

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

May 13, 2024

The Council of the Village of Coldwater held its regular meeting in the Village Council Chambers on May 13, 2024, with Mayor Doug Bertke presiding. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

Roll call was responded to by: Niekamp, Bettinger, Buschur, Seitz and Rutschilling. Davis was absent. Also present were Village Manager Eric Thomas, Law Director Judy Koesters and Finance Director Jason Eyink.

Invocation by Bettinger.

Guests included Kevin Wynn and Georgia Rindler. Other guests included Kyle Dues and Josh Carrasquillo.

A motion was made by Seitz, second by Niekamp to approve the minutes from April 22, 2024. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Niekamp, Bettinger, Buschur, Seitz and Rutschilling. Motion Carried.

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

The agenda was revised to add a report from the Finance Committee under section 10. A motion was made by Niekamp, second by Rutschilling to approve the revised agenda. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Niekamp, Bettinger, Buschur, Seitz and Rutschilling. Motion Carried.

Comments from the Public: None

Reports:

Police: Wynn said he recently met with the Civics classes at the school. They discussed potential community service hours for seniors at the park during the spring. He has received complaints about speed on the new section of West Vine Street. It has been patrolled recently with no violations observed. He also borrowed a speed trailer and has it out there currently.

Finance: Eyink discussed the cash position report and the income tax report. The income tax revenue is \$150,000 favorable from last year. He is cautiously optimistic but warned of a few changes that could impact the remainder of the year.

Manager: Thomas said crews are busy working on the splash pad. Junk drop off is this week and limb pickup is next week. He said the footer is poured near the splash pad and Lefeld Welding is working on the fence. We are hoping AES electric will be there soon. Rutschilling asked about a license needed for the splash pad and Thomas said it is not necessary because the water is not re-circulating.

Mayor: None

Committee: The Finance Committee met on April 22, 2024 at 8:00 PM. Present were Niekamp, Bettinger, Seitz, Rutschilling, Davis, Buschur, Bertke, Thomas, Eyink and Wynn. Eyink presented information received from the consultant regarding street conditions and the cost of repair and paving streets. Discussion was held about the information presented. Many of the concrete streets in town are failing and need a full depth repair. These streets will need torn out and replaced with asphalt streets at some point. This is a huge financial burden but the lower costs of maintaining the asphalt roads in the future would be a benefit. It was suggested that a list of the main concrete streets that need repaired should be created. Rutschilling made a motion to enter executive session to discuss personnel, second by Thomas at 8:31 PM. Buschur made a motion to come out of executive session, second by Bertke at 8:34 PM. Lastly a discussion on a 5-year levy which would increase the current income tax by half of a percent took place. The levy would benefit the general fund which could be used for things such as street repairs, park improvements and it would help to keep employee wages competitive. It was decided to hold a

public meeting to gather feedback from the community regarding a possible levy. A date will be set at the next council meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:47 PM.

Old Business:

A motion was made by Seitz, second by Bettinger to appoint Josh Carrasquillo to the Mercer County Planning Commission. Josh is currently the Butler Township zoning officer. He will be the representative for the Village of Coldwater. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Niekamp, Bettinger, Buschur, Seitz and Rutschilling. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Buschur, second by Niekamp to go into executive session to discuss land and personnel. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Niekamp, Bettinger, Buschur, Seitz and Rutschilling. Motion Carried. Time 7:10 PM.

A motion was made by Seitz, second by Rutschilling to come out of executive session. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Niekamp, Bettinger, Buschur, Seitz and Rutschilling. Motion Carried. Time 7:31 PM.

Following executive session council advised Judy Koesters to prepare a contract between the Village of Coldwater and McDonalds Corporation. The Village will be buying two properties and Thomas will sign the documents. A motion was made by Niekamp, second by Rutschilling to enter into a sales contract with McDonalds Corporation. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Niekamp, Bettinger, Buschur, Seitz and Rutschilling. Motion Carried.

Ordinance 1730: An ordinance accepting the plat of RK development phase one to the Village of Coldwater Ohio, accepting the dedication to public use of the streets shown on said plat and declaring an effective date. A motion was made by Buschur, second by Seitz to remove this agenda item from the table. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Niekamp, Bettinger, Buschur, Seitz and Rutschilling. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Niekamp, second by Bettinger to approve Ordinance 1730 on its third and final reading. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Niekamp, Bettinger, Buschur, Seitz and Rutschilling. Motion Carried.

New Business:

Ordinance 1732- An ordinance establishing certain positions and a pay schedule for hourly and salaried employees of the Village of Coldwater Ohio, providing for employee benefits not otherwise specified in the personnel policy manual and declaring an emergency. Ordinance 1732 received its first reading.

Council Call-Final Comments:

A public meeting was scheduled for June 3rd, 2024. The purpose of the meeting is to get public feedback concerning a possible income tax increase.

Niekamp commended Wynk. He and several others have received very good feedback from the local businesses regarding his visits.

Buschur reminded walkers and joggers to use the sidewalks and not the streets. He is afraid someone is going to get hit on the street especially when it is dark.

Rutschilling asked about the house that was taken down near the eye doctor. Thomas said there was a county program that paid for the demolition.

A motion to adjourn was made by Niekamp, second by Buschur. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:41 PM.

Attest:


Jason Eyink, Clerk of Council


Douglas Bertke, Mayor