

Village of Shawnee Hills Council Meeting Minutes

March 13, 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 27, 2023 with the following amendment: change *nights* to *night's*. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none.

Agenda

It was moved by Gates, seconded by Isern to approve the agenda with the following amendments: The First Reading for Resolution 06-2023, instead of tow, it should be two. On Resolution 05-2023, in Section1, you are talking about a Chevy Tahoe, but in Section 2, you talk about a Ford Explorer. On the payment listing the names have dropped down. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none.

Solicitor

Brian said I did attend the February 29 Planning and Zoning meeting where we continued our discussion of the Urban Density Residential District. Some additional things to look at came out of that. I have been working with Mark on some of the zoning matters that we did. We drafted a zoning complaint for one of our residents. We are in the process of working that one through the court system. Resolution 06-2023, the Police Levy legislation that is on there. It is not written as an emergency because under the statute the legislation will take effect immediately upon its passage. I will say, if council chooses, you can waive the three readings and just read it once and adopt it tonight. We have time because it is for the November ballot. We have to get this done and wait for the Auditor to get the numbers back to us. You will then have to do another piece of legislation to get it on the ballot.

Village Administrator

Russ said the traffic light is operational. They are still going to adjust some of the timing on it. The equipment that is up there, except for the actual lights and the poles, the beams, everything else is temporary to get the plaza operational. They are waiting for the new equipment to come in.

Council member Matney asked if they would be putting the stop bars in.

Russ said Equity will be painting stop bars.

I want to reiterate, since the light is drawing a lot of attention. That was not the village's decision to put the traffic light in. It was required via a traffic study for the plaza that came in.

We had a bicycle accident on the sidewalk in front of Equity. The sidewalks are designed for pedestrian traffic, not bicycles. Equity is installing additional safety measures. It is in our easement but it is on their property, most of that entrance way. We met with the engineer and them last week and we are going to start off with some safety measures and if it still continues to be an issue we can increase those.

Paving has been sent to Chris. Once I hear back, I will have it for UST so that we can discuss it. One of the areas we are looking at is Shawnee Trail and Glick Road. It is really bad. We are going to try to get most of the paving as early as we can to fix those areas.

The village rock upgrades are done. Waiting on the landscaping.

The Veterans Memorial is done. We are waiting on the tile top. I am meeting with a lighting company tomorrow for those areas.

The street light conversion on Dublin and Glick are complete. I am waiting on the engineer's plan to add additional lighting on Glick Road. I did speak with Edison on the overhead lights because there is one light they missed across the street for the Bogey that they will come back and change out. They still owe us the extra lights between El Vaquero and Third Base.

All of our banner brackets are going to be replaced this year. Most of them are rusted out. Because it is really not safe to change these banners north of Mohawk, where there are no sidewalks, we really can't get in there. We are going to do banners from Mohawk south and also on Glick Road. Glick Road will get double banners so we can do something with the Chamber or businesses down there. They can have one side and we will have the other side.

We repurposed the stone from the village rocks to add another rock wall at Frambes Park. Fortin Iron Works will be taking the pump that is at the park and fix it and refinish it. There is a big crack in it right now.

We met with Larry Burchfield two times last week. He was shown exactly what he needs to submit and resubmit. Mark reviewed his entire submission. We are really trying to work with him to get that completed but there are steps he needs to take before he comes back to ABR. The owners of Ohio Groundskeeping are out of the country right now. When they return we will establish a line of communication and push them to keep working.

We are evaluating our current crosswalks on Dublin Road. We are focusing on the ones across from Dells. We had our second pedestrian hit in two years in front of Dells. Neither one used the button to get across. This is one thing Chris and I are looking at and right now, per the traffic counts, our crosswalks are suitable for what we have now. Looking forward five, ten, fifteen years in the future with some issues. We get complaints about near misses in the crosswalks. We are looking at grants to apply for. Some take two to four years to get.

Council member Matney said now if somebody doesn't stop you can't cite them or anything. What do you need to do to make them legit?

Russ said you don't have to stop. If the pedestrian is in the roadway, you absolutely have to stop, blinking lights or not. We are looking at a particular signal that has a mast arm that would turn Dublin Road red. There is a sensor and there will also be a button to push.

I attended the Shawnee Hills Blooms meeting. They are working on their spring plantings and they are planning out a watering schedule to help us out. We have the flower post and we are looking at putting them at various locations in the village.

Met with the Chamber and I think we are going to move forward with a couple of trash cans in some public spaces. Really excited for things to work to brighten up our main street. Some of the flower ideas and plantings they have were really cool.

Council member Zimmerman asked Russ if Equity was supposed to put in mounding on their north side between Galbreath's and their property.

Russ said I think that was part of the PUD behind it and not Equity's. I will have to go back and look.

Communications

Mayor Mathews said there will be a survey that everybody will receive. This is stemming from the Planning and Zoning meeting that we had. Russ, Kathy and Brian worked on preparing a survey that will be going out dealing with multi-family housing. We received our Tree City USA certificate for our second straight year.

Pro Tem Report

Pro Tem Thatcher said I will be meeting on Wednesday with the Veterans Group, Post 800, and we will be talking about what we are going to do for the park rededication. They said Memorial Day was doable because they were already doing a parade in the area so hopefully we can piggy back on that.

Committee Reports

Pro Tem Thatcher said UST did not meet today.

Council member Isern said Planning and Zoning did meet the end of February. It was a well-attended meeting. Two and a half hours long. We did listen to a presentation about a potential development for the property north of Straders that has a cell tower in the middle of it. That was a multi-use proposal with some commercial in the front and potentially condominiums to the rear which would need to be addressed in our zoning code. As a result of the discussion in the meeting we devised a questionnaire for the residents that will be mailed out, hopefully, in the next day or two. Due back here in the office by March 24 so that we can have the results before the March 28 Planning and Zoning meeting.

Legislative Actions

Second 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 I thought we decided at the last meeting that we decided this could go through the three readings. Am I wrong?

Shirley said I could not change the legislation.

Renee said I do not think it should be an emergency.

There was no motion for an emergency.

Second 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 this one needed to be an emergency because it needed to be in time for which bill cycle Shirley?

Shirley said for the March bill.

Council member Matney asked do we know what dollar amount we would be losing if we didn't and we had it on the April bill? This is one where we are forced to raise the sewer rates and we want to make sure we have ample time.

Both Council members Gates and Zimmerman said we are not raising it, Columbus did.

Council member Matney said correct. In turn we have to raise our rates.

Shirley said we are losing money since Columbus raised their rates in January.

Council member Matney said it has been going on this long. I guess I, again, the trash just went up. It is open for discussion.

Council member Gates said I disagree. I think we should do it on an emergency.

Council member Zimmerman said I do too. There is no reason the village should pay out of pocket.

Council member Matney said I will say it again. I said it at the last meeting. I hate when we do emergencies. It feels like we are trying to push something through quickly and I don't like that at all. I know sometimes it is required or it's need and I understand your thinking but I just feel like we should avoid it at all cost when possible.

It was moved by Zimmerman, seconded by Gates to suspend with the third reading and declare Ordinance 04-2023 an emergency. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 5; Gates, Isern, Larosa, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, one; Matney.

It was moved by Gates, seconded by Zimmerman to adopt Ordinance 04-2023 as an emergency. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none.

First Reading – Resolution 05-2023 – A Resolution authorizing the Mayor and Fiscal Officer to enter into a contract with Tax Exempt Leasing Corp. For a lease purchase agreement for a 2023 Chevrolet Tahoe Special 4wd and declaring an emergency.

Council member Isern asked why is this an emergency.

Russ said with that, and I know you hear Tahoe, and you think seventy, eighty thousand dollar SUV. We get a special price on it. The price for the Tahoe is just a little bit more than the price of a Ford Explorer. Maintenance wise, the Ford Explorer is turning out much expensive to own for police departments than the Tahoe. That is why we are going with the Tahoe. This is a special police car and it is State contract pricing. The reason why it was listed as an emergency today or the next meeting is the quote for the finance is only good for so many days. This should be ready in April. The equipment could be four to six weeks.

It was moved by Zimmerman, seconded by Gates to suspend with the second and third readings and declare Resolution 05-2023 an emergency. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 5; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, one; Matney.

It was moved by Isern, seconded by Thatcher to adopt Resolution 05-2023 as an emergency. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 5; Gates, Isern, Larosa, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, one; Matney

First Reading – Resolution 06-2023 – A Resolution declaring the necessity to levy a tax outside the ten-mil limitation, requesting the Delaware County Auditor certify to the Village of Shawnee Hills and the dollar amount of revenue that will be generated by the renewal of a two and one-half (2.50) mills, three (3) year tax levy for providing and maintaining motor vehicles, communications, other equipment, buildings, and sites for such buildings used directly in the operation of a police department, for the payment of salaries of permanent or part-time police, communications, or administrative personnel to operate the same, including the payment of any employer contributions required for such personnel under R.C. 145.48 or R.C. 742.33.

It was moved by Zimmerman, seconded by Gates to suspend with the second and third readings and declare Resolution 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 Thatcher, seconded by Isern to adopt Resolution 06-2023 as an emergency. Following vote on the motion is recorded; yea, 6; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none.

First Reading – Ordinance 07-2023 - An Ordinance to reappropriate funds for current expenses and other expenditures of the Village of Shawnee Hills, State of Ohio, during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2023.

Shirley said this is for the payments for the new cruiser.

Bills

It was moved by Gates, seconded by Thatcher to pay the bills in the amount of \$61,102.75. 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 Isern to approve the following treasurer’s report:

General Fund	412,039.25	Enfct. and Education	1,245.85
Street Fund	408,036.98	Fire Fund	70,672.93
State Highway	33,910.60	TIF Fund	83,469.26
PD Body Armor	2,753.48	TIF 2 Fund	28,886.54
Cont. Pro. Training	2,535.48	Police District Fund	124,543.40
Evans Farm JEDD	41.27	Veteran’s Memorial	298.97
Drug Law Enfct.	534.41	Sewer Operating	35,280.95
Indigent Drivers	385.84	Sewer Replacement	8,006.08
Law Enfct. Trust	3,259.20	Storm Sewer Fund	17,409.13
Am Rescue Plan	63,418.14	Debt Service Fund	104,492.78

For a total of \$1,403,492.78

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

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 7:31 p.m.