

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL OF WAITE HILL, OHIO

January 9, 2017

Prior to the Council meeting, Council President Cox administered the oath of office to Clerk-Treasurer Roberta S. Laps.

Pursuant to notice given, the Council of the Village of Waite Hill, Ohio, met at the Waite Hill Village Hall at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, January 9, 2017, with Mayor Robert A. Ranallo presiding via telephone. The following members of Council were present:

Ryan Cox	Karl Scheucher
Sam Knezevic	Richard Steudel
Marcia Merritt	Courtenay Taplin

Also in attendance were Clerk-Treasurer Robbi Laps, Law Director Stephen Byron, Police Chief Keith DeWitt, and Service Director Bob Haynik.

The minutes of a Regular Meeting of Council held December 12, 2016, had previously been distributed to Council. Mr. Steudel moved to approve the minutes as presented, which motion was seconded by Mr. Knezevic.

Roll Call:	Yeas:	Cox, Knezevic, Scheucher, Steudel, Taplin
	Nays:	None
	Abstain:	Merritt

Motion carried
Minutes approved

Council then proceeded with the election of the Council President. Mr. Scheucher nominated Ryan Cox. There were no other nominations. Mr. Scheucher then moved to close the nominations and unanimously elect Mr. Cox as Council President, which motion was seconded by Mr. Taplin.

Roll Call:	Yeas:	Knezevic, Merritt, Scheucher, Steudel, Taplin
	Nays:	None
	Abstain:	Cox

Motion carried
Council President elected

Council next considered the position of Council Vice-President. Mr. Cox nominated Mr. Bob Gale as Council Vice-President. There were no other nominations. Mr. Cox moved to close the nominations and unanimously elect Mr. Gale as Council Vice-President, which motion was seconded by Mr. Steudel.

Roll Call:	Yeas:	Cox, Knezevic, Merritt, Scheucher, Steudel, Taplin
	Nays:	None

Motion carried
Council Vice-President elected

Mr. Taplin nominated Sam Knezevic to serve as Council’s representative to the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Architectural Board of Review. There were no other nominations. Mr. Taplin then moved to close the nominations and have Mr. Knezevic unanimously elected to serve as Council’s representative on the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Architectural Board of Review, which motion was seconded by Mr. Steudel.

Roll Call: Yeas: Cox, Merritt, Scheucher, Steudel, Taplin
 Nays: None
 Abstain: Knezevic

Motion carried
Council’s Representative to the
Planning and Zoning Commission and
the Architectural Board of Review
elected

Resolution No. 2017-1 - “A Resolution authorizing and directing the payment of certain sums” was read. After discussion, Mr. Cox moved that said Resolution be adopted as read, which motion was seconded by Mr. Steudel.

Roll Call: Yeas: Cox, Knezevic, Merritt, Scheucher, Steudel, Taplin
 Nays: None

Motion carried
Resolution No. 2017-1 adopted

Ordinance No. 2016-9 – “An Ordinance Amending Chapter 1313, Architectural Board of Review, of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of Waite Hill” was read. The Mayor noted that the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Architectural Board of Review were still working on their recommendations to Council.

Ordinance No. 2017-1 – “An Ordinance authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Walter | Haverfield LLP, and Stephen L. Byron for legal services beginning January 1, 2017, and ending December 31, 2017, confirming the appointment of Stephen L. Byron as law director, and declaring an emergency” was read for the first time. After discussion, Mr. Steudel moved to suspend the rule which requires that ordinances be read on three different days, which motion was seconded by Mr. Knezevic.

Roll Call: Yeas: Cox, Knezevic, Merritt, Scheucher, Steudel, Taplin
 Nays: None

Motion carried
Rule suspended

Thereupon, Mr. Cox moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2017-1, which motion was seconded by Mr. Steudel.

Roll Call: Yeas: Cox, Knezevic, Merritt, Scheucher, Steudel, Taplin
 Nays: None

Motion carried
 Ordinance No. 2017-1 adopted

Ordinance No. 2017-2 – “An Ordinance confirming the appointment of Richard J. Perez as an assistant law director (Prosecutor) for the Village, providing compensation for the assistant law director (Prosecutor), repealing certain ordinances, and declaring an emergency” was read for the first time. After discussion, Mr. Scheucher moved to suspend the rule which requires that ordinances be read on three different days, which motion was seconded by Mr. Knezevic.

Roll Call: Yeas: Cox, Knezevic, Merritt, Scheucher, Steudel, Taplin
 Nays: None

Motion carried
 Rule suspended

Thereupon, Ms. Merritt moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2017-2, which motion was seconded by Mr. Cox.

Roll Call: Yeas: Cox, Knezevic, Merritt, Scheucher, Steudel, Taplin
 Nays: None

Motion carried
 Ordinance No. 2017-2 adopted

Ordinance No. 2017-3 – “An Ordinance providing compensation for employees of the Village of Waite Hill and declaring an emergency” was read for the first time. After discussion, Mr. Steudel moved to suspend the rule which requires that ordinances be read on three different days, which motion was seconded by Mr. Scheucher.

Roll Call: Yeas: Cox, Knezevic, Merritt, Scheucher, Steudel, Taplin
 Nays: None

Motion carried
 Rule suspended

Thereupon, Mr. Knezevic moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2017-3, which motion was seconded by Mr. Cox.

Roll Call: Yeas: Cox, Knezevic, Merritt, Scheucher, Steudel, Taplin
 Nays: None

Motion carried
 Ordinance No. 2017-3 adopted

Mayor Ranallo announced his reappointment of Mr. Gary Schuster to the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Architectural Board of Review. Mr. Knezevic moved to confirm Mayor Ranallo’s appointment, which motion was seconded by Mr. Cox.

Roll Call: Yeas: Cox, Knezevic, Merritt, Scheucher, Steudel, Taplin
Nays: None

Motion carried
Appointment confirmed

Mayor Ranallo announced that he would be appointing a new member of the Board of Zoning Appeals, but that appointment is not yet ready for confirmation.

Ms. Merritt, on behalf of the Communication and Community Outreach Committee, reported that the Village newsletter would be going out around the first of February, so articles are due by January 25.

Reporting for the Finance Committee, Mr. Scheucher noted that the Committee had met, approved minutes of the previous meeting, and approved the Treasurer's report. The Village's fund balance had decreased by about \$70,000 in 2016. This was largely a consequence of decreased revenues on property taxes.

Mr. Knezevice, reporting for the Planning and Zoning Commission, noted the minutes of the December meeting had been distributed. The Commission will be making a recommendation to Council on the changes to the Architectural Board of Review that have been studied over the last several months. The Commission will also be discussing the Planning and Zoning Commission and Architectural Board fee ordinance and making recommendations to Council for necessary changes.

Mr. Taplin, on behalf of the Safety Committee, asked the Chief to report on various safety issues. The Chief noted that there had been an aggravated burglary in Gates Mills, and reminded Council that residents need to lock their doors. The Chief also reported that Officer Walsh is no longer employed by the Village and he would be seeking to bring a new officer for Council's confirmation, possibly as early as next month. The new cruiser is now in service, and it's possible a new cruiser will be needed in 2017.

In Mr. Gale's absence, Mr. Haynik delivered a report from the Service Department. December was a difficult month for snow plowing as there had been 161 hours plowing, 250 tons of salt remain on hand, with 350 tons that are available to the Village at the bid price. The Eagle Road flooding problem was discussed, and Mr. Haynik noted that Willoughby had loaned the Village its pump. The situation is being studied so that a solution may be developed. Penn Line Tree Service is no longer providing service to CEI; Asplundh is the new contractor. CEI indicated they will be working on the Metcalf area as a priority with the new contractor and should be clearing lines the second week in January. The Chief indicated that CEI will be "as aggressive as possible in the valley" to get the lines clear of trees and branches. It was agreed that this information should be put on the Village's website. Council also discussed the large tree on Markell, by Waite Hill and Hobart Roads, which should be taken down. The chassis of the new Service Department truck has been delivered and the bed should be constructed within 6-8 weeks. The old truck will be listed for sale at a price of about \$10,000 once the new truck has been delivered and is in service.

The Mayor noted that the Village had received about \$54,000 in contributions for the Village's Employee Appreciation program, which translates into about \$52,000 of non-pensionable compensation (after payroll taxes). An ordinance authorizing that payment will be presented for Council's approval in February. The issue of cell towers has been raised, again, by some residents. The Mayor indicated that there needs to be an open discussion of the matter, and indicated that the matter would be broadly publicized and discussed at a future date. The public will receive prior notice of Council's discussion of the matter so that interested parties may be heard before any decision is made. The Chief noted that there is a safety component when cell phones don't work in the valley (e.g. at the intersection of Eagle Road and Smith Road). There have been accidents which have occurred in the valley and the parties involved in the accident had a difficult time calling for assistance.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mr. Cox moved to adjourn the meeting, which motion was seconded by Mr. Knezevic.

Roll Call:	Yeas:	Cox, Knezevic, Merritt, Scheucher, Steudel, Taplin
	Nays:	None

Motion carried
Meeting adjourned at 9:26 a.m.

Robert A. Ranallo, Mayor

APPROVED: _____, 2017

ATTEST: _____
Roberta S. Laps, Clerk-Treasurer

