

## **Village of Shawnee Hills Council Meeting Minutes**

**May 23, 2022**

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 Gates, seconded by Thatcher to approve the minutes of May 9, 2022 with the following amendment: On page two under Village Administrator, change perceivable to perceivably.

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

### **Agenda**

It was moved by Matney, seconded by Zimmerman to approve the agenda.

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

### **Solicitor**

Brian said it has been a slow two weeks. He has nothing to report.

### **Village Administrator**

Russ said Chipper Day was a success. I think everyone was happy. We had some complaints where people were missed but we went back and got them taken care of.

We have a Town Hall meeting June 6 at 6:30p.m. for the Growing Vibrant Communities initiative.

We continue to monitor a couple of problems. Tall grass notices went out to a handful of properties. So far, a couple of them have complied.

Regarding Maronda, I was informed they would be presenting a smaller number of homes for next month's Planning and Zoning. I have no plans. I have no further information other than they will be back next month and they have changed their plans to a smaller number than what was initially presented.

Richard has been working pretty hard getting things cleaned up.

The new banners have been delivered. We did that in cooperation with the Chamber. We will have a Village banner, then a Chamber banner, then a Music in the Village banner, then a Village banner. This cut the cost down for us and it gives other people the opportunity to highlight things in the village. We are not putting up the American flags this year due to costs. The poles are too close to Dublin Road and the trucks hit them. Our banners are very patriotic.

Thanks to Toni Badgley, the Girl Scouts are taking care of the Veteran's Memorial. It is looking good.

We did order 28-inch planter baskets that wrap around the light poles. We ordered the planters already planted. These baskets have a three-gallon water bladder in them that slow releases into the plants so it will cut down on the watering time.

I did hear from Berlin Township. Too early to tell or have any details on it but the Mayor and I will be meeting with one of their Trustees and County Officials to discuss another potential JEDD.

Brandi Whetstone from MORPC is here to talk about the legislation on the agenda tonight regarding Sustainable 2050.

### **Police Chief Report**

Chief Baron said the new cruiser has been delivered and it is working well.

The e-citations have been installed. We are working out the kinks with Municipal Court.

Hopefully, it will be up and running by the end of the week.

The Memorial Tournament starts May 30.

We do have the noise variance legislation on the agenda tonight. It is the same as years past. The Police Department does not have any issues with that.

Our Child Abduction and Missing Children (CART) Team. We had our National Certification last Wednesday and Thursday. We passed, which is great for Delaware County. We are the only certified team in the State of Ohio. The closest team is Pittsburgh.

Safety Day is June 12 from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. We will have some inflatables, safety activities and live music. It will be at the church on Hillcrest.

### **Visitors**

Brandi Whetstone said she is the Sustainability Officer with MORPC. I know that folks know MORPC for a lot of different programs and services in the region. I am here to talk about sustainability today. I oversee our programs in air and water quality as well as energy and climate. I am also the lead for our Sustainable 2050 program, which is our member engagement program to advance sustainability goals across the region.

Just to give you a little bit of background. MORPC's sustainability work and the region is informed by our regional sustainability agenda. It is updated every four years and we just adopted the newest one last year by the MORPC Board. It is intended to align our members and partners around common goals in the region. The goals include improving air quality and public health, protecting and preserving natural resources, creating sustainable and equitable communities, and also promoting sustainable growth. Within each of those very broad goals there are several measurable objectives that we track as a region. There are about one hundred strategies within those to help provide guidance to our local government members on what they can do to advance sustainable practices in the region.

A little bit about eligibility for the program. You just have to be a MORPC member, which you are, and then the requirements are pretty simple. Today you are talking about the resolution for participation in the program. We also ask our members to designate a local champion and assign a representative. The reason for that is so we have a point of contact with someone in the community who is designated to represent that work and we also host quarterly member meetings so we want to make sure that we get those members out to the meetings so that we can present on those topics of interest and have those really important conversations among other

local governments and peers that are trying to do some of the same things. It is really a great way to share best practices also.

We also like to encourage our members to share data and updates with us so that we can have an idea of the kind of progress that is going on in the regions. We don't have a formal process for doing that right now but there are opportunities for us to recognize our members and their accomplishments.

Some of the benefits of the membership. You get some MORPC staff assistance including information on relevant grant opportunities or relevant programs that support your community's sustainability goals. We can also connect you with opportunities for free technical assistance with OSU.

Recently we started compiling sample legislation for our local government members so that we can provide a legislative tool kit on different types of ordinances or codes that are out there that help support sustainable practices in the community. It can cover a range of topics such as tree protection ordinances, just a whole variety of things, and we are taking ideas from our membership because the program and the needs really are member driven. We are not here to do it for ourselves, we are here to do this work so that it is relevant to our members and the communities that they serve.

I mentioned the member forums already. The next one is June 17 at the Darby Nature Center.

We feature a different topic of interest at the different member meetings as well.

With recognition opportunities, our annual summit on sustainability is one example, also through our tier status certification process, is another way to earn recognition.

There is currently 36 members including MORPC, having a collected impact on Central Ohio through this program. Communities as large as Columbus and as small as the Village of Lockbourne have joined Sustainable 2050 so understandably communities are coming from a different point that may or may not have a lot of resources to advance some of those. We are here to try to make it easy and to encourage communities to do whatever they can to advance along this journey.

You will see the different achievement levels when you first join as a member and pass that resolution. You would be in that green section there as a sustainable 2050 member. There are no requirements, but when our members are ready, we encourage them to reach out so that we can help with that certification process. There are just different recognition levels, the gold, silver and platinum members. It is based on the number of activities that have been achieved by the entity. We provide a tool for local governments to track those. We help to figure out what qualifies as a Sustainable 2050 activity. Whenever your community is ready to dig in to that I am happy to help with that. Once a member has achieved their certification through the program, they will be recognized with a press release, also in front of peers at the MORPC Board meeting where you will also be awarded a street sign if you wanted to display it. I think it is fun because a lot of our local governments can get really competitive in this program and it kind of drives some good conversations and good achievements along the way also.

I just wanted to give you a few examples of member accomplishments and it can range across different categories. Starting from improving the energy efficiency of your municipal buildings, improving the water efficiency or reducing water consumption, also community river cleanups and tree plantings are other similar types of events. Expanding recycling, or starting a composting program for residents. You could have electric vehicle infrastructure for charging. That counts as well as EV vehicles on your fleets. Expanding parks, trails and green space or adopting different policies that support sustainable practices. It could be managing storm water

through rain gardens and rain barrels and partnering with your Soil and Water Conservation district on different programs like that. There are just a lot of different examples to provide. One final note; I wanted to update you because this is something newer that we are doing. We partnered with OSU through their City and Regional Planning Program and Sustainability Institute. We found a really great need for technical assistance on sustainability plans or specific projects from our members and there are studio and capstone courses at OSU that are looking for those real work projects and we thought this is a great match if we can be proactive about it, take applications from our local governments and identify the projects that would be a good fit for some of these classroom projects over a semester. It could be research, it could be developing a plan or a map. There are a range of projects that can be submitted. They must promote sustainability or resiliency, but a wide range, including transportation, economic development and housing, as long as there is a sustainable component to that. For this round, we identified Gahanna, Somerset, Reynoldsburg and Bexley. They will be participating this fall in those different studio classes.

### **Communications**

Mayor Mathews said I am on the same schedule as Brian. Really, not a whole lot this last two weeks. As Russ mentioned, looking forward to this next potential JEDD.

### **Pro Tem Report**

Pro Tem Thatcher said I am working with the people who developed and designed the Veteran's Memorial. I made some calls. I have more to make. The American Legion is doing their normal Memorial Day service at Jerome Cemetery and down at Dublin. It is a new route this year. It actually goes on their new bridge so it will be somewhat different.

### **Legislative Actions**

First Reading – Resolution 08-2022 – A Resolution of Commitment to Sustainable 2050.

First Reading - Ordinance 13-2022 – An Ordinance to grant variances to the provisions of the Shawnee Hills Code Section 509.09 to allow applicant, Bogey Inn, to deviate from time and volume standards for the Memorial Tournament and declaring an emergency.

It was moved by Gates, seconded by Isern to suspend with the second and third readings and declare Ordinance 13-2022 an emergency. Following vote on the motion was recorded: yea, 6; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none. Motion passed.

It was moved by Matney, seconded by Zimmerman to adopt Ordinance 13-2022 as an emergency. Following vote on the motion was recorded: yea, 6; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none. Motion passed.

First Reading – Ordinance 14-2022 – An Ordinance authorizing the Village Administrator, or his designee, to advertise for bid to pave portions of numerous streets within the Village of Shawnee Hills and declaring an emergency.

Council member Isern said we do street paving every year. Why is this an emergency?

Council member Thatcher said we could not put it out because we wouldn't have it approved for over thirty days. We couldn't even put it out for bid before then and with the prices changing they have to come up with everything.

Russ said if we do three reading we would not be able to put this out until the end of July and it has to be out for bid for six weeks.

Council member Isern asked is this something we can back up on assessing what the needs are or do you have to wait for Spring to see where the damages are?

Russ said I have been talking about paving since about December. Chris and Mark both made me wait until after the last freeze and the last plow.

Council member Thatcher said this is something we have addressed in almost every UST meeting we have had. We had hoped to have this in April. We have not paved or two years.

It was moved by Thatcher, seconded by Zimmerman to suspend with the second and third readings and declare Ordinance 14-2022 an emergency. Following vote on the motion was recorded: yea, 6; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none. Motion passed.

It was moved by Gates, seconded by Matney to adopt Ordinance 14-2022 as an emergency.

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

### **Bills**

It was moved by Matney, seconded by Zimmerman to approve the bills in the amount of \$89,173.10. Following vote on the motion was recorded: yea, 6; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none. Motion passed.

### **Treasurer's Report**

It was moved by Zimmerman, seconded by Thatcher to approve the following treasurers report:

General Fund	343,129.31	TIF Fund	82,483.07
Street Fund	434,313.10	TIF 2 Fund	27,718.62
State Hwy. Fund	26,150.45	Police District	112,634.25
Drug Law Enfct.	534.41	Veteran's Mem	248.97
Indigent Drivers	385.84	Sewer Oper.	29,295.38
Law Enfct. Trust	11,104.19	Sewer Replct.	13,036.08
American Rescue	20,298.75	Storm Sewer	11,938.24
Enfct. & Education	1,245.85	Debt Service	121,938.24
Fire Fund	164,420.98	Cont. Profess. Train.	2,535.48
Evans Farm JEDD	.91		

For a total of \$1,402,957.16

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

### **Miscellaneous**

Council member Gates said she would like to give a thank you to Kim Lascola and Amy Girten who live on Pawnee. They helped Connie Frambes rejuvenate Jack Frambes Memorial Park over off of Parkview. They edged everything, put in new plants that are deer resistant. They did a really great job. We are just waiting for mulch, so this was a great public/private kind of miniature situation that worked out really well.

Council member Isern said I have a question for Brian. At the last meeting there was a question about whether or not the village could receive any taxes from RITA for the Airbnb house that is in the village. Have you had a chance to check on this?

Brian said he is still working on that.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, it was moved by Zimmerman, seconded by Thatcher to adjourn. Following vote on the motion was recorded: yea, 6; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none. Meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

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Fiscal Officer

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Mayor