

VILLAGE OF ALEXANDRIA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – Amended

September 3, 2024

Mayor Sean Barnes called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. on Tuesday, September 3, 2024. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll Call: Present: Jeff Baer, Andrew Bottar-Dillen, Heb Lower, Carrie Meng, Mike Miller, Kelly Reed; Mayor Sean Barnes, Fiscal Officer Carol Grissinger, Village Solicitor David Ball, Zoning Inspector Jacob Brooks, Police Chief Dan Bunting, Village Clerk Sarah Chambers.

Also attending: Lisa Homan (future Village Administrator),

Guests: Dennison Press Project; Ira Kean

2. Meeting Minute for the Regular Council Meeting 8-20-2024

Minutes of Regular Council Meeting - August 2024 were read and approved with a minor amendment (addition of an apostrophe to "Citizen Shower"). Motion to Approve: Andrew Bottar-Dillen. Seconded by: Carrie Meng, Result: Motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing/Communications

No report.

Legislation

RESOLUTION NO. R2024-14 ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISISON AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

A motion was made by Mike Miller to suspend the reading of the resolution, seconded by Andrew Bottar-Dillen. The motion passed unanimously.

The rates for tax levy were previously sent to Council members. There was a typo on line two which resulted in a date change from 9/5/2024 to 9/3/2024. A motion was made by Mike Miller to accept the rates document as amended and was seconded by Herb Lower.

Mike Miller made a motion to accept the amended resolution and was seconded by Carrie Ment to pass RESOLUTION R2024-15. Vote was unanimously approved. The Chari declared the motion carried.

RESOLUTION NO. R2024-15 A RESOULTION CONSENTING TO THE PROBATIONARY APPOINTMENT OF LISA HOMAN AS VILLAGE ADMINISTRAOT OF THE VILLAGE OF ALEXANDRIA; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

A motion was made by Andrew Bottar-Dillen to suspend the reading of RESOLUTION NO- R2024-15 and was seconded by Jeff Baer. The motion passed unanimously.

A discrepancy in the salary amount as listed on the resolutions was found and amended to be \$12,000 in both places. A motion was made by Andrew Bottar-Dillen to pass RESOLUTION No. R20 as amended, seconded by Carrie Meng. The motion passed unanimously. 24-15. The Chair declared the motion carried.

Lisa Homan was introduced as the new Village Administrator, effective immediately.

Village Office Reports

A. Administrator

No report.

B. Fiscal Officer

Carol has been collecting information for the Village Audit. Cost to the Village will be \$12,000.00. The Auditors have not started and we will not pay until the work is done, even though we have been invoiced.

All Village Employees are required by law to watch the Fraud Video and must be completed by 9/28/2024. Mike Miller mentioned how easy it was to do that on a phone and it only takes 8 minutes.

Question/discussion Can the State be held liable if the auditors find nothing, but then there is evidence of wrong doing. Can the Village be reimbursed? The answer to both questions is no. It is up to the Village to closely monitor the Village finances.

C. Solicitor

There are currently no Park Board members, so volunteers are needed to fill those positions. Discussion was held on how to let the Village know there is a need for volunteers. Suggestion included Social Media, Village Website, in the water bill. . Carrie Meng said she is working on a Village Newsletter.

D. Mayor

October 31, 2024, 6:00 - 7.30 p.m., rain or shine, will be the official date for Trick or Treat (same as for Granville and Johnstown).

The owner the building on Granville Street is making some structural repairs to the building which should take him approximately 2 to 3 weeks. No contract will be entered into until the repairs have been completed.

E. Zoning Inspector

Jacob has been working through the 111 Ordnances on the Village website. He has been dealing mainly with lawn maintenance issues (Ordinance 2607-07 dealing with noxious weeds under 12" high, open burning violations, and similar issues. A new template is needed for zoning violations. The Village Administrator will work on a template that could be used for any and all violations. Dan Bunting offered that there is no open burning allowed in the Village at any time.

F. Solicitor

Dave is looking into appointing people to the Park Board, has been busy with the paperwork for the hiring of the Village Administrator as well as the ballot for the tax replacement levy language.

Questions/Discussion – What happens if the levy does not pass? The old levy expires. We had to renew or replace and there was no other real choice.

When could we put it on the ballot again if it does not pass? The next ballot would be March or May.

Can we afford to go ahead with the Granville Street purchase if the levy does not pass? It would be questionable. However, the first payment would not be due until October 2025, so may still be doable. More discussion to be held at a later date. Other options are to slow down the contract until after the election.

G. Police Department

Dan discussed the major event that happened on Northridge Road and how our officers were represented. There was also an incident on the Evans Bile Path that our officers handled.

Dan made a request to have \$10,000 transferred from the Police Department Salary Budget to the Police Department Operating Expenses to cover the cost of 4 Police vests. He has obtained a grant so the vests can be purchased and part of the cost reimbursed back to the budget. The vests would ultimately cost \$2,000 and \$6,000 (75% of the actual cost) would be reimbursed to the Police Department Operating Expenses budget. Our officers are out of compliance if they are not wearing non-expired vests.

Question/Discussion – Can officers share vests? Vests are fitted to the officer and are part of the issued police equipment. It would not be feasible to make an officer come to the Village and pick up a vest that may or may not fit him. It is also a waste of time and a safety issue.

Mayor Barnes referred this issue with the Public Safety Committee for discussion and recommendations.

Committee Reports

A. Finance Committee –Mike Miller

All Council members belong to the Finance Committee. Mike and Carol will work on Financial Reports.

B. Public Safety – Carrie Meng, Andrew Bottar-Dillen

The Committee is meeting at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday.

C. Service – Lower

Teeter Totter handles broken – Jim Jasper has fixed in the past

Tractor Status – Waiting on parts

Flowerbeds cannot be done until the tractor is fixed.

209 W. Main Street – Jim Jasper mowed high grass in the public domain right-of-way. Zoning Inspector to follow through on letting owner know expectations for maintaining the property per Zoning Ordinance.

Mayor Barnes has tasked the Service Committee to identify the areas of the Village that are in the most need for services and to start working on plans to find estimates to establish costs, identify grants such as for sidewalks, and to have regular committee meetings. Herb Lower and Kelly Reed are Committee members but there should be a third. Jeff Baer volunteered to join the Committee. Herb is the Chair. That committee decided to meet the second Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

D. Planning – Barnes

The Planning Commission is working on the Zoning Resolution weekly, every Wednesday at 5:30 until the Zoning Resolution is acted upon. Weekly meetings have been posted on the Village Office doors.

Old Business

None

Purchase of building on Granville Street – the owner is making structural improvements and we will wait until that is finished before entering into any contracts. This should take between 2 – 3 weeks.

Question from Herb Lower: Will we be able to afford building on Granville Street if the tax levy doesn't pass.? This should be doable. The first payment wouldn't come up for 1 year.

Zoning Inspector Report

Dan said there is no open burning allowed in the village. All fires must be contained in a fire ring/pit. No tires or trash can be burned. Fines is up to \$500 and up to 6 months in jail.

Discussion was held over the outdoor shower at the Hawk's Nest.

45 S. Liberty needs to be inspected. There are trees down and high weeds.

Jacob and the new Village Administrator will be working on a new template that can be used for different types of violation.

Police – Dan Bunting requested that \$10,000 be moved from the Police Salary Account to the Police Operational Account. There is an available grant for 4 Officer Vests. The cost to the Village would be \$2,000 per vest, which is a greatly reduced price because of the grant. It is mandatory for our offices to wear vests. Question: if money is moved, will there be enough to cover salaries for the rest of the year?

Mayor Barnes suggested that this matter be moved to the Public Safety Committee for further review and tasked them with bringing the results to the next Council meeting.

Committees

Mayor Barnes tasked the Public Safety Committee to have regular meetings and to bring recommendations to the Council. Andrew moved to appoint Jeff Baer to the Public Safety Committee, Seconded by Herb Lower. Herb Lower is the Chair. All voted in favor of this motion.

Jeff announced that they PSC would meet the 2nd Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

Park Board

There currently are no Park Board Members. Discussion was held as to how the Village can advertise that volunteers need to be on the Park Board Committee. Carrie is working on a Village Newsletter.

Herb Lower mentioned that there are several tree stumps in the Park that may need removed. There is money in the Park Board budget but nothing can be spent from that account until there are Park Board members to vote on it.

New Business

Mayor Barnes received notice from the Ohio Department of Liquor Control (?) asking if we want to have a public over the issuance of the Hawk's Nest Liquor permit. The hearing would be held in Newark or in

Columbus. Andrew Bottar-Dillen made a motion saying that we request such a hearing to express any concerns we may have. Discussion was held that this was passed by % of the voters.

The Magistrate.is going to be retiring. What do we need to do to find a new magistrate?

Citizen Comments (2-minute time limit)

No comments

Announcements

Planning Commission Meetings to be held at 5::30 on Wednesday 9/4/2024/ 9/11/2024.

Safety Committee Meeting at 9/5/2024 at 6:00 p.m.

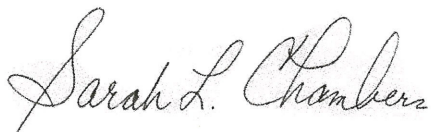
Service Committee to be held on 9?12 at 6:00 p

Next Council Meeting to be held on 9/17/2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mike Miller to adjourn the council meeting, seconded by Jeff Bear. All present voted yes. The meeting was adjourned at 8:5 2 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



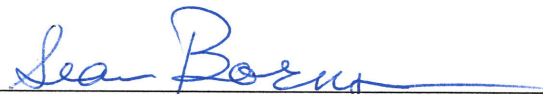
September 3, 2024

Date

Sarah Chambers

Village Secretary

Certified



Sean Barnes, Mayor/Chairperson

9/17/24

Date

