

**Village of Waynesville  
Council Meeting Minutes  
October 7, 2024 at 7:00 pm**

Present: Mr. Lyle Anthony  
Mr. Brian Blankenship  
Mr. Chris Colvin  
Mr. Zack Gallagher  
Mr. Troy Lauffer  
Mrs. Connie Miller  
Absent: Mayor Earl Isaacs

Village Staff Present: Jeff Forbes, Law Director; Chief Copeland, Village Manager and Director of Public Safety; Jamie Morley, Finance Director and Clerk of Council

***CLERK'S NOTE-** This is a summary of the Village Council Meeting held on Monday, October 7, 2024.*

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Council Pro Tempore Colvin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call – 6 present

Mrs. Miller motioned to excuse Mayor Isaacs from tonight’s meeting, and Mr. Gallagher seconded the motion.

Motion – Miller  
Second – Gallagher

**Roll Call – 6 yeas**

**Mayor Acknowledgements**

None

**Public Hearing of Council**

Pro Tempore Colvin opened the public hearing of the Council to discuss the proposed solar panel codes at 7:04 p.m. There was no discussion, and the public hearing was closed at 7:05 p.m.

**Disposition of Previous Minutes**

Mr. Gallagher motioned to approve the minutes as amended from the September 16, 2024 meeting and Mr. Anthony seconded the motion. The amendment was to add Gerald Livingston’s name and address.

Motion – Gallagher  
Second – Anthony

**Roll Call – 6 yeas**

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**Public Recognition/Visitor’s Comments**

Chief Beckett, representing Wayne Township Fire Department, wanted to inform the public about Issue 21 (fire levy) on the November ballot. He wanted to assure the public that the levy would be based on 2024 property values, not on the revaluation that will occur in 2025. Chief Beckett explained that the Township is asking for a 2-mill levy for staffing. For example, a \$350K home with an assessed value of \$122,500 would cost the property owner an additional \$245.00 a year, which comes out to be about \$20.40 a month or \$.60 a day. He explained that this levy would pay for two people to be on staff 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Chief Beckett stated that the Fire Department has two other levies to pay for equipment. He noted that fire departments are expensive, and getting local volunteers is getting harder and harder. He also said that the Township is applying for a SAFER Grant to help fund staff. With the levy money, Chief Beckett plans to hire six full-time employees and supplement them with two part-time employees.

Mr. Gallagher asked if the other two levies would remain in place. Chief Beckett responded that they would. Mr. Gallagher asked how much the new levy would bring in. Chief Beckett answered that the amount is approximately \$708,500.

Mr. Lauffer asked if township residents must also pay and if the grant writing is done in-house or sourced out. Chief Beckett explained that both township and village residents pay the levies. He said the township is using Lexipol to write the SAFER Grant for \$4,800. They have an 82% acceptance rate. Mr. Lauffer asked if the levy was only for staff. Chief Beckett confirmed that it is to hire six full-time employees.

Mrs. Miller wanted to express her support for the levy and said it is scary to think that there would be no one available to respond if there is an emergency.

**Old Business**

Mr. Colvin said he has provided Council with review forms for the Village Manager and Finance Director. He asked all Council members to complete the reviews and return them to him before the next October Council meeting. He stated he would compile the results and discuss them at the first meeting in November.

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## **Reports**

### **Finance**

The Finance Committee will meet on October 21<sup>st</sup>. It did not meet last month due to the public hearing for DORA.

### **Public Works Report**

Public Works met this evening and discussed projects finishing up within the Village. The next meeting will be November 4<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.

### **Special Committee Report**

Parks and Rec will meet on October 21, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. and focus on the library's new park.

### **Village Manager Report**

- Chief Copeland said Jacob George, Board President of Mary L. Cook Library, will attend the Council meeting on October 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Brian Corn from the Street Department repaired curbs on Main Street in anticipation of the upcoming Sauerkraut Festival.
- Fed Excavating is finishing replacing catch basins throughout the town and will asphalt on Wednesday. There is one that will not be done until after the Sauerkraut to ensure there is no construction happening on a main thoroughfare in the Village.
- Well 10 samples came back good. Choice One is preparing the engineering drawings for the line to connect the new well to the Village's water system.
- The big windstorm last week took off a few shingles from the Government Center roof. Chief Copeland is working with Hylant Insurance and roofers to get that repaired.
- Chief Copeland stated he was working with Claudia Shealy of Big Pines on a proposed development on the 40 acres across the Government Center. They are proposing a development of five homes and will be responsible for replacing 100 feet north and south of the water connections. The Water Department is providing specifications for this project.
- The Village was ranked #3 in Warren County for the PY39 OPWC for the Fourth Street project. The Village has an excellent chance of being awarded this grant.
- SmithCorp should begin Franklin Phase II in November.
- Chief Copeland will have a final walk-through with SmithCorp for the Third Street project after Sauerkraut.

- Leaf pickup will start Monday, October 14.

## **Police Report**

- September Dispatched Calls for Service, Mayor's Court Month End, and Code Enforcement Reports have been provided for review.
- Preparation for the Sauerkraut Festival is underway. Chief Copeland stated he is anticipating traffic issues due to the one-lane closure on the bridge on Route 73. He said there would only be right in and right out at the Hoffman parking lot at the corner of Corwin and Route 42.
- Trick-or-Treating is scheduled for October 31<sup>st</sup> from 6:00 p.m. to 8 p.m.; extra patrols are scheduled for that time.
- On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, the police officers qualified their firearms at the Franklin firing range. Stubbs-Conner provided lunch for the officers, which was greatly appreciated.

## **Financial Director Report**

None

Mr. Colvin asked about the status of the codification and Open Checkbook. Ms. Morley responded that she had just received the updated codes and should have legislation at the next meeting to accept them. She said that Open Checkbook is updated through 2023, 2024 will be uploaded after the year is closed out.

## **Law Report**

None

## **New Business**

None

## **Legislation**

### **First Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions**

None

### **Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolution**

### **Ordinance 2024 - 031**

## Creating a Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area and Establishing Requirements to Ensure Public Health and Safety within Such Area

Mr. Gallagher stated at the last meeting that there was a concern about whether the DORA District would infringe on a person's right to conceal carry. Mr. Forbes said that a DORA District would not impact concealed carry. Mr. Gallagher asked if it was possible to revisit the approval of the DORA District in 12 months since there were so many unknowns. Mr. Forbes explained that state law allows for Council to cancel a DORA District at any time. He also stated that Council must review the DORA District every five years. Mr. Gallagher asked if Chief Copeland could keep Council informed of any extra calls for service or issues regarding the DORA district. Chief Copeland said he would be able to do that. Mr. Gallagher asked about the DORA cup and if Council could specify the color and if each restaurant could have a different color. Chief Copeland stated he plans to meet with the merchants and specify all the requirements. Mr. Gallagher asked if this would need to be in the verbiage of the ordinance. Mr. Forbes responded that Council is only approving the area. The color and design of the cup is up to the Chief. He added that merchants are usually very receptive to working with Councils because Council can remove the DORA District. He said that the ordinance already states, "For purposes of the "Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area," beer and intoxicating liquor shall be served solely in plastic bottles or other plastic containers that are distinctly marked to indicate the seller. This distinction can take the form of a particular cup, unique sticker, or other method approved by the Chief of Police."

Mrs. Miller moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2024-031, and Mr. Blankenship seconded the motion.

Motion – Miller

Second – Blankenship

**Roll Call – 6 yeas**

### **Ordinance No. 2024-033**

An Ordinance Authorizing the Waiver of the Water Meter Connection Fee Related to the Waynesville Community Church

Mr. Blankenship moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2024-033, and Mr. Anthony seconded the motion.

Motion – Blankenship

Second – Anthony

**Roll Call – 6 yeas**

### **Tabled**

### **Ordinance No. 2024-029**

Adopting Various Sections of the Zoning Code for the Village of Waynesville Regarding Solar Energy Systems

Mr. Gallagher moved to take Ordinance No. 2024-029 off the table, and Mr. Lauffer seconded the motion.

Motion – Gallagher  
Second – Lauffer

**Roll Call – 6 yeas**

Mr. Gallagher moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2024-029, and Mrs. Miller seconded the motion.

Motion – Gallagher  
Second – Miller

**Roll Call – 6 yeas**

**Executive Session**

None

All were in favor of adjourning at 7:43 p.m.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Jamie Morley, Clerk of Council