

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

November 8, 2021

The Council of the Village of Coldwater held its regular meeting in the Village Council Chambers on November 8, 2021, with Mayor Doug Bertke presiding. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

Roll call was responded to by: Buschur, Siefring, Schwieterman, Bettinger and Rutschilling. Brunswick was absent.

Invocation by Schwieterman.

Guests included Jason Miller and Georgia Rindler.

A motion was made by Buschur, second by Siefring to approve the minutes from October 25, 2021. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Buschur, Siefring, Schwieterman, Bettinger and Rutschilling. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Schwieterman, second by Bettinger to approve the bills. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Buschur, Siefring, Schwieterman, Bettinger and Rutschilling. Motion Carried.

Item C was added to the agenda under New Business. Item C is for a motion to approve the Christmas at Memorial Park activities. A motion was made by Rutschilling, second by Schwieterman to approve the revised agenda. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Buschur, Siefring, Schwieterman, Bettinger and Rutschilling. Motion Carried.

Comments from the Public: None

Reports:

Police: Miller said the October statistics report has been updated. He said staffing is a slight issue right now due to employees using up vacation time and doing some training.

Finance Director: Eyink discussed the cash position report and the income tax report.

Village Manager: Thomas said the crews finished the new metal roof on shelter house two last week. He said the leaves are hanging on for now and he is afraid they are going to all come down at once.

Mayor: None

Environmental: An Environmental Committee meeting was held on October 25, 2021 at 6:30 PM. Present were Schwieterman, Brunswick, Bertke, Thomas, Siefring, Rutschilling, Bettinger, Eyink and Don Bruns. The committee was given an update on the Wastewater Department with emphasis on current issues. The main issue the department is experiencing is pump troubles at the lift stations due to pumps becoming plugged. The village has three lift stations, and the Third Street Lift Station serving the southeast area of town is experiencing multiple incidents a year. The pump's impellers are found to be entangled with flushable wipes when crew members remove the pump to alleviate the issue. While deemed "flushable", the wipes do not break down like toilet paper which presents issues for the sanitary system.

The committee discussed solutions with input from Don Bruns. In the short-term, a letter of awareness and request to throw flushable wipes in trash has been sent to the residents being served by the problematic lift station. Additional solutions will be investigated for improving the sanitary system.

In addition, the committee received an update on other areas relating to Water and Wastewater:

- Aquatic growth in Lagoon #3 is being treated by an external group. We had two treatments this year. They are proposing four treatments next year
- Lagoon #2 will need sludge removal within the next few years. There is some buildup of sludge in pond #3.
- Planning for the installation of generators at Third Street and Northfield Lift Stations and water supply wells by end of next year.
- West water tower to be cleaned and painted as required, estimated maintenance cost \$40,000-\$50,000 in 2022.
- Water line improvements to improve flow of supply by routing a loop under the tracks near the end of Hardin Street.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM

Research: A Research Committee meeting was held on October 25, 2021 at 7:32 PM. Present were Bettinger, Brunswick, Rutschilling, Eyink, Bertke, Thomas, Buschur, Siefring, Schwieterman, Miller and Judy Koesters. The research meeting was to discuss a proposal of a Medical Marijuana dispensary in Coldwater. An independent company has made a request to the Mercer County Community Development Director as to the acceptability by any communities in the County.

Discussion included:

- As of right now, if a person wanted to open a shop in our town; there is no ordinance to stop that from happening
- If we pass an ordinance, what type of specifications can we add to the ordinance?
 - We should be able to add in any specifications we feel needed
- Is there a limit of the number of dispensaries allowed in Ohio?
-130 in the state of Ohio.
- Where is the closest dispensary?
-Wapakoneta, Chief Miller will touch base with their police chief
- Would it move from medical marijuana to recreational?
- Can they just purchase or be able to smoke inside?
- Is there a distance law about close to church or school?

The initial concern from Chief Miller is do we want to promote Coldwater as a place to have access to Medical Marijuana? The overall approach from council is cautionary and we will continue to research this topic. Meeting adjourned at 7:54 PM.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Ordinance 1705: An ordinance redistricting wards withing the Village of Coldwater. Ordinance 1705 received its first reading.

Guidance from the US Treasury allows for ARPA funding to be used on water and wastewater infrastructure. A motion was made by Schwieterman, second by Buschur to approve using ARPA funds to purchase generators for the well pumps and three lift stations. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Buschur, Siefring, Schwieterman, Bettinger and Rutschilling. Motion Carried.

The first Christmas at Memorial Park is being held throughout the month of December in the Village owned park. A motion was made by Buschur, second by Rutschilling to approve the activities for Christmas at Memorial Park. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Buschur, Siefring, Schwieterman, Bettinger and Rutschilling. Motion Carried.

Council Call-Final Comments:

Schwieterman asked the police chief if it was legal to walk with strollers on the road. He said he received a complaint about them not being on the sidewalk. The chief said from a liability perspective it would be their fault if there was an accident but it is something that is unenforceable from their perspective.

Rutschilling asked about the missing carvings at the park. Thomas said a couple of them have been taken down. The base was rotten and will be repaired with a cement base. He also asked about the availability of electricity for Christmas at the Park. Thomas said to contact Roessner Energy if they have questions while setting up.

A motion to adjourn was made by Rutschilling, second by Siefring. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:21 PM.



Douglas Bertke, Mayor

Attest:


Jason Eyink, Clerk of Council