
Village of Cedarville



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Minutes of Cedarville Council **Held November 13th, 2023**

Council met in regular session on November 13th, 2023, with Mayor John Cody, Jr. presiding. Council members present were Ms. Becknell, Mr. Brooks, Mr. Combs, Mr. Dawes, Ms. Jones, and Mr. Ruth. Fiscal Officer Howdyshell recorded the minutes.

Mr. Combs led the invocation to open the meeting.

The council meeting opened at 7:00pm and the Minutes of the October 23rd, 2023, regular meeting was approved as presented.

Mayor Cody:

- Provided an update that we experienced a 42.3% village turnout for voting in the recent election. He thanked all who voted. Mr. Brooks and Mr. Combs, along with Mr. Cody were all re-elected.
- We will be posting the Village Administrator position and look forward to interviewing candidates. Mayor Cody has been meeting with key leaders to complete an updated job description and assist with the interviewing process.
- No update on progress with 911 dispatch switch over.
- Mayor commended Ms. Kennedy for organizing the Veterans Day memorial event. The invocation event singer, event setup, and all involved showed great honor for our service members in the community.
- Cedarville University had an open meeting on Thursday November 9th to present concept plans for the 72N and Kyle drive property. They will be attending the November 27th council meeting to discuss the project and present their current plans for the property.
- A representative from the community has approached the village in request to use the U14 field at the park as a potential high school soccer field. There is a grass roots community movement to start varsity soccer at the high school. Council held general discussion around the idea and agreed that more information will be needed before any type of commitment would be made.

Police Chief Smith:

- 279 calls over the past 5 weeks.
- Drug take backs were held on October 28th with a return of over four pounds of prescription medication.

Village Administrator Kannedy:

- Ms. Kannedy would like to begin the process of discussing fees being charged for activities in town such as food trucks, outdoor storage at the farm and considering whether the fees are making an impact in the way they originally were intended. The

finance committee will review and make recommendations to the council before moving forward with any changes.

- Met with a paving vendor in consideration of the getting the parking lot surfaced at the senior center. The asphalt to resurface the lot would be approximately 28k. Mr. Combs moved, and Mr. Ruth seconded to approve the paving of the lot. The motion passed with all ayes.
- We have received quotes to pave other areas in town that are outside of our current budget range for projects, but we will explore grant options for subsidizing project cost.
- We only plan to have one council meeting in December. We will have the regularly scheduled meeting the second Monday in December with no second meeting to be held.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Warrants: \$75,396.61 were submitted for approval.

Mr. Dawes moved, and Mr. Brooks seconded to approve the warrants. Motion was passed with all ayes.

Committee Reports:

- Community Relations:
 - Next meeting scheduled for 11/20/2023.
- Finance/Utilities:
 - All members of the committee were present to discuss key items of need around the community.
 - The drainage project on Milburn, Miller, and E. Elm is still working towards completion.
 - Paving behind the senior center was discussed.
 - 2024 pay rates for employees were discussed. Police officer pay was discussed at length. Similarly sized communities in the region are being evaluated for comparison.
 - The overall police budget is being re-evaluated for 2024 needs in comparison to the village budget.
- Fiscal Officer: Mr. Howdyshell discussed a reduction in village premium for employee health insurance for 2024. Mr. Howdyshell also discussed the need to approve budget adjustments and any wage increases by the first council meeting in December.
- Solicitor: Mr. Bogenschutz was excused from the meeting.

Comments:

- Council: None
- Guests:

- Mr. Gillaugh asked if there was any progress on the power pole by Mom and Dad's - no update.
- Mr. Preston Freeman asked if the Village is going to redefine legislation to include the changes by Issue 2. We will need to consult with our Solicitor as to what we need to do moving forward. Legislation is currently being adjusted at the state level that inhibits our ability to evaluate adjustments until completed.
- Mr. Preston Frean also spoke of his concern for updating current rules around electric bikes, scooters, and skateboards as it is slightly confusing and lacking in complete explanation. He also asked about sidewalks and any efforts to improve them. The council thanked him for bringing out positive ideas and thoughts and will continue to discuss these ideas moving forward. They also explained that this has been a topic for many meetings in the past and our commitment to evaluate.

Ms. Becknell moved to enter into executive session and Ms. Jones seconded. The motion passed with all ayes.

Ms. Becknell moved, and Mr. Ruth seconded to leave executive session and adjourn the meeting. The motion passed with all ayes.

The meeting adjourned at 8:31pm.