

Village of Shawnee Hills Council Meeting Minutes

February 10, 2024

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

Council in Attendance: Mary Gates, Kathy Isern, Justin LaRosa, Renee Matney, Robert Thatcher and Todd Zimmerman

Also Present: Fiscal Officer Shirley Roskoski, Administrator Russell Baron and Solicitor Brian Zets

Minutes

It was moved by Zimmerman, seconded by Isern to approve the minutes of January 27, 2025 with the following amendments: on page 1, change the date from January 25 to January 27. On page 3, change May to Mayor. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 5; Gates, Isern, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none. Abstain, one; LaRosa.

Agenda

It was moved by Gates, seconded by Zimmerman to approve the agenda. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none.

Solicitor

Brian said he attended the January 28 Planning meeting. I have drafted and sent to Shirley the ordinance for Council to rezone that property. Looking at the math on how that process has to work itself out, Council has 90 days to hold its public hearing after it receives Planning Commission's written report of recommendation. There are a couple deadlines in that mix. The first is that the preliminary development plan, Planning Commission's recommendation and the Zoning Ordinance has to sit for 30 days for public inspection. There is also a notice of advertising period. It is once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper. By my math, I think the first reading of that ordinance can happen the first reading of next month and the second reading and public hearing can happen at the second meeting next month. House Bill 315, which takes effect April 9, made some changes to the Public Records Act. That is the provision that people who are making public records requests for videos can now be charged up to \$75.00 per hour up to \$750.00 for the production of these videos. The average police video is incredibly labor intensive to be able to review them and to redact them. We are working on legislation for all of our clients to make a change to our public records policy.

Village Administrator

Russ gave the following report:

- Altafiber should begin their work in the Village soon! We have also heard from other companies wanting to run fiber to and through the Village. We should have fiber accessible to our residents and businesses by the end of the summer! This is great news for our residents who want this option.

- Worked with our Engineer and Delaware County Economic Development and the Health Department regarding grant funding to upgrade the crosswalks on Dublin Road, which is a priority. Will also be meeting with ODOT next week regarding this and other concerns with Dublin Road.
- Have a meeting next week regarding the Bogey project and hopefully tying it in with other future development along Glick Road to ensure it is cohesive, well planned, and complimentary of each other.
- Playground- Work should begin within the next 45 days, I should be able to post a date soon. The playground will be closed for about 2 weeks. The mulch is being removed and replaced with padded turf, which has a 15-year lifespan. The park will also become more accessible to individuals with disabilities. Keeping up with the rubber mulch is costly, our insurance company requires a certain depth, which to get to and maintain would cost much more than the turf over a 15-year period.
- Main Street Plan- This has been discussed for over a year now, it is a comprehensive plan to effectively impact not only aesthetics, but also includes walkability, stormwater, and traffic calming. This plan has had several layers of review, community, engineering, legal, Planning and Zoning, Shawnee Hills and America in Bloom, and UST to name a few.
- Waste Plan- No significant changes. This is a requirement for them every couple years.
- RFP for Grant writing- We have several projects ahead of us and funding is key. Grant writing is a specialized field that requires a specific skill set. The ordinance today gives the Village the ability to seek proposals for grant writing services. Once we receive proposals back, I will have them for Finance to review. We are not required to bid this out but instead of searching for a grant writer this allows them to come to us, and we pick who we want to work with.
- We have fielded several large public record requests this year from a resident. They are time consuming, costly, and disruptive as there is a required process to be followed and most required legal review. While you are absolutely entitled to make such a request you are also welcome to inspect or view certain records in person. Alternatively, to this process we are always happy to set aside time to meet with a resident and answer questions or concerns, this is a positive to being a smaller community.

Police Chief Report

Chief Baron gave the following report:

Our officers respond to calls day and night ready to meet whatever challenge they face when they arrive. As a police department we strive to ensure every officer is well equipped, properly trained, mentally ready, and most importantly supported to meet whatever challenge they may face day or night. In fact, just this morning our officers responded to a call where a young female was pronounced deceased after an unsuccessful attempt to revive her.

While incidents like this are rare for any typical suburban community, especially ours, our agency is ready to handle them with the same level of confidence we handle the occasional theft at Walgreens. It is very easy to forget that things like this do exist in our community because unfortunately no community is immune. Our community is very fortunate to have such a dedicated group of men and women willing to put on a uniform to willingly place themselves in a situation to help someone that is having their worst day, even if cost them their life.

Life Saving Award

Today we want to honor two of our officers and a citizen that responded to such a call that made a positive impact on a life.

Logan Desellems, an employee of Individual Fitness Solutions, called 911 to report a male in cardiac arrest at a local business. Logan, who was trained in CPR quickly jumped into action and began to administer CPR while waiting on officers to respond. Approximately 1 minute and 16 seconds later, Shawnee Hills Officer Gerdeman arrived on scene first, where he was able to take over CPR on the victim. Approximately 15 seconds later, Shawnee Hills Police Officer Hawkins arrived on scene to assist with CPR taking over compressions after Officer Gerdeman. After Concord Fire Department had arrived, they transported the man to Dublin Methodist Hospital. Officer Gerdeman having known the victim, Pranav Bhattacharya as a resident, he offered Mr. Bhattacharya's two children that were with him at the gym, a ride to the hospital and stayed at the Hospital to check on his status for them.

Here is where we are very proud of our community... One of our residents works for Concord Township Fire who was on the medic truck that day and helped transport Mr. Bhattacharya to the hospital. At the hospital, another one of our residents, a cardiologist, treated Mr. Bhattacharya and was able to also assist in ultimately saving his life.

Our officers responded quickly and through their training and equipment and were able to save a life. Thanks to the actions of our officers and Individual Fitness Solutions Staff he most certainly would not be here today.

I cannot say enough how proud I am of our officers and the community we serve, especially in situations where someone needs help.

Mr. Bhattacharya said I am probably one of the only people in Shawnee Hills who can say that their life was saved because they chose to live in Shawnee Hills. I got the kind of help which is not, in any way, normal. The surgeon said to me that 12 percent that go through this kind of incident actually survive. I survived because my 15-year-old son was in the gym with me and I was still gasping for breath and Logan was already there administering CPR. In less than a few minutes the officers came in and took over the CPR and they continued until the paramedics came in. The paramedics gave me the difib and took me away. My two children were standing outside the gym totally confused. My daughter had run down from our home and they were just confused. The officers talked to them and Officer Gerdeman actually took them to Dublin Methodist Hospital

and made sure that they checked in at the emergency room where I had been admitted. Spoke to the medical staff and by that time some friends had come in so he thought it was okay to leave. Officer Gerdeman came back a couple of hours later and all my friends were so impressed, to check on the kids, to ask if they needed anything or if they needed a ride back. I will always be grateful to Logan and the officers. Thank you so much. I will always be grateful to you for saving my life.

Visitors

Jay Sell, Aspen Energy, said he is here to talk about gas aggregation. Over the last week Columbia Gas of Ohio held a standard choice offer auction. Previous rates last year were NYMEX plus 16.6 cent per ccf. That rate went from NYMEX plus 16.6 cents per ccf to NYMEX plus 32.5 cents per ccf. Big jump in the adder. We are able to offer a savings to you. This will be from April 2025 through March 2026. It is an eleven-month contract. The rate is NYMEX plus .23 cents per ccf. The supplier is Nordic Energy out of Chicago. People can opt out at any time with no fees.

Council member Gates asked where do you see the trend going?

Jay said hopefully the prices will come down over the next year.

Council member LaRosa said we need to do a better job, as a community, to let them know they can opt out.

Shirley said everyone gets an opt-out letter.

Communications

Mayor Mathews said on Wednesday, February 19 we will have a small meeting with Chris Tebbe and Romanelli and Hughes. On Friday, February 21, Russ and I are meeting with Rise Brands, Muirfield, and the City of Dublin to hash out some kind of masterplan for that entire area down there. On February 27 at 6:00 p.m. there will be a ribbon cutting for our newest business, Hydrate Me, down on Glick Road.

Pro Tem Report

Pro Tem Thatcher said I have some housekeeping stuff to do. We need to reaffirm the base committees, Finance, UST, Safety, Arts, P & Z and the others. The standing committee members will remain the same. We also have a new Tree Commission and I want to appoint some members for that and have Council approve it. The Tree Commission members are: Morag Miller, Jennie King, Jennie Vouis, Shirley Roskoski, Kathy Isern, Toni Ellington, Conner Clark and Richard Ey. It was moved by Matney, seconded by Zimmerman to approve the Tree Commission members. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none.

Legislative Actions

First Reading – Ordinance 03-2025 – An Ordinance creating, establishing, and adopting the Village of Shawnee Hills Main Street Plan.

First Reading – Ordinance 04-2025 – An Ordinance to hire Kayla Uzunoff as a full-time Police Clerk for the Village of Shawnee Hills and declaring an emergency.

It was moved by Gates, seconded by Zimmerman to suspend with the second and third readings and declare Ordinance 04-2025 an emergency. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none.

It was moved by Zimmerman, seconded by Thatcher to adopt Ordinance 04-2025 as an emergency. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none.

First Reading – Ordinance 05-2025 – An Ordinance authorizing and directing the Village Administrator or his designee, to solicit requests for proposals to perform grant writing services for the Village of Shawnee Hills

First Reading – Resolution 03-2025 – A Resolution to approve the Delaware-Knox-Marion-Morrow joint Solid Waste Management District’s amended draft Solid Waste Management Plan.

First Reading – Resolution 04-2025 – A Resolution authorizing and directing the Village Administrator and Fiscal Officer to execute an aggregation Agreement with Nordic Energy Services, LLC to provide natural gas supply services and declaring an emergency.

It was moved by Gates, seconded by Isern to suspend with the second and third readings and declare Resolution 04-2025 an emergency. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none.

It was moved by Matney, seconded by LaRosa to adopt Resolution 04-2025 as an emergency. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none.

Bills

It was moved by Zimmerman, seconded by Isern to pay the bills in the amount of \$91,449.13. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none.

Treasurer’s Report

It was moved by Zimmerman, seconded by Thatcher to approve the following treasurer’s report:

General Fund	471,132.15	Enfct. and Education	1,795.98
Street Fund	14,288.75	Fire Fund	111,713.59
State Highway	47,937.91	TIF Fund	83,998.76
PD Body Armor	0.00	TIF 2 Fund	44,649.74
Cont. Pro. Training	13,295.80	Police District Fund	151,237.92
Evans Farm JEDD	13,037.81	Veteran’s Memorial	298.97
Drug Law Enfct.	534.41	Sewer Operating	48,939.64
Indigent Drivers	385.84	Sewer Replacement	7,506.08
Law Enfct. Trust	3,852.20	Storm Sewer Fund	27,652.40
Am Rescue Plan	16,968.14	Debt Service Fund	109,522.87
Weed Fund	648.38	Enterprise Improvement	23,419.00

For a total of \$1,192,816,34

Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none.

Miscellaneous

Mayor Mathews said one item for UST Committee. Chris Tebbe and his employee Jaimie have redone calculations for our sewer rates. I did ask one of them to come to the next UST meeting to update you all on what that projection looks like.

Council member LaRosa said in regards to grant writing, that is a very specialized field. Don't they look for specific things and the availability of finding somebody who does that for a living is way more beneficial to us than trying to keep it in house.

Russ said we do pursue smaller grants, those that are easy to obtain. I talked to the Ohio Criminal Justice services in regards to body camera grants and she said I can always tell the grants that are submitted by a Police Chief versus one submitted by a professional.

Adjournment

There being no further business, it was moved by Isern, seconded by Zimmerman to adjourn. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none. Meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.