

**VILLAGE OF CRIDERSVILLE COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting –August 10, 2020**

**Due to the Covid-19 pandemic gathering restrictions, the meeting was held at the shelter house at Tower Park.**

Call to Order  
Pledge of Allegiance  
Roll Call

Present: Mayor Rick Walls, Council members: Joe Bailey, Dorance Thompson, Frank Oen, Rick Allen and Stacey Cook. Also present: Fiscal Officer Susan Bassitt, Administrator Jarid Kohlrieser, Solicitor Angela Elliott, Police Chief Paul Robbins and Fire Chief Rick Miller. Eric West arrived shortly after the meeting convened.

It was moved by Bailey, seconded by Allen to accept the minutes of the July 13, 2020 regular Council meeting. Motion passed 5-0.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Committee of the Whole:** Meeting was scheduled for August 26th after the Park Committee Meeting at 6:00 at Tower Park. Village finances, the trash ordinance among other topics will be discussed.

**Utilities & Surface Water:** Joe Bailey stated that Village crews dug and fixed a water main break on S. Oak St. They also dug and fixed a couple sink holes due to broken storm tiles along Marcella. Routine maintenance was performed on all the blower units and collector units in the wastewater plant. The committee met on July 21<sup>st</sup> to discuss storm water problems in town. They decided to add a storm sewer fee to the monthly water and sewer bills.

**Planning:** Rick Allen reported that there have been three (3) zoning violations for the month. Only one is yet to be resolved.

**Finance:** No report was given but a committee meeting was set for August 20<sup>th</sup> at noon at the Village Hall to discuss the budget and increasing Police Department revenue.

**Park:** Stacey Cook reported that the Midwest Electric grant Jarid applied for was denied for the Legacy Park Gateway Project. The supply company and masons have been contacted and once information is received from them and a new permit is issued from Miami County, the project will be started as the mason's schedule allows. A committee meeting was scheduled for August 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00p.m. at Tower Park to discuss future park development.

**Streets:** Dorance Thompson said a committee meeting was held on July 21<sup>st</sup> to discuss the application to Ohio Public Works Commission for a street paving project on North Gay St./W. Sugar estimated at \$126,083.00, the Village will need to pay 10% of the project.

**Properties:** Frank Oen reported the Community Building at Tower Park project has been started. Village crews removed one bathroom. The Village Administrator suggested converting one of the bathrooms to a storage closet and remodeling the other bathroom. Motion to covert one bath to a closet and remodel the other was made by Allen, seconded by Cook. Motion passed 6-0.

**Safety:** Fire Chief Rick Miller said his department had 47 EMS calls and 8 fire calls in June. He announced that the Fire Department has decided to cancel the Jamboree for this year due to the Covid-19 restrictions. The department is exploring other possible fund raising events this fall.

Police Chief Robbins said there were 127 calls for service in July and \$1,270.00 was brought into Mayor's court. Chief Robbins said there was a safety meeting July 22<sup>nd</sup>. The committee discussed and agreed to hire a fourth (4) full time police officer. The officer in mind is Jacob Gilstrap who is currently a part time officer with the department. Susan Bassitt said she doesn't feel the Village can afford to pay another full time officer. She said the police department has already

used over half their 2020 budget for wages and there are no more available funds. Bassitt added that she is concerned the department could be looking at layoffs early next year. Bailey said we should go ahead with the hire and lay him off later if necessary. A motion to hire Jacob Gilstrap full time was made by Allen and seconded by Bailey. Motion passed 6-0. Joe Bailey said he doesn't know how the budget works, Rick Allen agreed. Bassitt said there was a meeting last fall in which they were in attendance where they all discussed the police budget. A Finance meeting was scheduled for August 20<sup>th</sup> at noon at the Village Hall to discuss the budget and ideas to increase revenue for the police department.

OLD BUSINESS:

Rick Allen said again that something needs done about trash around town. He said Dorance Thompson has pictures on his phone showing some of the problems. The Village doesn't have an enforceable ordinance on file. Council had the Village Solicitor write a new trash ordinance which she brought to council in March. Ordinance # 1694 was tabled in April to be discussed at a later date. This issue will be discussed again at the August 26<sup>th</sup> Committee of the Whole meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Walls introduced **Resolution #2393**. Motion to read the resolution by title only and pass as an emergency was made by Thompson and seconded by Cook, Motion passed 6-0. Mayor Walls read **Resolution #2393, a resolution authorizing the Village Administrator, Jarid Kohrieser to prepare and submit an application to participate in the Ohio Public Works Commission state capital improvement and/or local transportation improvement program(s) and to execute contracts as required and declaring an emergency**. The grant being applied for would be for street repairs on N. Gay St. and W. Sugar St. at an estimated cost of \$126,038.00. The Village would need to pay about ten percent of the cost which would be about \$12,603.80. Motion to pass Resolution #2393 as read and as an emergency was made by Thompson and seconded by Bailey. Motion passed 6-0.

Mayor Walls introduced **Resolution #2394**. Motion to read the resolution by title only for the first of (3) three readings was made by Cook and seconded by Bailey. Motion passed 6-0. Mayor Walls read **Resolution #2394, A resolution replacing Resolution #2283 passed on December 14, 2015 and authorizing the Village Administrator to set water and sewer rates and fees for the Village of Cridersville for the general operation, maintenance, and debt service of the Village water and sewer systems and creating a STORM WATER MAINTENANCE FUND**. The resolution keeps the current water and sewer rate increases as established in Resolution #2283, in addition, the resolution adds a \$2.00 per residence, and \$2.00 per unit of multi-family residences monthly fee for storm water maintenance. The new fee will be added to the monthly water and sewer bill as a separate charge. The commercial and industrial rates have not yet been set. Motion to accept Resolution #2394 as read for the first reading was made by Allen and seconded by Bailey. Motion passed 6-0.

Stacey Cook brought up the costs of building permits in different zoning districts, stating there are residential homes in commercial districts that are forced to pay the higher permit rates. She would like to discuss it further.

Cook also said the Garden Club will be holding their annual Scarecrow Sale on September 12, 2020. The Historical Society's Annual Bean Supper will be held on September 24, 2020 as a drive thru event.

Dorance Thompson said the Lions Club fall blood drive has been cancelled.

Motion to adjourn was made by Bailey and seconded by Thompson. Motion passed 6-0.

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Susan Bassitt, Village Fiscal Officer

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Rick Walls, Mayor