ROLL CALL: Beshara, Boester, Domanick, Lyons, Phillipbar and Waszak. ABSENT: Stoppenhagen.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Wheeler, Police Chief Swanson, Fire Lt. Ellis, Finance Director Turk, Service Director Papp, Planning and Zoning Director Frantz and Law Director Cortes.

MOTION: TO excused the absence of Mr. Stoppenhagen.
Moved by Domanick, seconded by Waszak. Upon roll call, motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 21, 2020 REGULAR MEETING, AS AMENDED.
Moved by Beshara, seconded by Philippbar. Upon roll call, motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

Frantz informed Council that the Planning & Zoning Commission has recommended the adoption of Ordinance 5-2020 (accessory building and accessory use definition) by a 3-2 margin.

Dan Holahan of the PZC wrote a letter to Council explaining his opposition to Ordinance 5-2020.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Wheeler met with representatives of Revere schools and Bath Township on Jan. 22. While Bath is not interested in merging with the Richfield Fire Department, the units will consider more cooperation. Wheeler is discussing a merger with the Valley Fire Department.

The mayor and Frantz are exploring ideas for economic development and property acquisition. Wheeler met with the Mayors Association of Portage, Summit & Stark on Jan. 28. Wheatley Road and Route 303 are scheduled to be repaved in 2023.

He is also working with Papp on repaving prospects. Seven roads that are in the “red zone” must be repaved because once they get to a certain point, they deteriorate rapidly.
DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Chief Swanson – Police

**Calls for Service:**
Village 1,149  Township 249

**Report**

Our officers have actively been working the STEP (Selective Traffic Enforcement Program), IDEP (Impaired Driving Enforcement Program), and DDEP (Drugged Driving Enforcement Program).

These programs are being funded with grant money from the State of Ohio, due to the number of fatal accidents in previous years. The officers’ overtime wages earned while working traffic enforcement for the program are submitted by the police department and reimbursed by the state. There are also training dollars that are being submitted for reimbursement to the village—related to traffic enforcement.

We are sending two officers to an armors school, so they can be certified to service our weapons. This will save costs and downtime when a weapon requires service.

As tax season approaches, so do all the related scams reported to the police department every year. Fraudsters use everyone’s fear of the IRS to commit these scams. Many of these scams involve suspects posing as IRS agents—threatening arrest. The IRS will never randomly call anyone; they will send a letter or several letters indicating there is a problem. Also, they will never demand payment via gift cards. There are numerous other types of scams every year. Contact the police department with any questions and seek advice from a tax professional.
Lt. Ellis—Fire

Ellis said the department recently prevented a patient from having a stroke.

**Report:**

- I apologize; I will not be able to attend the Council meeting. Lt. Ellis will be attending and giving the response totals for January. (Village EMS 50, Village Fire 14, Township EMS 10, Township Fire 9, Mutual Aid 9, Total 92.)
- The house and garage at 2459 Donna Drive were removed on January 27 under the direction of the County Land Bank. We did monitor some of the process.
- We are getting proposals from two different ambulance builders. They have both had demonstration units at the FD.
- The FEMA grant application process has opened, so we will be submitting our application for the diesel exhaust system costs.
- I attended a meeting on behalf of Mayor Wheeler at University Hospitals. They reviewed their Phase 2 expansion and additional services they can offer to communities. This was well attended by mayors and fire chiefs.
- Mayor Wheeler and I met with Chief Rob Campbell and Vito Sinopoli from Bath to talk about more collaboration between the two fire departments. It was agreed the two chiefs would get the Fire Officers together and have a think tank roundtable. Staffing, recruitment and retention are ongoing problems for combination Fire Departments.
- I am working with Federal Signal to have them perform preventative maintenance on the tornado siren.

**Recreation**

The Second Annual Snowbird Festival, hosted in conjunction with Richfield Township and Richfield Joint Recreation District on Sunday, January 26, 2020, was a great success with over 340 people in attendance. A very special thank you to our partners, Mindy Remec, RTWP & RJRD, and Sandy Apidone, RJRD.

It was a pleasure to work collaboratively on this project with these professionals. All of our individual skills blended and complemented each other, and the success was truly a great collaborative effort for our residents. Thank you to those Council members who also took the
time out their Sunday to volunteer for this appreciation event. Plans for the 2021 event are underway. Below are a few pictures:

1. Owl from Akron Zoo  
2. Dog Sledding Team  
3. VOR Council “Penguin Pack”

University Hospitals (Rainbow Babies) will be sponsoring their baby-sitting program, Baby Sitting: Safe Sitter, on Friday, April 3 from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. for children aged 11 to 13 at the Recreation Center. Class fee is $55. Lunch will be provided, and sitters should bring a water bottle. UH is handling the registration for this program, so anyone interested should contact UH directly, Rachel.farinelli@uhhospitals.org or call 216-983-1110.

The 2020 Art Show is scheduled for Saturday, March 28 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Interested artists should contact staff at recreationdept@richfieldvillageohio.org or call 330-659-5818 to register. The entry form will be available on the Village website on February 3.

Summer Camp Assistants are being sought, and anyone interested should contact the Recreation Department or the Mayor’s Office, dbluso-rogers@richfieldvillageohio.org or call 330-659-9201, ext.234. Online job description and application will be posted on the Village’s website, “Employment Opportunities,” on February 3.
Director Papp – Service

Report:

1) The Service Department received and reviewed the 2019 PCR for the Village from GPD. Attached are the ratings GPD developed for the Village’s roads. They developed estimates for the top seven worst rated streets they are noted below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cemetery (main loop)</td>
<td>$109,797</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>75.90</td>
<td>56.50</td>
<td>24.20</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berkley Rd (South)</td>
<td>Cul-de-sac</td>
<td>Cul-de-sac</td>
<td>$282,176</td>
<td>65.80</td>
<td>40.60</td>
<td>35.20</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheatley Rd Extension (West)</td>
<td>Dead End (East)</td>
<td>Dead End</td>
<td>$36,161</td>
<td>89.20</td>
<td>67.80</td>
<td>36.90</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timberwood Trail</td>
<td>Rustic Wood Trail</td>
<td>Cul-de-sac</td>
<td>$46,485</td>
<td>72.60</td>
<td>54.00</td>
<td>39.80</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hawkins Rd (CR-176)</td>
<td>Broadview Rd W. Corp. Limit</td>
<td>$782,552</td>
<td>74.60</td>
<td>43.60</td>
<td>43.60</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Street Grant</td>
<td>Mill Street</td>
<td>Cul-de-sac</td>
<td>$46,466</td>
<td>79.20</td>
<td>59.50</td>
<td>46.35</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cascade Oaks Trail</td>
<td>Deer Path Trail</td>
<td>Cul-de-sac</td>
<td>$56,055</td>
<td>79.20</td>
<td>59.50</td>
<td>46.35</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The 2020 Capital Budget for asphalt paving is $1,200,000. The top two worst roads in might require portions of the road to reconstructed which the above estimates do not include. The Village will be taking pavement cores to improve our understanding of the existing pavement structure so that we can make a better determination of the approach.

2) The Service Director attended a Revere Quarterly meeting & a seminar on water resiliency.

3) The Service Director met with Summit County to discuss the replacement of the bridge on Brecksville Road over Furnace Run in 2023.

4) Coordinated with the Ohio Turnpike Commission regarding the bridge replacement on SR 21 over the Ohio Turnpike.

5) The Service Director met with BWC to discuss safety grants.


7) Evaluating portable traffic control signals finding the preferred option is $45K and the capital budget is $30K. The Director is investigating BWC safety funds to make up the shortfall.
**Recommendations/Considerations:**
My recommendation would be to only complete Berkley, Timberwood, Hawkins and Cascade Oaks, which would bring us close to the budget amount. Other options include reducing the work on individual streets or raising the capital budgeted amount.

Beshara said a resident asked about Forest Ridge; Papp replied that patching has been done on Swan Lake. The Fairview Cemetery road may need to be rebuilt. Waszak said Rumpke will not pick up a mattress that has been on Humphrey Road for six weeks.

**Director Frantz – Planning & Zoning**

The language of Ordinance 5-2020 has been updated to include the word “shall.”

**Report:**

1) At their recent meeting on January 28th, the Planning Commission took the following actions:
   a. Provided preliminary plan approval (with stipulations) to Exit 11 Holdings for the construction of a 7,200 square foot storage barn on the property located at 3296 Columbia Road; and
   b. Conducted an informational hearing regarding Ordinance 5-2020. Planning Commission, by a 3-2 margin, recommended approval of the changes to the definition of accessory building and accessory use. The Commission is recommending modification to the proposed definition.

2) I’m pleased to report that 2459 Donna Drive has been demolished. As the weather breaks, the lot will be seeded and returned back to an undeveloped state. The Land Bank intends to offer the vacant lot for sale at market price.

3) I met with the Mayor and Village Engineer to review Cleveland Water’s draft engineering plans for the extensor of water into the center of town. We have provided comments to Cleveland Water and hope to finalize the location of the extension in the coming month.

4) The pending enforcement matter against Brush One LLC has been filed with the Summit County Court and is assigned to Judge Alison Breaux. As a reminder to Council, the Walter Haverfield contract does not include litigation and therefore the associated hours are billed outside of the typical retainee. As such, I will be seeking funding at an upcoming Council meeting to cover costs associated with this legal proceeding.

5) We met with representatives from the Ohio Development Services Agency in Columbus to discuss the process, timetable and benefits of forming a Community Reinvestment Area (CRA) in the Village. Conceptually, we have identified the center of town, two neighborhoods on the south end of town, and the Brecksville Road corridor on the north end of town as possible CRA
locations. We would like to meet with Council during work session at an upcoming meeting to discuss the CRA program and benefits to the Village.

6) I recently met with the City of Mentor Economic Development Director to discuss the City’s long-established economic development program. Specifically, the conversation centered on the City’s economic incentives, the associated program structure and ways to use Mentor’s programs as a template for the Village to establish incentive grant guidelines in the future. We have also gathered other Summit County program examples and would like to discuss these with Council at a future work session.

Recommendations/Considerations: None
Legislation: Laddie Road vacation (Ordinance 1-2020) & Zoning Code Amendment (Ordinance 5-2020)

Director Turk – Finance

Report:

**NOPEC Energized Community Grant**
NOPEC notified us that we will receive this $14,434 grant. The grant is to help implement energy efficiency or energy infrastructure projects.

**2019 Year-End Financial Close**
We officially closed the 2019 financial books and opened up the 2020 financial books on Monday, January 13.

**1099’s**
Payroll prepared and mailed out sixty-six 1099s for vendors, and Income Tax mailed out 137 to refund recipients.

**Income Tax**
With one day to go, January’s income tax collection of $864,286 is $28,680 (3.4%) higher than January 2019. Four of our top twelve employers collected more in January than last year’s January collection. A memo will be sent out next week with final numbers and more detailed information. The Income Tax forms (both regular and withholding) have been updated by staff and were mailed out this week. The new 2019 tax forms are available on the income tax website and at the library. The first withholding payment is due February 15.
2018-2019 Audit
Auditors will begin their on-site field work this Monday, February 3rd. We have gathered a slew of requested documents and have emailed them to Charles E. Harris & Associates.

Sewer Bills
Fourth-quarter sewer bills were mailed out and are due Friday, February 21st.

Recommendations/Considerations: None
Legislation:
  A. Resolution No. 7-2020 Accepting the Proposal of Ohio Plan Risk Management, Inc. for Property and Casualty Insurance Coverage.
  This resolution is submitted for second reading only. We are still awaiting the renewal quote from Ohio Plan, so this resolution will be amended before adoption at the February 18th Council meeting. We are also expecting proposals from three other brokers. The current coverage with Ohio Plan expires on February 29th and costs us $60,694.

  Ohio Plan offers the “Plan Advantage Program,” which is a renewal premium credit that may be rewarded to a member on an annual basis based upon the number of consecutive years of membership, loss ratio calculation, and risk management practices. Currently, we get a 7.3% credit ($4,808), and that credit can climb by 1% each year basically with a maximum credit of 20%. They also will reimburse 50% ($4,359) of the Lexipol subscription fee that the Police Chief is subscribing to this year.

  Ohio Plan has been in existence since 1988, and it is a not-for-profit entity that only services public entities. They have over 760 Ohio clients with over a 90% retention rate. Services are provided from Toledo. The briefing memo provides additional details.

  B. Resolution No. 6-2020 Authorizing to Enter into an Agreement with VFIS for Accident and Sickness Insurance Coverage for Firefighters.
  This resolution is submitted for second reading only. We are still awaiting the renewal quote from VFIS, so this resolution will be amended before adoption at the February 18th Council meeting to reflect the final recommendation. Two other brokers have indicated that they can submit quotes; the third broker said they do not have a carrier for this supplemental coverage. VFIS can provide their
customers with education, risk control, and management programs for little or no cost. Examples of the training would include emergency vehicle driver training, emergency vehicle response safety classes, etc. This insurance was picked up primarily to have coverage for the part-time fire employees and it is also extended to the full-time employees. The current coverage expires on February 29th and costs us $4,463, the same as the 2018 cost. The briefing memo provides additional details.

Law Director: Cortes said Judge McCarty has recused herself from the Yellow Creek watershed litigation. She has been replaced by Judge McLaughlin.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Park & Recreation: Domanick said the Snowbird Festival was a success, and the first Park Board meeting of the year is set for Feb. 10.

Tree & Landscape: Domanick said the Commission will meet on Feb. 24 at 6 p.m. in the mayor’s conference room.

RJRD: Philippbar said the RJRD chose Megan McGinty as its newest member. She was sworn in along with Cindy Lombardo and Bob Becker. The officers are president Becker, vice president Art Gonzales, treasurer McGinty and secretary Sandy Apidone. The board will publish a new brochure for the Richfield Heritage Preserve. The mill project has received $67,000. The board is waiting for a historicel significance report on the Oviatt House.

CAUCUS

COMMENTS FROM FLOOR ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY: None.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

First Readings: None.

Second Readings:

RESOLUTION 5-2020
A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH VFIS FOR ACCIDENT AND SICKNESS INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR VILLAGE FIREFIGHTERS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Offered by All of Council

RESOLUTION 7-2020
A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL OF OHIO PLAN RISK MANAGEMENT, INC. FOR PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR THE VILLAGE AND ITS EMPLOYEES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Offered by All of Council
Third Readings:

ORDINANCE 1-2020 Offered by All of Council
AN ORDINANCE VACATING THE UNIMPROVED RIGHT-OF-WAY KNOWN AS LADDIE ROAD

MOTION: TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 1-2020.
Moved by Beshara, seconded by Domanick. Upon roll call, motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION 3-2020 Offered by All of Council
A RESOLUTION DECLARING THREE (3) VILLAGE POLICE VEHICLES AS SURPLUS PROPERTY NO LONGER NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE, AND AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE TO SELL THE VEHICLES BY INTERNET AUCTION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

ORDINANCE 5-2020 (public hearing on Feb. 18 at 6:30) Offered by All of Council
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 1103.03 OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING CODE TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF ACCESSORY BUILDING AND ACCESSORY USE

ORDINANCE 16-2016 Offered by All of Council
AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR AND FINANCE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT WITH RICHFIELD FURNACE RUN ASSOCIATES LLC AND WATER AND SEWER LLC AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

ORDINANCE 17-2016 Offered by All of Council
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 1128 OF THE VILLAGE OF RICHFIELD’S PLANNING AND ZONING CODE, ENTITLED “RCD SINGLE FAMILY CONSERVATION DISTRICT,” TO FACILITATE R-3 RESIDENTIAL CONSERVATION DEVELOPMENT

ORDINANCE 43-2019 (as amended 11-27-19) Offered by All of Council
AN ORDINANCE ENACTING NEW CHAPTER 945, “CEMETERIES” OF THE STREETS, UTILITIES AND PUBLIC SERVICES CODE TO UPDATE RULES, REGULATIONS AND FEES IN THE VILLAGE’S CEMETERIES

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
Waszaak asked about the portable speed radar devices, and Swanson said they are working well. Beshara said Council cannot pass Ordinance 3-2020 until it replaces Resolution 6-2019.
NEW BUSINESS: Lyons recognized a group of Boy Scouts who attended the meeting. He also asked that “discipline or appointment of a public official be added to the executive session.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR: Mary Ann Leikar of Overdale Drive asked if the village has a recreation director. Wheeler said he is not ready to hire one now. Leikar asked if the position would be advertised, and the mayor said it would.

WORK SESSION: None.

MOTION: TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS EMPLOYMENT, PROMOTION OR DEMOTION OF A PUBLIC EMPLOYEE; ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; AND PURCHASE OF PROPERTY FOR A PUBLIC PURPOSE. Moved by Beshara, seconded by Domanick. Upon roll call, motion passed unanimously.

Executive session lasted from 7:08 to 8 p.m., when Lyons adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Gorman
Clerk of Council

Mike Lyons
Council President