

**Village of Waynesville  
Council Meeting Minutes  
February 3, 2025 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

*CLERK’S NOTE- This is a summary of the Village Council Meeting held on Monday, February 3, 2025.*

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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 that the Franklin Phase II project will begin next week.

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**Disposition of Previous Minutes**

Mr. Gallagher moved to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2025 meeting as written, and Mr. Blankenship seconded the motion.

Motion – Gallagher  
Second – Blankenship

Roll Call – 7 yeas

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**Public Recognition/Visitor’s Comments**

Scott Teeters, 1900 Dryden Road, representing AES, introduced Barbi Bouch. Mr. Teeters stated he has been the Community Ambassador for Waynesville for over 25 years. Recently,

AES has modified the program, and Ms. Bouch will take over Mr. Teeter's role as an AES Community Connector for the Village of Waynesville. Mr. Teeters thanked Council for allowing him to serve the community. Ms. Bouch introduced herself and provided business cards.

Mr. Blankenship announced the unfortunate passing of Warren Sheehan, a former Council member and active community member. His service will be tomorrow afternoon.

Joe Garrett of Trebel manages the Village of Waynesville's aggregate programs. He said energy prices are escalating due to production not keeping up with the growing demand. He recommends that Council pass an addendum allowing Trebel to lock in prices on behalf of the Village's aggregate. Mr. Garrett stated that capacity prices are going up, but it is unknown what the exact cost will be; he suggested locking in generation costs and adding capacity costs once they are settled. Capacity charges are a pass-through element for electricity and gas. He suggested a three-year program with the first year fixed, years 2 and 3 fixed with generation, and an adjustment made when the pass-through capacity fee is settled. Mr. Garrett stated he felt it was in the community's best interest for Council to sign the addendum now, giving Trebel more time to watch the market and be able to lock in the best rates.

Mr. Lauffer asked if the current aggregate contract was already over. Mr. Gallagher stated it was not but felt it was best for the community to give Trebel more time to lock in the best rate as the rates fluctuate weekly.

Mr. Forbes stated there are a couple of ways to handle this: 1) by ordinance, which will need to happen at the next meeting, and 2) Council can make a motion to authorize the addendum.

Mr. Lauffer asked to ensure that this was still an opt-out program. Mr. Garrett stated that the aggregate allows residents to opt-out at any time at no cost. He also noted that residents can join at any time at no cost.

Mr. Gallagher moved to authorize the Village Manager to sign an addendum to the Energy Consulting Management agreement, and Mr. Blankenship seconded the motion.

Motion – Gallagher

Second – Blankenship

**Roll Call – 7 yeas**

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**Old Business**

None

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## **Reports**

### **Finance**

The Finance Committee will meet on February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

### **Public Works Report**

The Public Works Committee met this evening. The next meeting will be on March 3, 2025, at 6 p.m.

### **Special Committee Report**

None

### **Village Manager Report**

- Chief Copeland stated that he has reports from Well 6 and 7 showing no PFOS levels. Well 10 was .004 per billion on Feb 24 and .0039 on 9/30/24. The Ohio EPA has approved a blend of the wells and will take levels below the acceptable rate as dictated by the Ohio EPA. After some research, Warren County levels were between .147 and .233 parts per trillion. They have since treated the water, and it has dropped to .08.
- Chief Copeland met with Karie Novesl from Hylant to renew the Village's property insurance. This has been provided for review, and an ordinance to approve it is on tonight's agenda.
- Franklin Road Phase II is set to begin next week. Equipment staging will start this week, and materials will be dropped off. Residents who will be affected have been given a letter about the project. Wayne Township Fire Chief has also been informed of the project.
- Ordinance 2025-001 is to lower the water rates for the new Mary L. Cook Park.
- Chief Copeland stated that David O'Banion is selling 27.757 acres that abuts the Village's wellfield. He is looking into loans and working with the realtor about the Village purchasing the land to protect the wellfield and possible expansion.
- There is an ordinance to participate in Warren County's multijurisdictional salt bid program.
- Chief Copeland stated he has been working with Mr. Forbes concerning the Hoffman properties at the corner of Route 42 and Corwin Ave and the corner of Route 73 and Route 42. A letter has been sent to Mr. Hoffman regarding several code violations. Molly Conley of Warren County Soil and Water has also been involved.
- Thank you to Kelly Miller for assistance in designing the "No DORA" stickers for shops that do not want to participate.

## **Police Report**

- The January dispatched calls for service and Mayor's Court report will be provided at the next meeting because the month ended this weekend.
- Sgt. Denlinger's code enforcement report has been provided for review.
- Chief Copeland thanked the Warren County K9 Association for conducting a random walkthrough at Wayne Local Schools. The purpose of the walkthrough is to be random; if not, it defeats the purpose, which is why parents were not notified until after the school went into lockdown.
- The Village received a check from the Attorney General's Office for \$8,154.68 for the officers completing the Continuing Professional Training (CPT).
- Officer Mermann attended ALICE training (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate). He will now be able to train other officers to respond to violent critical incidents.
- Chief Copeland will get a quote to replace the oldest cruiser. At the next meeting, an ordinance about this purchase should be on the agenda.
- Drug Take Back Day will be April 26<sup>th</sup> from 10-2.

Mrs. Miller asked about the ALICE training. She wanted to know if there was a threat to the school, who else besides Officer Mermann would be there? Chief Copeland stated that there would be three officers: Officer Mermann, Lt. Bledsoe, and himself. This would allow for diamond formation, which is preferable to cover both sides and the front. Officer Mermann will also be training the teachers on lockdown. Chief Copeland stated that when they did the random walk-through with the canine officers, the school was put on lockdown, and he was impressed with how quickly and effectively the teachers went into lockdown. He said that it is vital that there is a police presence and that the school is safe; that is why he ensures an additional officer is at the school at the beginning and end of each day with lights on.

## **Financial Director Report**

None

## **Law Report**

None

## **New Business**

None

## **Legislation**

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

#### **Ordinance No. 2025-001**

An Ordinance Authorizing a Fifty Percent Reduction of the Water Fees Related to the Park at the Mary L. Cook Library

Mrs. Miller moved to have the first reading of Ordinance 2025-001, and Mr. Gallagher seconded the motion.

Motion – Miller  
Second – Gallagher

**Roll Call – 7 yeas**

#### **Ordinance No. 2025-002**

Authorizing the Village Manager to Enter into a Contract with Warren County Engineer’s Office for Purchase of Road Salt and Declaring an Emergency

Mr. Gallagher moved to waive the two-reading rule for Ordinance 2025-002, and Mr. Colvin seconded the motion.

Motion – Gallagher  
Second – Colvin

**Roll Call – 7 yeas**

Mr. Gallagher moved to adopt Ordinance 2025-002 as an emergency, and Mr. Anthony seconded the motion.

Motion – Gallagher  
Second – Anthony

**Roll Call – 7 yeas**

#### **Ordinance No. 2025-003**

Authorizing the Village Manager to Award Property and Liability Insurance Coverage for the Village of Waynesville

Mrs. Miller moved to waive the two-reading rule for Ordinance 2025-003, and Mr. Anthony seconded the motion.

Motion – Miller  
Second – Anthony

**Roll Call – 7 yeas**

Mr. Colvin moved to adopt Ordinance 2025-003, and Mr. Lauffer seconded the motion.

Motion – Colvin  
Second – Lauffer

**Roll Call – 7 yeas**

**Second Reading of Ordinances and Resolutions**

None

**Executive Session**

None

All were in favor of adjourning at 7:48 p.m.

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

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Jamie Morley, Clerk of Council