



**RICHFIELD VILLAGE COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
(Meeting conducted via Zoom teleconference)**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2020
6:30 p.m.**

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

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Wheeler gave an update on the village's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The incident command team consists of the mayor, executive assistant Debbie Bluso-Rogers, and the police and fire chiefs.

Fire Chief McLean said the mayor has given updates to Council, Richfield Township and Boston Township. A potential quarantine site has been set up at 3921 Brecksville Road, which can also serve as a temporary fire station in case a decontamination is necessary. Holiday Inn Express would also have rooms available for quarantine. He said anyone can self-quarantine at home as well. The incident command team meets every 24 hours to assess hazards and risks.

At this point, Ohio has 1,950 cases of COVID-19 and 29 deaths. Summit County has 128 cases. Richfield has had incident action plans in place for 10 years for events like the circus and the Sweet Corn Challenge. However, this is not a one-time incident like an explosion. The fire department has a stockpile of personal protection equipment for first responders.

Beshara said the Summit County map shows no cases in Richfield yet. McLean said we will eventually have some. Beshara asked about patient privacy issues. McLean said the fire department would have a patient's address but would not share it. Wheeler said he issued a 25-page mayor's report and is available to take questions.

Lyons asked if the crisis has affected the village's income and expenditures. Turk said revenues have come in at 23 percent in the first 25 percent of the year. Philippbar asked about the month of March compared to March 2019. Wheeler said revenue in that period is only down by \$5,200. Turk said the income tax deadline has been delayed from April 15 to July 15. Wheeler said income taxes will be collected in the same way despite how many people are working from home.



Planning and Zoning Director Frantz said that some of the village's big corporations like Cisco and Winar Connection are doing very good business. Village expenditures are at 15.7 percent, and Wheeler said that is where they should be. General fund spending is at 22.3 percent.

Beshara said people are asking about mulch behind Town Hall, and she asked when the service workers would return. Service Director Papp said each division has several people working once a week. He added that "flushable" wipes should actually not be flushed because they interfere with the pump stations. Beshara also asked about cemeteries, and Wheeler said the order prohibiting gatherings of more than 10 people is still in place.

NEW BUSINESS

Wheeler gave an update on Briarwood. He said some of the items in the current version of the contract are not acceptable to the village. He also asked what needs to be done with the leveling of Route 303. Frantz said GPD is looking into that and will report back to Council. The village's legal team is working with Water & Sewer LLC on a development agreement that would include connections to new sewer lines and a pump station. The village expects Water & Sewer LLC to arrange a meeting with ODOT because Route 303 is a state route.

Lyons said there was a proposal to use TIF funds for improvements to Route 303, but Todd Hunt of the legal team said that would not be allowed. Lyons said Council should go through the proposed agreement so everyone understands it. Frantz said that is set for the April 21 Council meeting.

Beshara asked when the village can tell Water & Sewer the agreement must be executed. Lyons said the holdup is always on their end, and the village has laid out everything needed to move forward. Waszak asked what the township is doing regarding this issue. Lyons said the township has not been asked. Waszak said that since the township would get property tax revenue, the village should be able to recoup some costs.

Conducting future meetings

Lyons said meetings should take place on Zoom on their regular schedule. Work session items could be discussed at regular meetings, rather than at a separate, monthly work session.

Frantz said Council needs to conduct an executive session on land acquisition and economic development. Cleveland Water is also planning to attend a face-to-face meeting in May, if that is possible, about water-line extension and assessments. Waszak asked if Cleveland has signed the agreement, and Frantz said no because it is dealing with an AT&T easement.



Frantz said the Planning & Zoning Commission is ready to conduct Zoom meetings. However, attorney Bill Hanna has advised that BZA and conditional-use cases must be conducted in person. Amy Nauer, Frantz' assistant, said there may be a second BZA case regarding the reformatting of a parking area.

Tim Baker of the police department said that for executive sessions, he can place non-Council members into the Zoom "waiting room." Philipbar thanked Baker for coordinating the Zoom meeting.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

First Readings:

RESOLUTION 17-2020

Offered by All of Council

A RESOLUTION TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE VILLAGE OF RICHFIELD, STATE OF OHIO, DURING THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2020, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

MOTION: TO SUSPEND SECOND AND THIRD READINGS OF RESOLUTION 17-2020.

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

MOTION: TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 17-2020.

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

RESOLUTION 18-2020

Offered by All of Council

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE WARRANTS FOR PAYMENT BASED ON THEN AND NOW CERTIFICATES FOR PURCHASES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

MOTION: TO SUSPEND SECOND AND THIRD READINGS OF RESOLUTION 18-2020.

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

MOTION: TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 18-2020.

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



RESOLUTION 21-2020

Offered by All of Council

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A POLICE MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT WITH THE VILLAGE OF PENINSULA AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

MOTION: TO SUSPEND SECOND AND THIRD READINGS OF RESOLUTION 21-2020.

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

MOTION: TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 21-2020.

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

Lyons adjourned the meeting at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Gorman
Council Clerk

Mike Lyons
Council President