

## Village of Shawnee Hills Council Meeting Minutes

November 8, 2021

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 October 25, 2021 with the following amendments: on page 2, change *conb* to *comb* and change *side of that in*, to *side of that, in*. On page 3, change *be proud of for the years* to *proud of for years*. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none. Motion passed.

### Agenda

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

### Solicitor

Brian said I worked on the two resolutions that are on the agenda for first readings tonight. I worked with Mark a little bit on a zoning matter and had to issue a stop work order on a property owner who was doing things that he should not have been doing.

We had a four-way meeting with Equity last Monday with respect to their development and some agreements and some things we are working on to keep that project moving.

Looking ahead, Larry Burchfield has a rezoning of his property on Dublin Road that he now wants to turn into the Wine Snob. That legislation will be coming in front of council at the next meeting.

### Village Administrator

Russ said we met with Equity last week. I explained to them that we have been more than fair with our zoning enforcement down there. We received a lot of complaints on the property. They have started to clean up the lot.

The property between El Vaquero and Walgreen's, as Brian has mentioned, we issued a stop work order. I received several inquiries about non-permitted work going on at that property. The property owner has been given instructions on how to comply with the code, what to do, how to submit it, and how to fill out the application several times. It wasn't until we physically put a stake in the ground with a big yellow sign that he actually stopped. We had issued a stop work order the night before that he removed and continued working. There is a rezoning for that lot coming up and Brian and I have talked and that is separate from any issues with his current construction on the site. I hope you folks will consider it separate moving forward.

Met with Ohio Groundskeeping last week. They shared some setbacks that they have had. They understand our frustration. The fencing around the hole in the ground, apparently the last Administrator told them to remove it, that it was an eyesore. They agreed that they will put it back up. They agreed to make progress sufficient for the village within thirty days. We will meet with them again in December to track that progress. The footers for the steps were poured wrong twice per the County. The pitch on the roof on the porch was wrong per the plans. That will be torn off and has to be redone. What they relayed to me was they take three steps forward and two steps backwards. We are going to communicate and track that progress and work with them. Taking them to Court did not change the situation. It just cost them and us money.

Working to get the O'Shaughnessy Crossing project stabilized. I have a meeting tomorrow with Mark and Chris and a representative of that property. We haven't been able to reach anyone on the one side. There are investors that want to move forward and get the property stabilized to comply with our code.

The PIO position. I posed this to Finance and I had a couple of residents ask me about it. This position will cost the village less than \$6,000.00 annually. Up to five hours a week, barring an emergency situation. This person would be responsible for communicating through social media, taking over the village newsletter, and any media releases. To date, anything that leaves the village and winds up on 10TV or Columbus Dispatch, it is usually negative. This person would be responsible for helping change that narrative.

Council member LaRosa said this is not just what we are doing in Council. This is everything like the Christmas Tree, everything.

Council member Matney said one of the main purposes is to have more transparency and keep communication open about what is going on in the village.

Russ said I believe we are all doing what we are supposed to do per our job, but we miss that piece that a lot of communities have, that community liaison, that public relations person. A resident volunteer sounds great, but with discussions I have had with other entities that have PIO's, it's not the best scenario. This person will have to follow our policies and procedures. This person will be a village employee because they are responsible for the message leaving us, going to the community or outside sources. During an emergency situation, it allows everyone to do their job and not have to worry about what is going on outside.

### **Visitors**

Carol Kender congratulated the Mayor and Council members on their re-election. She said the Chamber's annual meeting is December 11 at 9:00 a.m. at the Morgan House. The speaker is Judge Jim Schuck so if you all want to be sworn in, in tandem, I am sure Jim would be happy to take care of it.

### **Communications**

Mayor Mathews said we did meet with Equity last Monday. We will meet with Equity again. There's a lot of engineering stuff going back and forth. I want to thank the Police, Flanagan Insurance Company and the Civic for the trick-or-treat tailgate. There were 350 hot dogs handed out. I think Halloween around here is pretty cool.

## **Pro Tem Report**

Pro Tem Thatcher said the Veteran's Memorial will be Saturday, November 13 at 11:00 a.m. We have a local singing the National Anthem and we have a local guy speaking.

## **Committee Reports**

Council member Isern said Planning and Zoning did meet and we did approve a recommendation of rezoning to Council. The letters and legislation will be coming before Council.

## **Legislative Actions**

Third Reading – Resolution 17-2021 – A Resolution to increase the rate of pay for Mark Katzenbach, code Enforcement Officer for the Village of Shawnee Hills, Ohio.

It was moved by Gates, seconded by Isern to adopt Resolution 17-2021. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none. Motion passed.

Third Reading – Resolution 18-2021 – A Resolution to increase the rate of pay for Shirley Roskoski, Fiscal Officer for the Village of Shawnee Hills, Ohio.

It was moved by Matney, seconded by LaRosa to adopt Resolution 18-2021. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none. Motion passed.

Third Reading – Ordinance 17-2021 – An Ordinance to appropriate funds for current expenses and other expenditures of the Village of Shawnee Hills, State of Ohio, during the fiscal year ending December 31, 2022.

It was moved by Thatcher, seconded by Zimmerman to adopt Ordinance 17-2021. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none. Motion passed.

First Reading – Resolution 19-2021 – A Resolution authorizing the Chief of Police or his designee, to discard, salvage, or scrap Police Cruiser #53 and declaring an emergency.

It was moved by Gates, seconded by Isern to suspend with the second and third readings and declare Resolution 19-2021 an emergency. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none. Motion passed.

It was moved by Matney, seconded by Zimmerman to adopt Resolution 19-2021 as an emergency. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none. Motion passed.

First Reading – Ordinance 18-2021 – An Ordinance establishing and creating the part-time position of Public Information Officer within the Village of Shawnee Hills.

## **Bills**

It was moved by LaRosa, seconded by Matney to pay the bills in the amount of \$115,962.46. Following vote on the motion is recorded: yea, 6; Gates, Isern, LaRosa, Matney, Thatcher and Zimmerman. Nay, none. Motion passed.

**Treasurer’s Report**

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

General	269,686.07	Weed	3,157.30
Street	365,071.36	TIF	59,980.57
State Highway	23,525.32	TIF 2	17,366.65
PD Body Armor	810.52	Police District Fund	52,633.73
Drug Law Enfct.	534.41	Veteran’s Memorial	248.97
Indigent Driver	385.84	Sewer Operating	3,314.59
Law Enfct. Trust	5,963.53	Sewer Replacement	13,211.08
Enfct. and Education	1,220.85	Storm Sewer	6,859.03
Fire Levy	74,957.57	Debt Service	73,560.61
American Rescue Plan	42,947.94		

For a total of \$1,048,436.21.

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

**Miscellaneous**

Council member Matney said I just wanted to add to what Dan said earlier about Halloween and the Police Department and how really nice and fantastic and what a great evening it was. Everyone really enjoyed it, fantastic job.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, it was moved by Matney, 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 7:22 p.m.

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Fiscal Officer

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Mayor