



**RICHFIELD VILLAGE COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, MAY 21, 2024  
6:30 p.m.**

**ROLL CALL:** Beshara, Hudak, Kruszynski, Norris, Philippbar, Stoppenhagen and Waszak.

*OTHERS PRESENT:* Police Chief Swanson, Fire Chief Seifert, IT Director Baker, Finance Director Turk, Recreation Director Piepsny, Service Director Waldemarson, Planning and Zoning Director Frantz, and Law Director Chojnacki..

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 16, 2024 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, AS AMENDED.

Moved by Philippbar, seconded by Beshara. Upon roll call, motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 7, 2024 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, AS AMENDED.

Moved by Philippbar, seconded by Beshara. Upon roll call, motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 7, 2024 MEETING OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ORDINANCE 27-2024.

Moved by Kruszynski, seconded by Philippbar. YAY: Kruszynski, Philippbar, and Waszak.

**COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS**

**]MAYOR'S REPORT**

I would like Council to accept Lt. Jason Purkey letter of retirement effective May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Jason has over 31 years of service to the fire department. He started his career as a volunteer fire fighter. He was hired full-time in 2000. He rose to the rank of Lieutenant in 2009. He is currently our fire inspector. He has helped with the implementation of our new inspection program. Lt. Purkey also served as a SWAT medic with Summit County. He oversees all new construction and all the safety systems that are installed. I wish for an enjoyable retirement. It has been a pleasure working with Lt. Purkey for the last few years.

I would like the Council to approve the hiring of Steven Morabito as a part-time fire medic. He is currently employed as a Lieutenant for the City of Broadview Heights. He is a veteran of the US Navy. We are looking forward to having Steven join our team.



This year as I have stated before I am President of the Mayors Association of Portage, Summit and Stark Counties (MAPSS). I will be going to Japan for economic development in June with 3 other mayors. We will be meeting with major Japanese firms, mayors and the state of Saitama Governor Ono.

We will be having a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Pavilion on the Green, complete with food trucks and the Swizzle Sticks band on May 29<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 8:30pm. I hope everyone will be able to join us.

The mayor read a letter from Mayor Larsen's family, expressing their thanks for participating in the celebration of life and for the floral arrangement. The family was touched to see that Mayor Larsen meant so much to so many people.

**MOTION:** TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF JASON PURKEY.

Moved by Beshara, seconded by Hudak. Upon roll call, motion passed unanimously.

Waszak said Council appreciates Purkey's service and wishes him well in his retirement.

#### **Chief Swanson – Police**

We have posted a position for a part-time Task Force Officer with the United States Marshals Service, Northern Ohio Fugitive Task Force. This is open to all full-time officers not currently on probation and with three years of relevant experience. Applications for the position need to be in by June 3<sup>rd</sup>, and once our internal process is complete, the officer will then need to be vetted through the US Marshals Service. We occasionally need their expertise to track down and capture violent felons for whom we have arrest warrants. Furthermore, the assigned officer will receive a wealth of training and experience.

We are in the process of equipping an enclosed trailer that we seized with a court order. We will put our markings on it, and the Service Department has agreed to outfit it with some lighting. We will place items used for road closures and major traffic crashes. Most of our police vehicles are equipped with a trailer hitch, which will give us the ability to deploy it to an incident scene when necessary.

Mayor Wheeler and I attended the Ohio Association of Public Safety Directors 2024 Annual Conference. The speakers and all the topics were presented very well and were very informative. I have attended a lot of law enforcement training



courses and conferences over the years, and this was very interesting and informative to see things from the safety directors' point of view.

Last week was National Police Week. In 1962, President Kennedy proclaimed May 15<sup>th</sup> as National Peace Officers Memorial Day and the calendar week in which May 15<sup>th</sup> falls, as National Police Week. Established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1962, National Police Week pays special recognition to those law enforcement officers who lost their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others.

### Chief Seifert– Fire

#### Report:

- 1) I would like the Council to approve the hiring of Steven Morabito as a part-time fire medic. He is currently employed as a Lieutenant for the City of Broadview Heights. He is also a veteran of the US Navy. We are looking forward to having Steven join our team.
- 2) I would like the Council to approve the hiring of Tyler Tessmer to the position of part-time fire fighter/EMT. He is a graduate of Revere High School. He is currently enrolling in a paramedic program. We look forward to having Tyler join our team.
- 3) I would like the council accept Lt. Jason Purkey's letter of retirement effective May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Jason has over 31 years of service to the fire department. He started his career as a volunteer fire fighter. He was hired full-time in 2000. He rose to the rank of Lieutenant in 2009. He is currently our fire inspector. He has helped with the implementation of our new inspection program. Lt. Purkey also served as a SWAT medic with Summit County. He oversees all new construction and all the safety systems that are installed. I wish for an enjoyable retirement. It has been a pleasure working with Lt. Purkey for the last few years.
- 4) I would like the Council to accept the resignation of part-time fire medic Danny Elbert. He was a member for 15 years. He started full time with Richfield then transferred to part-time. I wish him well in his future endeavors and thank him for many years of service.
- 5) The legislation on the agenda is for the selling of the OLD engine 13, which is a 2006 Sutphen pumper. Also included is miscellaneous equipment that is obsolete for our current operations.



- 6) Fire-medics Kyle Janis and Daniel Pierce completed the 80-hour fire inspector class. They both passed the very difficult class. The pass rate is 40%. They passed their first test!!! Congratulations to both for doing a great job.
- 7) Engine 2 is now the first engine out after the weekend's great celebration!!! Thank you to everyone who made it possible.

**MOTION:** TO APPROVE THE HIRING OF STEVEN MORABITO AS A PART-TIME FIRE MEDIC.

Moved by Beshara, seconded by Hudak. Upon roll call, motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** TO APPROVE THE HIRING OF TYLER TESSMER AS A PART-TIME FIRE MEDIC.

Moved by Beshara, seconded by Hudak. Upon roll call, motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF DANNY ELBERT.

Moved by Beshara, seconded by Hudak. Upon roll call, motion passed unanimously.

Seifert said the new Engine 2 was pressed into service on its second day, delivering 9,000 gallons of water at a fire. Beshara said the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary was a great event. One of the Rittman firefighters attended; he grew up in Richfield and his dad was Richfield's first full-time firefighter. Kruszynski said it was nice to have snow cones at the event on a hot day.

Hudak said he saw the pumper truck out recently, and Seifert said it was the annual end-of-school spraying of the school children.

Baker said he wished Purkey well, as they worked together for many years.

### **Recreation – Director Piepsny**

#### **Report:**

##### **Administrative Duties:**

Parks and Recreation Spring/Summer brochure is now available.

Hosted Cavalittles event at Richfield Woods Park with about 30 participants.

Hosted Akron Mobile Zoo at Richfield Woods Park on Saturday May 11 with 26 participants.

Planning Kiosk Changes at the parks for spring/summer.

Attended Pre-Construction meeting for pickleball/Tennis Courts.

Historical Meeting with Mayor about Historical Society.



**Rentals:**

Rentals for Fellowship and Masonic Hall continue to be very popular.

**Recreation:**

Broadview Heights Recreation Center Voucher update as of May 17, there have been 50 vouchers redeemed since January 1<sup>st</sup> for a total of 214 resident individuals using the voucher program.

We currently are looking for instructors for the 2024 Fall/Winter classes. If there is anyone that has a unique hobby or skill set that they would like to teach as a class, we are currently looking and will hire. Please contact John Piepsny at [jpiepsny@richfieldvillageohio.org](mailto:jpiepsny@richfieldvillageohio.org).

**Director Waldemarson – Service**

**Report:**

The Service Department continues to respond to normal and emergent work activities. Administratively, with respect to public interface, we continue to complete permitting, plan review, sewer billing, cemetery sales and burials and responding to calls and emails. The following are some of the highlights of the Service Department's activities over the past two weeks:

1. Staff meeting with department heads & service department supervisor.
2. Cemetery, selling graves, working on graves on-hold.
3. Attended Pickleball courts preconstruction meeting on May 1, 2024. Work will start by June 1.
4. Attended Fellowship Hall exterior upgrades preconstruction meeting work is scheduled to start after Memorial Day.
5. Reviewing summer help applications.
6. Reviewing one full time service employee applications.
7. Attended Amets meetings.
8. Attended water tower and pump station meetings.



9. Managing site work at pavilion project.

### Motion/Resolution

Resolution No. 42-2024 a resolution consenting to the Ohio department of transportation's widening of interstate route 77 from four lanes to six lanes from Ghent Road to Everett Road within the village of Richfield (PID NO. 96671).

Resolution No. 44-2024 a resolution declaring certain service department property to be surplus property no longer needed for public use and authoring the Village to dispose of said equipment by internet auction. See attachment.

Waldemarson noted that a small portion of Phase 3 of the I-77 widening project is in Richfield, while most of it will be located in Bath.

### Director Baker – Information Technology

#### Report:

1. Annual maintenance was completed on the in-house UPS for the in-house network. The system is now 5 years old and the batteries are in need of replacement. I will be looking into this and the cost differences.
2. I am continuing to work with Law Director Chojnacki on the radio tower lease agreement between the Village and AT&T.
3. The surplus computer equipment that was approved and passed by legislation was placed on Govdeals, and the auction will be completed on May 20<sup>th</sup>.
4. I continue to wait for Windstream on our phone bill and all the expenses that we are being charged for. Once this is rectified, we can move forward with the project of replacing our current phone system.

### Director Frantz – Planning & Zoning

#### Report:

- 1) The Planning Commission met on May 14th and took the following actions:
  - a) approved a 12.5'x 14' (176.4 sq. ft.) addition to the first floor of a historical home located on the property located at 4003 Broadview Road;
  - b) approved a 2'x 8' (16 sq. ft.) wall sign on the property located at 3807 Brecksville Road;



- c) approved a 2.875' x 7.583' (21.8 sq. ft.) wall sign on the property located at 4183 W. Streetsboro Road;
- d) approved preliminary and final approval to extend their parking lot by creating 29 spaces on the south side of the property located at 4014 Wheatley Road;
- e) approved a 6'x6' (36 sq. ft.) deck (with an attached 12'x4' (14 sq. ft) ramp) and a six-foot tall chain link fence on the property located at 3105 Farnham Road; and
- f) approved a 1.5' x 2' (three sq. ft.) instructional sign on the property located at 4160 Highlander Parkway.

The Planning Commission also directed the Administration to prepare an amendment to the Planning and Zoning Code that addresses the approval process for certain non-residential sign requests. This amendment will be discussed at the June 11th meeting.

2) The Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee conducted a public meeting on Wednesday, May 15th at the Quality Inn. The meeting was a presentation summary and status of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan Update project and nearly 100 residents participated in the event. The Steering Committee will meet at least one more time to begin the preparation of the draft Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

3) The bid specifications for the Wheatley Road Sidewalk and Ditch Elimination project are complete. As such, we are requesting the Council's consideration to waive the third reading of Resolution 40-2024, and subsequently adopt the resolution that will permit the Administration to bid and award the project.

4) Code Enforcement

- Grass Violation issued 5/08 - Parcel #5002698;
- Grass Violation issued 5/16 - 3987 Broadview Road;
- Grass Violation issued 5/16 - 4684 W. Streetsboro Road;
- Stop Work Notice 5/14 - 4183 W. Streetsboro Road (construction of shed without permits); and
- Temporary Sign Placement 5/14. Recommendations/Considerations: Suspension of third reading - Resolution 40-2024

Frantz said the Green looks great, and the stamped pad was completed today. The ribbon cutting is set for May 29. Kruszynski asked about the sandstone boulders on the north-south portion of



Grant Street. Waldemarson said they are there for aesthetics. Kruszynski suggested a fence to prevent light from shining into the resident's home. Wheeler said he would look into this issue.

Waszak urged everyone to take a look at the pavilion on the Green, which will be a unique multi-purpose structure. He said Waldemarson, the Service Department and contractors did a superb job. Waszak said he hoped this will bring more members of the community together.

Beshara asked about the next Steering Committee meeting. Frantz said it could take place in the second week of June.

### **Director Turk – Finance**

#### **Report:**

##### **2024 Financials**

Through May 15th, we collected \$12,566,661 of the \$33,961,690 budgeted for all funds revenue, or 37% of the budget. In 2023, we collected \$33,162,840 in total. On the expenditure side, \$10,304,973 was expended overall by the Village through May 15th, or 26.1% of the \$39,521,681 budgeted for expenditures. The expected rate through mid-May should be approximately 37.5% of the budget being expended. In 2023, we expended \$34,863,396. Looking only at the General Fund, 37.9% of the revenues have been collected and 39.4% of the budget was expended.

##### **Income Tax**

Year-to-date through May 15th, income tax collections of \$5,518,949 are up \$452,130, or up by 8.9% over 2023 collections. The net profits and withholding components are up. The net profits, and withholding components are up \$255,215 (40.6%) and \$208,573 (5.1%) for the year, respectively. The individual component is down \$11,658 or down 3.2%. Income tax refunds of \$260,634 were processed through May 15th, compared to \$307,074 processed through May 2023. Of this amount, \$127,809 was for individuals who are employed by Richfield companies, but they worked from home living in other communities. We received \$236,553 from individuals who are employed by entities in other communities but live in Richfield and work from home.



### **Sewer Bills**

First quarter sewer bill payments are due by May 24<sup>th</sup>. This billing reflected a 3.3% increase in the overall rate per MCF from \$143.93 to \$148.78 due to the 4.2% increase that Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District implemented going from \$115.60 to \$120.45 per MCF for 2024. The Village's component of the rate remains the same as last year at \$28.33 per MCF. The Village's rate of \$28.33 has not been increased since 2006. Although Council has legislation before it to modify a fee that creates a major repair and maintenance account for the sanitary sewer system.

### **Recommendations/Considerations:**

Ordinance No. 33-2024 is up for third reading and consideration for adoption.

### **Legislation:**

#### ***Ordinance No. 33 -2024 To Amend 925.13 (Ord. 74-1996) That Imposes a 20 Cent Per Lineal Foot Charge for Major Repair and Replacement of the Village's Sanitary Sewer System***

This Ordinance is up for third reading and consideration of adoption. The original legislation was never implemented and with the aging infrastructure it is important to plan for major repairs to avoid environmental issues and more costly repair problems. Prior to implementation, upon review of the existing legislation, the following modifications are recommended.

- 1) The 20 cents fee was established in 1996, 28 years ago. The 30-year inflation rate using the consumer price index was 2.27%. Applying this inflationary factor adjusts the 20 cents to approximately 40 cents. The fee will be adjusted annually based on the Consumer Price Inflationary Index. Properties outside of the Village boundaries will be charged an extra 10% (22 cents per lineal foot).
- 2) Change the billing from semiannually (July 1 and January 1) to a quarterly basis that is in conjunction with the quarterly sewer billing. So instead of billing the 20 cent per lineal foot fee twice a year, the billing will be 20 cents per lineal foot four times a year. (This reflects the 40 cents per lineal foot twice a year, or 80 cents per lineal foot divided by 4 times a year. Hence, the 20 cents per lineal foot four times a year.) This saves paper and postage costs and alleviates the semiannual spike in expense.



- 3) Change the delinquency from a lien recovered by civil action to delinquencies are sent to the County to be assessed on the parcels' property taxes which would be cheaper than a lien and pursuing a civil action. This is how delinquent sewer bills are handled.
- 4) The minimum revenue generated will be approximately \$101,840 per year.

**B. Resolution No. 36 -2024 To Enter into an Agreement with Roundstone Management, LTD for Health Insurance, and declaring an emergency**

This resolution is submitted for second reading only. This is a request to enter into a renewal agreement for \$1,632,932 with Roundstone Management, LTD for health care insurance for 67 full-time Village employees effective July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.

The cost components are reflected below:

Component	Current	New Contract	% Change
Admin Fee	\$ 73,992	\$ 75,415	1.9%
Stop Loss	\$458,867	\$ 500,048	9.0%
Max Claim	\$1,013,225	\$1,057,469	4.4%
<b>TOTAL COST</b>	<b>\$1,546,084</b>	<b>\$1,632,932</b>	<b>5.6%</b>

The current **maximum** annual cost of coverage is \$1,546,084 with employees contributing 13.5% of the premium costs. The renewal came in at \$1,632,932 (plus a \$225,000 Laser). We had two high claimants on this year's contract (\$367,980 and \$277,703). We have never reached the full contract amount. The Laser is a common stop-loss industry practice of setting higher coverage attachment points for certain plan members based on their prior claims experience or the likelihood that they will become high-cost claimants in the future. Below is the expenditure history with Roundstone less the following five premium rebates that we received: \$22,605 in 2017, \$45,278 in 2019, \$71,190 in 2022, \$9,782 in 2023, and \$29,777 in 2024.

<u>Contract Year</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>% Change</u>
2014/2015	\$ 891,354	
2015/2016	\$1,060,405	18.9%
2016/2017	\$ 968,430	(8.7%)
2017/2018	\$ 997,464	3.0%
2018/2019	\$1,091,875	9.5%
2019/2020	\$ 997,894	(8.6%)



2020/2021	\$1,221,675	22.4%
2021/2022	\$1,178,044	(3.5%)
<b><u>Contract Year</u></b>	<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>	<b><u>% Change</u></b>
2022/2023	\$1,160,862	(1.5%)
2023/5-20-2024	\$1,349,842	\$286,638, or 26.9% higher

than last year at this point

\*There is still a little over a month of costs needed to conclude the contract. Based on expenditures through May 20th, we are expected to spend less than the maximum contract amount of \$1.55 million.

Four other Stop Loss Carriers quoted the insurance (Berkley, Tokio Marine HCC, HM, and Symetra) but their increases ranged from an increase of 35.2% to 50.6%. Roundstone is a Group Captive program that is owned and/or controlled by the group members insured. The network is the Medical Mutual network, and the Third-Party Administrator (TPA) is Mutual Health Services out of Copley. They utilize all local networks for their services, with Medical Mutual also offering the best discounts for procedures in the field. They only use A.M. Best rated reinsurers of A rating and above.

***Resolution No. 41-2024 To appropriate a Bureau of Workers' Compensation Firefighter Exposure to Environment Elements Grant Award And Declaring An Emergency***

This resolution is submitted for first reading only. This resolution increases the appropriations by \$12,891.67 for a Bureau of Workers' Compensation Firefighter Exposure to Environment Elements grant award to purchase a drying cabinet for turn out gear.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Beshara wished Purkey well in retirement. Hudak reported that he would not be able to attend the June 18 meeting.

Philippbar reported on last night's RJRD board meeting. It voted to amend compensation for the district fiscal officer. Friends of Richfield Heritage Preserve will begin the stabilization of Garfield Hall. The board rescinded a 2019 motion to allow the Friends of the Richfield Heritage Preserve to direct the invasive species projects, which will now be handled by the RJRD administration.

Waszak said the Streets & Highways Committee has discussed noise and lighting on Interstate 77. He would like the committee to meet in early June about how to approach ODOT and/or the Ohio Turnpike Commission.



## CAUCUS

Waszak said the sewer system is getting old, as it was installed in 1991. Turk said the sewer fund is an enterprise fund, so it is supposed to be self-sustaining. The sewer rate from the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS) increases every year, and it is currently \$125.50. The village portion of the sewer rate has been fixed at \$28.33 since 2006.

The total amount in the 2024 sewer enterprise fund is \$1.95 million. Of that total, \$1.7 million is earmarked for sewer operations, with the rest set aside for capital improvements to the sewer system. Options to cover the necessary repairs include:

- The maintenance fee proposed in Ordinance 33-2024
- Increasing the village sewer rate
- A special assessment to the affected property owners
- Issuing a special bond levy

Turk also presented a sample comparison of non-metered vs. metered minimum bills. Non-metered households would pay 2.1 mcf for a bill of \$312.44 per quarter. Metered households would pay 1.34 mcf for a bill of \$199.37, resulting in an annual savings of \$452.28.

Beshara said a rate study was conducted in 2015 or 2017 that said the village portion was appropriate. Turk said the NEORS portion was only \$32.60 back in 2006. Turk said Council voted last month to approve a \$2.7 million loan, which has a great interest rate. This will result in a \$164,000 annual payment over the next 15 years. In that time, more projects will need to be funded. Metering all the homes would allow the village to conduct a rate study to examine the sewer flow and see if the village is charging the correct amount.

Beshara asked about the combined salary of sewer employees. Turk said it was \$350,000, including benefits. She asked about the number of businesses and homes on the sewer system. Waldemarson said the number is 1,280, with 308 needing meters. Waszak said the sewer department has done a great job maintaining the system over the years.

Philippbar asked about the sewer fund being separate from other funds. Turk said that is because it is an enterprise (self-sustaining) fund. Beshara asked about the operating budget for the sewer department. Turk said it is \$2.8 million. Wheeler said repairs to the sewer system cost tens of thousands of dollars. Hudak said we need to collect more money for the system somehow.

Dan Holahan of West Streetsboro Road said he expects the village to notify all of its sewer customers of the lineal-foot charges proposed in Ordinance 33-2024. He also said the sewer bill stated that a rate meeting is supposed to happen this month. He suggested eliminating the uncollected sewer maintenance charge from 1996, doing a rate study, and meeting with residents. Holahan also said he has not seen a notice that every sewer customer must have a meter.



Dave Dietz of Motor Road said residents used to be charged 80 percent from the master meter of where sewage leaves the village; then it was reduced to 50 percent. This resulted in the saving of \$1 million per year for five years, which went into the operating fund. He added that the life expectancy of the pump stations was 50 years, and three others were installed at the same time as the one that failed.

Pat Buckner of Motor Road said she was told that she did not need a meter. She asked who would pay for the 308 meters, because some residents don't have the money.

Mark Mulheim of Ridgelawn Drive talked to an NEORSD representative this morning. He is in a duplex but was charged full price, even though he only lives in half of the building.

Waldemarson said we need to look at that, and Stoppenhagen said that is unfair to the residents.

Ken Jurek of West Streetsboro Road said he pushed for a sewer system when he moved here in 1980. The bill used to be less than \$200, and now it's \$304. This proposal would be difficult for homeowners with large frontages. Waszak said the town used to smell bad on hot days, and the sewer helps to maintain a clean environment. Jurek said it is difficult for two old people to pay for 280 feet of frontage.

Jerry Fleisch of St. Nicholas Drive said he and five other neighbors got quotes and a contractor installed their meters. He asked if the village could help residents find the right contractors.

Waldemarson said the village has a list of licensed contractors but does not make recommendations.

Alicia Burroughs of Harold Drive asked if anything can be done about NEORSD's rate increases. Waszak said the village has no control over the pricing. Wheeler said the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) lets NEORSD set the price, but the village has the ability to protest an increase.

Bob Harwood of Ratener Road asked if he had to pay double because he lives on a corner.

Waldemarson said no, because only the frontage would be counted. He and neighbor Dan Surbeck said they were billed for a higher amount than the water they use.

Kruszynski suggested that Council table Ordinance 33-2024 and take a look at these residents' concerns. Beshara said Council should look at the 2017 rate study and conduct another one after the meters are installed. Waldemarson said another rate study would take six months. Hudak said the meters have to go in first. Kruszynski said that would take until the end of year.

Waldemarson said it could be another quarter or two due to issues with the meters.

**MOTION:** TO TABLE ORDINANCE 33-2024.

Moved by Hudak, seconded by Beshara. Upon roll call, motion passed unanimously.

## COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY



## ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

### First Readings:

#### RESOLUTION 41-2024

Offered by Councilmember Beshara

A RESOLUTION TO MAKE APPROPRIATION FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE VILLAGE OF RICHFIELD, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

#### RESOLUTION 42-2024

Offered by Councilmember Waszak

A RESOLUTION CONSENTING TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S WIDENING OF INTERSTATE ROUTE 77 FROM FOUR LANES TO SIX LANES FROM GHENT ROAD TO EVERETT WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF RICHFIELD (PID NO. 96671), AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND FINANCE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE AGREEMENTS NECESSARY FOR SAID PROJECT

**MOTION:** TO SUSPEND THE SECOND AND THIRD READINGS OF RESOLUTION 42-2024.

Moved by Hudak, seconded by Norris. Upon roll call, motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 42-2024.

Moved by Hudak, seconded by Norris. Upon roll call, motion passed unanimously.

#### RESOLUTION 43-2024

Offered by Councilmember Beshara

A RESOLUTION DECLARING FIRE TRUCK ENGINE 13 AND MISCELLANEOUS PERSONAL PROPERTY AS SURPLUS PROPERTY NO LONGER NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE, AND AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE TO SELL THE VEHICLE AND MISCELLANEOUS PERSONAL PROPERTY BY PUBLIC AUCTION, INTERNET AUCTION, OR ANY OTHER LAWFUL MEANS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

**MOTION:** TO SUSPEND THE SECOND READING OF RESOLUTION 43-2024.

Moved by Norris, seconded by Hudak. Upon roll call, motion passed unanimously.

#### RESOLUTION 44-2024

Offered by Councilmember Waszak

A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN SERVICE DEPARTMENT PROPERTY TO BE SURPLUS PROPERTY NO LONGER NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE, AND AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE TO DISPOSE OF SAID EQUIPMENT BY INTERNET AUCTION, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY



*Second Readings:*

**ORDINANCE 35-2024**

Offered by All of Council

**AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE EDITING AND INCLUSION OF CERTAIN ORDINANCES AS PARTS OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENT CODES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF RICHFIELD, STATE OF OHIO, AND CONFORMING TRAFFIC AND GENERAL OFFENSES CODE PROVISIONS TO STATE LAW CHANGES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

**RESOLUTION 36-2024**

Offered by Councilmember Hudak

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND THE FINANCE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH ROUNDSTONE MANAGEMENT, LTD. FOR HEALTH INSURANCE FOR FULL-TIME VILLAGE EMPLOYEES FOR JULY 1, 2024 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2025, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

**ORDINANCE 37-2024**

Offered by Councilmember Stoppenhagen

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 945 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES TO REGULATE VILLAGE CEMETERIES**

**ORDINANCE 38-2024**

Offered by All of Council

**AN ORDINANCE ENACTING A NEW CHAPTER 735 "RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA" OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES CONCERNING THE SALE OF RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

**RESOLUTION 40-2024**

Offered by All of Council

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO ADVERTISE AND SOLICIT BIDS FOR THE SOUTH WHEATLEY DITCH ELIMINATION AND SIDEWALK PROJECT, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND DIRECTOR OF FINANCE TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE LOWEST AND BEST BIDDER AS CERTIFIED BY THE VILLAGE ENGINEER, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

**DISCUSSION:** Stoppenhagen said this idea was planned two years ago but set aside because the village did not want to do the work and then tear it up when plans changed.



Frantz said the hotel project led to the village proceeding with the South Wheatley sidewalk and ditch elimination project.

**MOTION:** TO SUSPEND THE THIRD READING OF RESOLUTION 40-2024.  
Moved by Hudak, seconded by Beshara. Upon roll call, motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 40-2024.  
Moved by Hudak, seconded by Norris. Upon roll call, motion passed unanimously.

*Third Readings:*

**ORDINANCE 33-2024**

Offered by All of Council

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 925.13 OF THE STREETS, UTILITIES AND PUBLIC SERVICES CODE IMPOSING A LINEAL FOOT CHARGE FOR MAJOR REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT OF SEWER FACILITIES**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Waldemarson said pavement markings for the crosswalks by Giant Eagle and the Parker-Serdinak trail would take place after Memorial Day. Beshara asked for the rate study to be sent to the mayor and Council. Waszak said discussion of Grant Street would continue in the future. Beshara talked about the Memorial Day parade and pancake breakfast. Hudak said he received emails about the northwest portion of Fairview Cemetery. Stoppenhagen said that will be discussed at the next Cemetery Board meeting, which will take place on May 29 before the ribbon cutting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Philippbar asked for an update on Fellowship Hall. Waldemarson said renovations would take place after Memorial Day. Frantz said contractors would work on the pavilion on Memorial Day to get the job done in time for the ribbon cutting.

**COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR**

**WORK SESSION**

Beshara made the motion to adjourn and Waszak adjourned the meeting at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Gorman  
Clerk of Council

Ralph Waszak Sr.  
Council President