



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

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9, 2021  
6:30 p.m.**

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

**MOTION:** TO EXCUSE THE ABSENCE OF MR. WASZAK.  
Moved by Stoppenhagen, seconded by Domanick. Upon roll call, motion passed unanimously.

### **WORK SESSION TOPICS**

#### **Electronic remodeling of Council Chambers**

Mayor Wheeler had a Zoom meeting with a company called NeoNet. They discussed monitors and sound options. NeoNet will come back with a price in 10 days. The mayor and Planning & Zoning Director Frantz were happy to hear that the work could be completed by Aug. 1.

Beshara suggested using Facebook Live. Frantz said they haven't decided on a platform yet, as other options include CivicPlus (the village's website platform) and a free service from YouTube. Microphones will be the biggest issue. Wheeler said the village can choose from four streaming platforms.

#### **Wheatley Road sidewalks**

The village's plan is to design the Kinross Lakes sidewalks this year and build them next year. Wheatley Road sidewalks will be designed and built this year. Rob Morgan addressed Council's desire for meandering sidewalks on Wheatley Road. Other changes would include ditch elimination and cleaning up the frontage.

The crossing should be at the intersection of Wheatley and Kinross Lakes, plus a traffic signal should be added at the McDonald's exit. Morgan said there would also be a crosswalk to McDonald's across the north side of Wheatley Road.



Morgan said the generous right-of-way at Nexen Tire would allow for the meandering sidewalks. He showed examples from Harvard Road and SOM Center Road in Orange, Ohio. The sidewalk would go west to Richfield Commons, in front of the cemetery and then up to the cemetery.

Vegetation would be removed to improve the view. Steps, a railing and stone would be added, along with a pathway from the Richfield Commons parking lot.

Boester asked if the village has checked with the Wheatley family. Frantz said the Wheatley Cemetery property is owned by the Richfield Historical Society. Stoppenhagen said the addition of a picnic area might not be approved by some members of the Cemetery Board. Frantz noted that cemeteries were located in the original parks.

Morgan said the stone wall around the cemetery could be considered the “sacred boundary,” but benches along the path could work. Wheeler said Eagle Scouts make great benches. Frantz said the monument has a blank space where historical facts could be inscribed on it. Several Council members said they liked the overall plan.

Domanick asked about a sidewalk on the inside of the Richfield Commons parking lot. Frantz said they can discuss it. Philippbar said pedestrians need to watch for cars coming around the wall quickly. Frantz agreed that is a dangerous blind spot.

Council members liked the overall concept. Frantz said this can be finalized as a fall project. Stoppenhagen asked if Nexen would pay for the sidewalk and ditch elimination. Frantz said Nexen would just pay for the sidewalk.

### **Kinross Lakes sidewalks**

Philippbar had the idea to put the Kinross Lakes sidewalks adjacent to the street. Morgan said there is enough room on Kinross Lakes Parkway to add the sidewalk. It would be a 4.5-foot multipurpose pedestrian lane that would be painted green. It would also have a 1.5-foot curb gutter and extend all the way to Brecksville Road.

Stoppenhagen asked if there would be a physical barrier in case people are texting while walking. Some ideas included rumble strips and strobe lights.

Lyons suggested presenting this idea to some of the Kinross Lakes businesses, since their employees would be using the sidewalks. Frantz said they could be invited to a Zoom meeting to discuss ideas for this sidewalk or a traditional sidewalk located off the road.

Regarding an off-road sidewalk, Beshara asked if asphalt could be used instead of concrete. Morgan said yes. Wheeler said Kinross employees wanted these sidewalks so they could take a walk on their lunch break. The sidewalks would allow them to go to the restaurants. Morgan said some looping sidewalks could be added elsewhere in the Kinross Lakes area.



### **Richfield Heights water line**

Papp discussed plans to add water to the neighborhood, which includes Donna, Monica, Amelia, Paula and Richlawn drives. Wheeler said these residents have been asking to be connected to the water system for years. The upcoming water tower would improve the water pressure.

Papp said the estimated cost is \$2.3 million, and that is a pre-COVID figure so it is a low number. Wheeler said the assessment would be approximately \$15,000 for each of the 150 homes. Papp said the plans will be finalized and saved until Congress passes an infrastructure bill.

### **Other items**

Philipbar asked about the Giant Eagle sidewalks. Wheeler said GPD subcontracted a survey on that, and the village is waiting for the results. It would determine which side of Broadview Road would be best.

Regarding the water tower, Frantz said a pre-bid meeting will take place tomorrow. Bids are due in two weeks. Prices are escalating for the water main at the center of town. The water tower is fully designed and the EPA permits are in place. Frantz said we could start clearing the water tower site by November.

Wheeler said the Wall Street Journal is reporting that fully loaded ships are waiting in American ports to relieve the country's supply-chain problems.

Lyons adjourned the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jeff Gorman  
Clerk of Council

Mike Lyons  
Council President

