

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

April 21, 2025

The Council of the Village of Coldwater held its regular meeting in the Village Council Chambers on April 21, 2025, with Mayor Doug Bertke presiding. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

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

Invocation by Davis.

Guests included Kevin Wynk, Georgia Rindler and Lance Crum.

A motion was made by Niekamp, second by Buschur to approve the minutes from March 24, 2025. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Davis, Rutschilling, Buschur, Niekamp, Bettinger and Seitz. Motion Carried.

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

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

Comments from the Public: Lance Crum introduced himself as a new part-time police officer for the Village. He moved to Coldwater in 2002. He has over 30 years of law enforcement experience mainly at the Mercer County Sheriff's office.

Reports:

Police: Wynk said officer Crum was hired as a part time officer to help fill in some shifts at the hospital and cover for vacations. His department recently received a \$22,000 grant for body worn cameras from the Ohio Department of Public Safety.

Finance: Eyink advised that the Ohio Division of Liquor Control sent their letter regarding any objections to the renewal of liquor permits in town. Chief Wynk said there are no issues with any permit holders at this time. There will be no need to pass a resolution for any objections to a permit with the State. Eyink distributed a letter from Dynamic Federal Credit Union awarding a \$7500 donation to Memorial Park. The money will be used for a new set of large soccer goals and for baseball and softball equipment.

Manager: Thomas said we will need a motion to allow Priority Power Management to negotiate and execute a new electric aggregation contract. Our current contract expires at the end of 2025. Thomas said Butler Street could possibly get paved on Wednesday. If they don't get to it Wednesday it will be a couple of weeks from now. Thomas reminded everyone that election day is May 6<sup>th</sup>. There will be a statewide issued to renew the OPWC program. The Village has received significant funding for street repairs from this program in the past.

Mayor: Bertke attended the annual DARE graduation at the Mercer County Elks last week. He was impressed by the number of graduates.

Transportation Committee: A transportation committee was held on March 24, 2025 at 6:15 PM. Present were Rutschilling, Davis, Thomas, Bertke, Eyink, Niekamp, Seitz and Wynk. A request was made to change a street name in Wenning Acres from Lefeld Drive to Farmview Drive. The committee approved of moving forward with this change. A request was made from a private business to allow dumpsters on the street since they have no where else to put one. The ordinance will be revised to allow dumpsters in the roadway with prior approval from the Village. Chief Wynk said people are showing up way too early to pick up students from school. He is looking into some changes to our parking ordinance. A discussion was held regarding permanently closing Elizabeth Street on the west side of the school. A meeting will be scheduled

with the school and the fire department to make sure this is acceptable. A request was made to install a deaf child sign on East South Street. The committee discussed the advantages and disadvantages and decided not to install the sign at this time. The individual can display their own sign as long as it adheres to the sign ordinance. Meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Old Business:

Ordinance 1752 remained tabled.

A motion was made by Rutschilling, second by Davis to go into executive session to discuss personnel. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Davis, Rutschilling, Buschur, Niekamp, Bettinger and Seitz. Motion Carried. Time 7:13 PM.

A motion was made by Niekamp, second by Bettinger to come out of executive session. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Davis, Rutschilling, Buschur, Niekamp, Bettinger and Seitz. Motion Carried. Time 7:36 PM. No action taken.

New Business:

Resolution 841: A resolution authorizing participation in the ODOT road salt contracts awarded for 2025 and declaring an emergency. A motion was made by Rutschilling, second by Buschur to suspend the rules for Resolution 841. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Davis, Rutschilling, Buschur, Niekamp, Bettinger and Seitz. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Davis, second by Bettinger to approve Resolution 841 on its first and final reading. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Davis, Rutschilling, Buschur, Niekamp, Bettinger and Seitz. Motion Carried.

Resolution 842: A resolution authorizing the village administrator to dispose of certain property declared as surplus through internet auction and declaring an emergency. A motion was made by Buschur, second by Seitz to suspend the rules for Resolution 842. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Davis, Rutschilling, Buschur, Niekamp, Bettinger and Seitz. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Davis, second by Niekamp to approve Resolution 842 on its first and final reading. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Davis, Rutschilling, Buschur, Niekamp, Bettinger and Seitz. Motion Carried.

Ordinance 1756: An ordinance establishing amended appropriations of the Village of Coldwater for the fiscal year January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025 and declaring an emergency. A motion was made by Bettinger, second by Niekamp to suspend the rules for Ordinance 1756. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Davis, Rutschilling, Buschur, Niekamp, Bettinger and Seitz. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Davis, second by Rutschilling to approve Ordinance 1756 on its first and final reading. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Davis, Rutschilling, Buschur, Niekamp, Bettinger and Seitz. Motion Carried.

Ordinance 1758: An ordinance prohibiting the placing of items on public right of way within the corporate limits of the Village of Coldwater Ohio, setting for the penalties for violations thereof and declaring an effective date. Ordinance 1758 received its first reading.

A motion was made by Niekamp, second by Davis to appoint Eyink as the public records designee for each member of council. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Davis, Rutschilling, Buschur, Niekamp, Bettinger and Seitz. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Buschur, second by Rutschilling to allow Priority Power Management to negotiate and execute a new electric aggregation contract. Roll call resulted in the following ayes: Davis, Rutschilling, Buschur, Niekamp, Bettinger and Seitz. Motion Carried.

Council Call-Final Comments:

Thomas said a light pole on diamond 8 at the park fell over the weekend. The wooden poles are in bad shape and will probably need replaced in the near future.

Rutschilling asked if the electric vehicle chargers in town make money. Eyink said there is a small amount of revenue that comes in from the chargers, but there is also a monthly fee to have electric at those sites.

Bettinger wished all of the spring sports good luck.

Koesters said the new storage building near the depot looks really nice.

A motion to adjourn was made by Niekamp, second by Seitz. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Jason Eyink, Clerk of Council



Douglas Bertke, Mayor