



## **RICHFIELD VILLAGE COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2020  
6:30 p.m.**

**ROLL CALL:** Beshara, Boester, Domanick, Lyons, Philippbar, Stoppenhagen and Waszak.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Mayor Wheeler, Service Director Papp, Planning and Zoning Director Frantz, Finance Director Turk.

**MOTION:** TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION TO HIRING A PUBLIC EMPLOYEE.  
Moved by Beshara, seconded by Stoppenhagen. Upon roll call, motion passed unanimously.

Executive session lasted from 6:34 to 7:13 p.m.

### **WORK SESSION TOPICS**

#### **Road Repairs**

Papp distributed a spreadsheet with seven streets marked in red that are proposed to be repaired in 2020: Fairview Cemetery main loop, Berkley Road, Wheatley Road extension, Timberwood Trail, Hawkins Road, High Street and Cascade Oaks Trail.

He also noted 10 other streets marked in orange that could be repaired as alternates: Hawthorne Drive, Swan Lake Drive, Congress Parkway, Harold Drive, Deer Creek Trail East, Evergreen Lane, White Tail Court, Deer Creek Trail West, Pine Lake Circle and Red Doe Circle.

Papp said the proposed roads will be investigated with core samples to make sure the repairs are possible. He said Council should think about increasing capital expenditures, and he would like to bid out the project in March. He will ask Council for authorization at the Feb. 18 meeting.

While Everett Road is listed 39<sup>th</sup> on the list of streets in need of repair, it deteriorated by 20 percent last year. Philippbar said the village should be working on streets in orange because the streets marked in orange should be repaired before they fall into the red category. Papp noted that the paved area around Town Hall may also need repair.



Domanick asked which streets were in the greatest need of repair. Papp said Berkley, Timberwood, Hawkins and Cascade Oaks had the highest rate of degradation.

### **Heinle house update**

Wheeler said the village purchased the house for the land around it. He said it would cost \$100,000 to fix the house in order to do something with it. He looked at the home with Waszak, and while it was built in 1876, it has great bones. The village could parcel a smaller lot and sell the building to a business. The rest of the land could be used for additional parking for downtown events.

Stoppenhagen said the village could lease the building to control the property, because a buyer could then sell the house to someone else. Boester said the house is in good shape and should not be torn down. Waszak said the house could be sold, and the money could be used to improve the surrounding driveway connection. Domanick said it would be good to have extra parking downtown. Lyons said parking could be added that is not as visible from Broadview Road. Beshara said she would like to get the layout and see where the parking could go.

Frantz said architect Rob Morgan could take a look at the property, which would have public water after the lines are extended. Philippbar asked if the building must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Frantz said it must if it has a commercial use. Waszak said the village should implement the Streetscape plan that was proposed during the Larsen administration.

### **2020 budget overview**

Turk distributed a handout that included a pie chart on the village's \$14.4 million operating revenue in 2019. Income tax accounted for 73.8 percent of that total. The income tax rate has



been 2 percent since Waszak was mayor in the 1990s. Turk said that rate ranks in the middle of the pack among local cities.

Another pie chart showed how the village spent \$14 million in 2019. Public safety accounted for 39 percent of that total, followed by capital improvements at 18 percent and roads and service at 16.5 percent.

The assessed valuation of village property increased by 8 percent. Frantz said that shows stability, as the value of Richfield's property grew even when the national economy faltered.

Topics for the March 11 work session may include community reinvestment areas, community center feasibility study, traffic on Routes 176/303 and Wheatley/Brecksville roads; and expectations of Council committees.

Waszak distributed an article on how Tucson, Ariz., converted its street lights to LED. Wheeler said he would like to discuss that at the work session as well.

Lyons adjourned the meeting at 8:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jeff Gorman  
Clerk of Council

Mike Lyons  
Council President

