on Saturday October 28th.

Village Administrator Kannedy:

Veterans memorial will not be done by Veterans Day, however several individuals of the community and our village staff met at the memorial to ensure progress is moving forward. Deans will be completing the project but won't start until the mid-winter timeframe. We may consider having a groundbreaking ceremony on Veterans Day.

A few additional project updates were given:

- Project moving forward on pickle ball court fence dividers and are awaiting quotes.
- The village is starting to look towards planning for Christmas decorations in town.
- Drainage issues on Milburn Street will be repaired in the coming weeks.
- Continued vandalism in the community. Local establishments are starting to help with their cameras, etc. but we are continuing to look at establishing an improved video surveillance system around the village.
- We have an ongoing need for assistance with our village web page. We are engaged with the University to assist with a possible student employee to assist.

Conversation around parking was amongst council and guests regarding on street parking, municipality lot availability, and off-street parking requirements for landlords and tenants. General agreement was had that we face parking constraints downtown and there isn't a one size fits all approach. We may look at trying to improve signage for current municipality spaces in the downtown area of town. Council also discussed stop signs and additional visual reminders of bike and pedestrian crossings in town. General favorability was had by each member of the council.

A general announcement was made that the county will be offering a spare tire drop off on October 26th from 9:00am to 11:00am.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Warrants: \$203,9994.4 were submitted for approval.

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

Committee Reports:

- Community Relations: Did not meet but has an upcoming meeting on 10/16/23 to discuss the topic of a community watch program inside the village.
- Finance/Utilities:

- Damage to the bike path rest rooms is up to \$1,396.45.
 - We are evaluating the possibility of placing cameras in vandalism hot spots around town. Mr. Combs discussed various possibilities of camera types and functionalities. Council currently exploring costs.
 - Mr. Howdyshell reviewed ARPA funds with the group and will present a report at the next council meeting of ARPA activities.
 - Mr. Combs and the finance committee discussed reinvigorating the exploration of grants like the safe routes to school grant and grants for crosswalks.
- Fiscal Officer: Mr. Howdyshell prepared and presented a report on ARPA fund activities to include past use, current encumbered funds, and funds yet to be allocated.
 - Solicitor: The caboose has been removed from the village.

Comments:

- Council:
 - Mr. Dawes asked for an update on the old Morris Beam lot and how progress is coming related to cleanup. Ms. Kannedy gave an update that we are currently preparing to send notices of dereliction of property and our intent to take action against the property.
 - Mr. Dawes expressed continued concern with speeding on Church street as well as concern for parking in the wrong direction. Discussion was hard amongst the council as to how to deter speeding in those areas. An officer was dispatched from the meeting to check out a few areas discussed in the meeting.
- Guests:
 - Mr. Jacob Garrison discussed his perspective on the various camera/cloud based options on the market. He additionally provided a company that offers services for this type of need.

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

Mr. Combs moved, and Mr. Brooks seconded to leave executive session and adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with all ayes.

The meeting adjourned at 9:24PM.