



RICHFIELD VILLAGE COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES

THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 2018

6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Domanick, Healey, Hudak, Lanford and Lyons. **ABSENT:** Kahoe and Wheeler.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Beshara, Parks and Recreation Director Jocek, Finance Director Turk.

Elevator for Richfield Historical Society building

Scott Wallenhorst from GPD Group presented several drawings of the Richfield Historical Society building, displaying the options of a wheelchair lift in the front of the building or on the south side.

On the front, the lift would be to the right of a new set of stairs. Rails and concrete would be added to mask the lift. On the side, the options would be for the wheelchair user to enter straight into the lift or to approach it from the side of the building.

Wallenhorst also presented options with a roof over the lift on the front and the side. He said the roof is not necessary, as the lifts are designed to be outside. Also, he said the lifts leave room for everyone to exit the building safely.

Lyons said he was leaning toward the side option. Healey introduced Pete Husak from Cornerstone Masonry. He showed samples of concrete and brick with sandstone caps. Beshara said the village would continue to work with Wallenhorst on the project.

Cemetery Fees

Hudak said the Cemetery Board tried to come up with reasonable fee increases in light of the Fairview expansion and other costs. He presented a spreadsheet of cemetery costs in Richfield and other communities.



The proposed increases for lot sales would be \$325 to \$450 for veterans; \$400 to \$600 for village residents; and \$525 to \$725 for non-residents. Also, the village would sell in-ground lots for cremains at a cost of \$225 for veterans, \$300 for village residents and \$360 for non-residents.

Healey noted that the non-resident rate applies to Richfield Township residents, as well as former 10-year village residents. Beshara said the fees were last raised in 2011.

Senior Center Vehicle

Beshara said some seniors were in the audience for this discussion. Hudak said a 2012 Ford Transit Connect is available from Montrose Mazda of Kent for \$11,490, and it has some warranty remaining. Hudak said he would be willing to investigate to make sure the vehicle does not have flood damage.

Turk presented a handout with options to purchase or lease a new vehicle or to buy a used one. She also examined rental options and car services like limousine companies or Uber. Lanford said handicap accessibility should be considered.

Jan from the Senior Center said the village can sell the current sedan. Lyons said a new vehicle is in the budget, and Beshara added that Council's approval is not necessary if the cost is under \$25,000.

Yellow Creek Watershed

Beshara presented a letter to the editor of the West Side Leader from a Yellow Creek Foundation board member who is in favor of the new Yellow Creek Watershed Conservancy District. A court hearing has not been scheduled yet.

Domanick said the consensus is that the village does not want to be part of the district. Healey said Council has passed an ordinance to that effect. The mayor sent a letter to the judge conveying the same message. Healey asked about the Summit County Stormwater District, and Beshara said only Bath Township has joined it.

Work-Hour Ordinance

Lyons said last year, an effort was made to increase some village workers from a 37.5 hour work week to a 40-hour work week, but no agreement was reached on a pay increase. Hudak said if the administration is okay with the current situation, it should be left alone.



Lanford said comp time was also part of this original discussion, and it still needs to be discussed at an upcoming work session, but Beshara said Council should wait for the resolution of police and fire arbitration.

Lanford indicated that it has been over a year since comp time issues were identified, and Council was ready to approve Ordinance 62-2017 last year when a couple of service department employees asked that consideration be made for snow plow season. Council requested 62-2017 be redistributed to Council so it could be discussed at an upcoming work session.

Mayor's salary

Lyons said Hanna was asked to prepare legislation on a reduction in the mayor's salary. Former Council president Roger Swan, who was in the audience, said new legislation should go through the council president. According to the charter, new legislation should be presented to the Council clerk by 9 a.m. on the Friday before the meeting.

Regarding the mayor's salary, Hudak said the mayor's job takes between 40 and 50 hours per week. Rolling back the salary, he said, would limit the pool of mayoral candidates. Domanick said the mayor would have option of donating a portion of the salary. Beshara said the mayor has a lot of work to do with economic development and employee management.

Lanford said she wasn't opposed to discussing a reduction in the mayor's salary and would like to see it include a discussion of restructuring the administration, possibly considering a village manager.

Swan said the charter review is coming up in 2020 if anyone wanted to explore a city manager form of government. Lyons said if the mayor's salary were to be reduced, it would only be fair to consider Council's salaries as well.

Recreation grant

Jocek said a grant is available from the state that could be used to repair the Eastwood barn. The grant would cover 75 percent of the cost. Lyons said she should apply for it.

Lyons adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.



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Respectfully Submitted:

Jeff Gorman
Clerk of Council

Mike Lyons
Council President