

**Village of Waynesville
Council Meeting Minutes
November 4, 2024 at 7:00 pm**

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

Village Staff Present: Jeff Forbes, Law Director; Gary 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, November 4, 2024.

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Mayor Isaacs called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call – 7 present

Mayor Acknowledgements

Mayor Isaacs said it is nice to see the town coming together and looking good.

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Disposition of Previous Minutes

Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2024 meeting as written and Mr. Blankenship seconded the motion.

Motion – Miller
Second – Blankenship

Roll Call – 7 yeas

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Public Recognition/Visitor’s Comments

None

Old Business

None

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Reports

Finance

The Finance Committee will meet next on November 18th at 6:00 p.m.

Public Works Report

Public Works met this evening and discussed projects throughout the Village. The next meeting will be on December 2, 2024 at 6 p.m.

Special Committee Report

Parks and Rec will meet on January 21, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to work with the school on Bicentennial Park and get more details on the proposed park at Mary L. Cook.

Village Manager Report

- The staff Christmas Party date is December 6th or 13th.
- Chief Copeland stated he is working on putting together the paperwork for the DORA District with more detailed rules and regulations. Mr. Forbes said it could be an amendment to the previous ordinance.
- The Maintenance Barn has been completed. It was power washed, rust inhibitor was applied, paint was painted, and the roof was repaired.
- The Street Department has been out repairing potholes.
- Fed Excavating has completed replacing the catch basins.
- The Water Department has installed several more cameras and motion sensor lights around the bulk water station.
- Molly Wentworth has submitted a bill to be split three ways between the Village, MOMS, and the Chamber for greenery to decorate Main Street.
- Well 6 needed a new pump. The last one went bad because of iron build-up on the screen. The cost was \$7500 to replace it, which has been done, and the well is back online.
- Chief Copeland is working with Molly Conley from Warren County Soil and Water on the Hoffman property. Several violations occurred when the land was cleared at the corner of Route 42 and Corwin. Mr. Forbes is working on a cease and desist letter.

- A flyer for the ribbon cutting for Taylor's Creamery has been provided.
- Chief Copeland thanked the Colvin family and Dave Stubbs for decorating Main Street for the holidays.

Police Report

- October Calls for service, Mayor's Court Month End, and Code Enforcement reports have been provided for review.
- Provided a thank you letter from Tommy Howard, Warren County Assistant Prosecutor, who attended a ride-along with an officer and received a tour of the Village's facility.
- Officer Mermann participated in the Waynesville School's Touch-a-Truck event. He also gave three lectures to high school students for Career Day on his experiences repairing Stihl products and police work.
- Trick-or-Treat was October 31st from 6-8. Extra patrols and the command vehicle were out during this time.

Mr. Colvin asked for the record to include Harry Marhoffer and Shane Rowlands as helpers putting up Christmas decorations on Main Street.

Financial Director Report

- Ms. Morley said there was an ordinance on tonight's agenda. It is proposing to increase water rates by 4% over three years. She said this is needed due to the increased cost of supplies and services. It also proposes decreasing the storm sewer rate from \$6.00 to \$4.00. The Village has replaced most of the crumbling catch basins. \$4.00 will still allow to budget for replacing 4 to 6 basins a year and save for any larger projects. Ms. Morley added that unless a resident uses over 11K gallons of water a month, they should not see an increase in their water bill.
- Ms. Morley said she received notification from AES today on increasing their distribution fee. She noted that the unmetered light rate is doubling. She will need to contact AES to see how this will impact on the budget for Street Lights.

Mr. Gallagher warned the public that Centerpoint is also applying to the PCO to increase its distribution fee.

Mr. Lauffer stated that he was against the increase of water rates, but he understands things are getting more costly. He appreciated how Ms. Morley was able to suggest an adjustment of fees, so that the residents should not see an increase in the bottom line.

Mr. Colvin asked Chief Copeland if there will be any changes since the aggregate provider for the Village has been changed. Chief Copeland stated that the company was bought out and should not affect anyone. He compared it to when your mortgage is sold.

Mr. Colvin asked if there have been any updates of when the bridge on Route 73 will be completed. Chief Copeland said that he has heard it should be completed by December but he is not really kept in the loop because it is not within the Village’s jurisdiction. He added that he has been assured by ODOT the stoplight project will begin in the spring.

Mr. Colvin asked that ordinances be provided at the next meeting to renew the contracts for the Law Director and Prosecutor.

Law Report

Mr. Forbes said he will have the ordinance to renew the contract with Wood & Lamping at the next Council meeting.

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New Business

None.

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Legislation

First Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions

Ordinance No. 2024-039

Adopting a Schedule for Water Rates and Storm Sewer Rates for the Village of Waynesville Fee Schedule

Mr. Colvin moved to have the first reading of Ordinance No. 2024-039, and Mr. Gallagher seconded the motion.

Motion – Colvin
Second – Gallagher

Roll Call – 7 yeas

Executive Session

Mr. Colvin moved to go into executive session at 7:26 p.m. to discuss the employment of public employees, and Mr. Gallagher seconded the motion.

Motion – Colvin

Second – Gallagher

Roll Call – 7 yeas

Council returned from Executive Session at 8:10 p.m. and 7 were present.

All were in favor of adjourning at 8:11 p.m.

Date: _____

Jamie Morley, Clerk of Council