

## **VILLAGE OF CORWIN**

**Warren County, Ohio**

### **Business Meeting Minutes for April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

Corwin Village Council met at 7:00 p.m. for a regularly scheduled business meeting in the Wayne Township Administration Building at 6050 North Clarksville Road, Waynesville, OH.

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Jess Cordery III, Mayor

#### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Jess Cordery III, the Mayor, led the pledge of allegiance.

#### **ROLL CALL**

A roll call was conducted to determine if a quorum was present. A majority of Council members were present, along with the Mayor.

NAME	ATTENDANCE
Mayor Cordery	Present
Councilmember Baldwin	Present
Councilmember Clark	Absent
Councilmember Cummins	Present
Councilmember Femmer	Present
Councilmember Patrick	Present
Clerk-Treasurer Fitzsimmons	Present

#### **MEETING MINUTES**

##### **Motion**

Councilmember Femmer moved and was seconded by Councilmember Baldwin to approve the March 13<sup>th</sup> and March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Meeting Minutes. A voice vote was conducted, and the majority carried the motion 4 Aye / 0 Nay / 0 Abstain.

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## PRESENTATION

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**Don Mayer, Attorney at Law** – Mr. Mayer represents Dale Dakin and the AmeriPark development. Mayer stated that Mr. Dakin had reconsidered his options and has decided to move forward with his planned development. Mr. Dakin inquired from the Council if Mr. Dakin needed to start anew or if his client may pick up where he left off in the process. Further, Mayer stated that he does not want to deal with the Village Solicitor because Richards failed to share a communication with the Council from him, which subsequently created issues for his client.

Councilmember Cummins stated that he did not need Mr. Dakin to restart the process but instead pick up where he left off. Cummins stated that the Village only needs three items to proceed (a) maps to be submitted to the engineering group, (b) covenants and restrictions for the business park, and (c) an assurity bond for the project. Cummins further stated that he would meet Mr. Mayer after the meeting to answer any further questions.

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## CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

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**Darren Veneman - 6778 Sun Ridge Way** – Mr. Veneman states that he submitted a resume to fill an open seat on Council. Mayor Cordery advised that the Council would discuss the vacant Council position later in the meeting.

**Susan Ann Creamer - 6437 Sun Ridge Drive** – Ms. Creamer states that stormwater is being blocked on her property, and she is requesting the Village to open up her ditch more to allow the water to follow. Councilmember Cummins stated that Ms. Creamer should get several quotes from a landscaper to do the work and then present the bill to the Village to be paid.

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## OLD BUSINESS

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**Village Website Upgrade** – The Mayor shared with the Council that he reviewed the two quotes for the website work and hosting. Cordery stated that he favored the proposal from Town Web Design; however, the Mayor stated that he wants to see if Town Web Design would be willing to reduce their price further since the Village of Corwin is small.

**Ohio Greenworks Landscaping Quote** – Ohio Greenworks submitted a new quote at Councilmember Femmer’s request to use dyed black mulch for the Balladier Boulevard. Ohio Greenworks quoted the landscaping work, weeding, and mulching of Balladier Blvd for \$4,529.17, an increase of \$360.21 from the original quote.

The quote provides the following services -

- Pre-emergent application
- Monthly bed checks
- Mulch Prep
- Black Dyed Mulch
- VIP Pre Emergent

**Motion**

Councilmember Femmer made the motion, and Councilmember Cummins seconded that the Village of Corwin accepts the landscaping, mulching, and weeding of Balladier Blvd quote as provided by Ohio Greenworks in the amount of \$4,529.17. Additionally, the Clerk has the authority to execute the contract with Ohio Greenworks.

A roll call vote was conducted, and the majority carried the motion 4 Aye / 0 Nay / 0 Abstain.

Councilmember Baldwin	Aye
Councilmember Clark	Absent
Councilmember Cummins	Aye
Councilmember Femmer	Aye
Councilmember Patrick	Aye

**National Flood Insurance Program –**

Solicitor Richards shared with the Council that he and Councilmember Patrick, Clerk Fitzsimmons, attended a virtual informational meeting about the federal program. Richards states that he hesitates about the program because it will cause the Village to adopt additional zoning ordinances, someone to be in charge of the program and be familiar with FEMA requirements. Additionally, Richards noted that the program is possibly going to only be with money if Congress acts before September 2023. However, Richards did note that those living in the floodplain would be eligible for cheaper flood insurance as long as the program exists. There was some light discussion about the pros and cons of the program. The Council felt there needed to be more information to decide and asked the Clerk to contact Warren County Soil and Water to see if they would be willing to do a presentation on the topic.

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## NEW BUSINESS

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### **Vacant Council Seat –**

Mayor Cordery asked those that submitted a resume for the open position to come before the Council to introduce themselves. Both candidates submitted resumes that noted the following introductions:

**Kayla Sutherland** - I have lived in Corwin for 14 years, and my husband has been a Corwin native his entire life. We take pride in our town. I would love to become part of the Corwin Council, to have input on village matters, and to know where our tax dollars are being spent. To see different perspectives of potential issues at hand. As well as cooperating with neighbors for mutual benefits and helping to maintain our small-town standards.

**Darren Veneman** - Retired United States Air Force Senior Non-Commissioned Officer and civil service Acquisition Logistics Senior Manager and Subject Matter Expert. Moved to Corwin into Furnas Forge in May of 2021 and have been a resident for close to two years. Negotiation skills in daily occupation and the ability to mediate disagreements in contractual language with a calm and analytical mindset are factors that make me a good candidate to represent the entire community of Corwin. While time living in the community has been limited the concerns of the residents on both sides of multiple issues is understood. A fresh perspective to issues and concerns would prove beneficial for resolution and future improvements. I do believe in term-limits and would plan to perform duties for up to two years allowing for future residents an opportunity for change as needed.

The Council said they would review the resumes and discuss the topic further at the May 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

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## REPORTS

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### **Solicitor's Report**

The Solicitor stated that at the request of the Mayor, he investigated whether the Mayor should be a part of executive sessions. Richards stated that, in his opinion that the Mayor has the right to be a part of the executive sessions the Council has the authority to invite anyone they desire to be a part of the session.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Cordery shared that Cotrane's will be opening on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Mayor further noted that he received an email asking if nude sunbathing is allowed in the village. Additionally, the Mayor

received an email about a possible biker group called the Reaper making “farting” and “horse” noises in downtown Corwin.

### **Council Comments**

#### Councilmember Baldwin

Mr. Baldwin states that there are complaints about a water hauler continuing to get water from the hydrant near the Red Barn Hardware Store.

Ms. Femmer stated that the water hauler should not be filling at that location and that the Village should place a sign to stop parking there.

#### Motion

Councilmember Femmer made the motion, and Councilmember Patrick seconded that the Village purchase and place no parking / no standing signs in the area of the fire hydrant on Maple Street near the Red Barn Hardware Store.

A roll call vote was conducted, and the majority carried the motion 4 Aye / 0 Nay / 0 Abstain.

Councilmember Baldwin	Aye
Councilmember Clark	Absent
Councilmember Cummins	Aye
Councilmember Femmer	Aye
Councilmember Patrick	Aye

Baldwin stated that Second Street has continued issues with temporary housing, burning unknown substances, and a strong urine smell.

#### Motion

Councilmember Femmer made the motion, and Councilmember Cummins seconded that the Village file a lawsuit against the property owner of 86 Seconds Street for the property’s condition and the Clerk-Treasurer pay the legal filing fees.

A roll call vote was conducted, and the majority carried the motion 4 Aye / 0 Nay / 0 Abstain.

Councilmember Baldwin	Aye
Councilmember Clark	Absent
Councilmember Cummins	Aye
Councilmember Femmer	Aye
Councilmember Patrick	Aye

### **Councilmember Femmer**

Councilmember Femmer stated that she wanted to thank all of the Council for taking action on the many items that have needed to be taken care of in the village. Femmer further thanked the Solicitor for taking action on the legal issues that the village has dealt with through zoning. Lastly, Femmer thanked the citizens at the meeting for participating in their local government.

### **Clerk / Treasurer Report**

The Clerk shared that the State Treasury Asset Reserve program requires two signatures on the account. Councilmember Femmer stated that she would be willing to act as the second signatory to the account. The Council agreed that she should be the second signer on the account.

The Clerk stated that he would begin to transition to the UAN system for the village during the week of April 28<sup>th</sup>. The Clerk will attend two days of one-on-one vILT training.

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## **PAYING OF THE BILLS**

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### **Motion**

Councilmember Cummins made the motion, which was seconded by Councilmember Femmer, to pay the bills as submitted.

A roll call vote was conducted, and the majority carried the motion 4 Aye / 0 Nay / 0 Abstain.

Councilmember Baldwin	Aye
Councilmember Clark	Absent
Councilmember Cummins	Aye
Councilmember Femmer	Aye
Councilmember Patrick	Aye

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## ADJOURNMENT

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Councilmember Femmer made the motion, and it was seconded by Councilmember Cummins to adjourn the regular business meeting of the Corwin Village Council until April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. A voice vote was conducted, and the majority carried the motion 3 Aye / 0 Nay / 0 Abstain.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

  
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Scott Fitzsimmons, Clerk-Treasurer

Approved:

Signature on File

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Jess Cordery III, Mayor