



**RICHFIELD VILLAGE COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2020
6:30 p.m.
(Meeting conducted via Zoom)**

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

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

First Readings:

RESOLUTION 79-2020

Offered by All of Council

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND FINANCE DIRECTOR TO PURCHASE ONE (1) NEW VEHICLE FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT FROM WHITMOYER AUTO GROUP, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

DISCUSSION: Domanick said a Chevy Tahoe uses a lot of gas. Stoppenhagen said Car 2 is in bad shape, and this would be cheaper than waiting until next year. Law Director Cortes the village is getting the car on a Pennsylvania pricing program that is similar to Ohio's. Assistant Fire Chief Seifert said this car is the closest of five options, and an answer is needed by tomorrow.

MOTION: TO SUSPEND SECOND AND THIRD READINGS OF RESOLUTION 79-2020.

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

MOTION: TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 79-2020.

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

WORK SESSION

Mayor's Court

Assistant Finance Director Kevin Edwards said the village will collect an estimated \$101,000 next year. We would spend \$16,931 to run Mayor's Court after expenses. We have 600 cases plus another 200 we cannot prosecute; we send all 800 to Akron municipal court. People can't pay tickets from after 2016 here in Richfield, but they could if we reopen the court.

Beshara said she got rid of Mayor's Court because it was costly and it wasn't working. Wheeler said the village could bring back a part-time worker, and the court would be better for residents.



A magistrate judge would preside, even though it is called Mayor's Court. A prosecutor and clerk would be there, as well as a police officer for protection. Waszak said that when he was mayor, court was expanded from once to twice a month because the sessions were too long. Turk said Akron is telling the village that it owes \$188,000 dating back to 2010.

Lyons said he would like to see a refinement of the figures and an outcome of the discussions with Akron. He said the village would save money by not having a full-time clerk.

2021 budget

Service Director Chris Papp discussed a draft of the capital budget. Wheeler said he does not need an administrative vehicle because he has access to vehicles. Regarding the five-ton plow truck, Wheeler said the current version is from 2001 and is rusty. Papp said the village tries to keep five plow trucks. The salt spreader inserts are made of stainless steel and should last for many years. Wheeler said the pickup truck has been taken out of the budget because the current truck should last another year. Phillipbar asked if we need the traffic signal, and Papp said it helps when fewer workers are needed to run a safety zone.

Wheeler said repairing, painting and removing lead from the Fellowship Hall and Historical Society would cost about \$80,000 per building. The Richfield Woods basketball court and trail revisions can be removed from the budget while the feasibility study is taking place. Frantz said the audio-visual update for Council chambers can be reduced from \$100,000 to \$40,000.

Frantz also discussed the comprehensive land use plan. It was started in 2007 and was written through 2020. The budget item is \$50,000. Domanick said the basketball court is important. Wheeler said it could be added after the feasibility study is completed. Phillipbar suggested that it could be put in the budget without specifying a location.

Wheeler said the village may receive a grant to the fire department diesel exhaust system. Domanick said this would be attached to trucks to reduce the risk of cancer. Papp said the survey and ground penetrating radar is budgeted for Fairview Cemetery, but not West Richfield Cemetery.

Wheeler said the pavers in Veterans Memorial Park are disintegrating, but we need to figure out how the new ones should look. The mayor said the village could pay \$60,000 to update the street lights to LED, or pay nothing by letting Ohio Edison replaced individual lights when they burn out.

Wheeler also discussed the monument signs for the Wheatley and Kinross Lakes area. They would cost \$350,000, but we do not know which businesses will locate there. Lyons said the village could hold off on that expense.



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The Briarwood sanitary sewer contribution number is \$2.2 million, but that is a placeholder for what we spend before we are reimbursed. Beshara asked about the Glencairn sewer system. Papp said we are designing the repairs, and the cost could be spread among the stakeholders.

Other business

Domanick noted the recent passings of Sonya Reichwald, who ran the Taverne of Richfield, and former Assistant Fire Chief and Council member Andy Ellis. Wheeler said the flag is flying at half staff for Mr. Ellis.

MOTION: TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS COLLECTIVE BARGAINING, COMPENSATION OF A PUBLIC EMPLOYEE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Moved by Domanick, seconded by Philipppbar. Upon roll call, motion passed unanimously.

Executive session lasted from 8:35 to 10:40 p.m., when Lyons adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Gorman
Clerk of Council

Mike Lyons
Council President

