

Village of Shawnee Hills Council Meeting Minutes

February 27, 2023

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 Zimmerman to approve the minutes of February 13, 2023 with the following amendment: on page five, last sentence, change *our* to *are*.

Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 5; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney and Zimmerman. Abstain, one; Thatcher. Nay, none.

Agenda

It was moved by Matney, 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 after the last UST meeting there is legislation on the agenda tonight from that. I also worked with Russ on the Equity Development agreement that is also on the agenda tonight. I will be attending the planning and zoning meeting tomorrow.

Village Administrator

Code Enforcement – A handful of letters were sent out recently and I know there has been some chatter on Facebook about a business. First of all, we have to treat every business owner the same. Whether they are a nice guy and have been around forever or if they are a brand new business owner. We have to treat them the same. We have been dealing with the one specific property, the Wine Snob. To clear up some things, the village never said he couldn't open in Shawnee Square. That was an issue with the landlord. He didn't have a lease with the landlord and the landlord asked him to leave. That was not the village's wrong doing. We have made several attempts to work with him. He has been through five engineers in the last year. He is currently under a stop work order because he was working without any approval, any plans, no drainage plans, which we know is bad news for the neighbors. We hope, in the future, the business owner comes through with some good plans and we can work with him. The village would love to see a business operating there. We would love to see the mud cleaned up.

Fees – Mark and I met this morning and I have been working for a few weeks on reviewing all of our zoning fees in our code. Most of them have not been revisited since 2011. Prices have gone up. Engineering fees have gone up. Our process has become more involved. There are more intricate projects, so we are revisiting those fees.

Equity Agreement – I know a lot about this agreement. I have been going back and forth on this for the last year and a half with Brian on this agreement. That was something that I believe that Pat and Craig, the former administrator, had kind of signaled to Equity that we were going to contribute towards the traffic light. Obviously, we couldn't just cut them a check for \$75,000.00. We have come to the agreement that you have in front of you. This will be part of our cost sharing.

Council member Matney said since this has been in the works for quite a while, why is there a need for this to be an emergency now? This project has been going on a long time. We should have had ample time to review the legislation.

Brian said their deadline to complete their improvements is March 31. Our improvements do not have to be completed by then so arguably our agreement does not have to be signed until our improvements are installed. It does not have to be an emergency.

Russ said I do know some of the work in there we would like to have done by the Memorial Tournament. We can discuss this more at the second reading.

Village Rock – We added a sidewalk on Glick Road and when you walk down there, it looks beautiful. When you walk by the rock you see an extension cord, a bunch of debris and rocks that have fallen down from our village entrance rock. Bobby Nothstine was working on the Vets Memorial and we diverted his attention to look at the village rocks and he gave us a phenomenal price to fix both of them. The one on Dublin Road is leaning. He is going to straighten that one. We are going to put a decorative wall behind the rocks.

Planning and Zoning – We have had very little contact with the proposal for tomorrow night's meeting. We will have a staff report on that.

Paving – I am working on paving for 2023. I would really like to get it done early if we could.

Police Chief

Chief Baron said our new officer, Mycca Meyers, is here tonight.

We did get the bulletproof vest grant again this year. It is about \$2,400.00 for body armor.

I provided all of you with the annual report.

Visitors

Carol Kender said she wanted to thank everyone who cooperated with the Grand Opening of Holy Moses. Dolce Vita Baby Boutique will have their Grand Opening on March 17 at noon. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Communications

Mayor Mathews said tomorrow I am meeting with Maumee Bay Brewing Company.

Arbor Day is April 28.

Planning and Zoning will have a meeting tomorrow night. These are often contentious and this reminds me, back in 2013, the CV Real Property. We have to be able to separate what a concept proposal is and what an actual concept is. There is a concept of multi-family that the village can

consider but this is an actual concept of a development and we have to be able to separate the two. It can't be contentious. It is going to be emotional but it can't be contentious because we are trying to figure out the right thing. Don't misconstrue one for the other. They are two separate things.

Pro Tem Report

Pro Tem Thatcher said I am working with the American Legion Post 800 to do something for the Vets Memorial re-dedication on Memorial Day. Our meeting is in the next couple of weeks.

Committee Reports

Council member Gates said Finance met tonight. We had a review of finances which is pretty much the same as last year. We talked about a new police vehicle. There was a lot of discussion about it. With a down payment we can knock the price down for a sixty-month lease at a monthly payment of \$676.00. This will be replacing the Dodge Journey. The thought is with the Dodge Journey we will use that for the municipal employees to use. We would put a village sticker sign on both sides. We felt this would be a better option than the employees using their own vehicles for business around the village. Russ talked about zoning fees.

Legislative Actions

First Reading – Resolution 04-2023 – A Resolution authorizing and directing the Village Administrator and Fiscal Officer to execute a development agreement with Equity, LLC and declaring an emergency.

Council member Matney said the cost is broken out by what Equity is paying and what we are paying. Video Detection System. Is that to trip the light? Russ said yes. She said the design is mostly engineering stuff and the control box is so we can adjust it when we have the tournament and all that good stuff. Russ said yes.

First Reading – Ordinance 04-2023 – An Ordinance amending Section 921.03 (A) (Potable Water User Charge) and Section 921.03 (B) (Well Water User Charge) of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of Shawnee Hills and declaring an emergency.

Council member Matney said I have real concerns about all four pieces of our legislation being emergencies tonight. This is a definite need to do and Chris explained at the last meeting why we need to raise the rates. I feel like this is a big thing and we need to make sure that everyone in the community has the opportunity to review this. We just talked about it last month and then we go ahead and raise the rate this month. I agree with the legislation but I don't want it to be an emergency.

Council member Zimmerman asked Shirley, if we suspend this, how far out are we then.

Shirley said you can go to a second reading and if it is passed as an emergency the increased rates will be on the March invoices. If you go to three readings, the increased rates will not go out until the May bills.

Council member Matney said I feel like we are already in the hole, obviously, so what's waiting another month or two. We just raised the trash prices and now we want to raise the sewer rates, which are needed, but we want to make sure we give our community time to digest that.

Council member Zimmerman said I understand and I agree. I just wanted to ask her exactly how far out we would be.

Russ said I want to clarify something. We are not raising the sewer prices. The City of Columbus is raising the prices.

First Reading – Ordinance 05-2023 – An Ordinance amending Section 925.02 of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of Shawnee Hills and repealing Chapter 925 Appendix A (Sewer Capacity Charges for the Village of Shawnee Hills) and declaring an emergency.

Council member Matney asked do we have any foreseeable, in the next month or two, anyone that we think will be paying a tap fee.

Russ said unless planning and zoning gets an application in the next couple of weeks. I don't foresee them getting one but they very well could. This affects new builds. I would recommend that we look at this one as an emergency because we do not know what is going to happen tomorrow.

Council member Isern asked where do these new proposed rates fall in regards to the surrounding communities.

Shirley said Chris provided us with the surrounding communities rates and I think these are in line with Dublin.

It was moved by Zimmerman, seconded by Thatcher to suspend with the second and third readings and declare Ordinance 05-2023 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 LaRosa to adopt Ordinance 05-2023 as an emergency. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none.

First Reading – Ordinance 06-2023 – An Ordinance designating First Commonwealth Bank as the village depository and declaring an emergency.

Council member Matney said did I read that right. Did it really expire December 1, 2021?
Shirley said yes.

Mayor Mathews said it doesn't mean anything really. We still have our money deposited in their bank.

It was moved by Zimmerman, seconded by Gates to suspend with the second and third readings and declare Ordinance 06-2023 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 06-2023 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 \$30,885.91. 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 Matney, seconded by Gates to approve the following treasurer's report:

General Fund	493,751.98	Enfct. and Education	1,245.85
Street Fund	408,659.31	Fire Fund	70,672.93
State Highway	33,890.46	TIF Fund	92,161.26
PD Body Armor	2,753.48	TIF 2 Fund	28,886.54
Cont. Pro. Training	2,535.48	Police District Fund	57,126.63
Evans Farm JEDD	41.27	Veteran's Memorial	298.97
Drug Law Enfct.	534.41	Sewer Operating	29,192.51
Indigent Drivers	385.84	Sewer Replacement	8,006.08
Law Enfct. Trust	3,259.20	Storm Sewer Fund	16,345.20
Am Rescue Plan	63,418.14	Debt Service Fund	104,268.98

For a total of \$1,417,434.52

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

Miscellaneous

Council member LaRosa asked if the body armor grant went into the Body Armor Fund?

Russ said the Body Armor Fund. He said it is a 75% reimbursement grant. We have to purchase body armor for the two new officers we hired. We spend it first and then it will come back.

Council member LaRosa asked when the new traffic light will be working.

Russ said I do not have a date yet.

Adjournment

There being no further business, it was moved by Zimmerman, seconded by Thatcher to adjourn. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none. Meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.