

**VILLAGE OF HEBRON  
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
September 13, 2023  
6:00 PM**

This meeting was held both remotely and in person.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Layton called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Layton asked everyone to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Councilmembers in attendance: Council President Valerie Mockus, Councilmembers Annelle Porter, Paige Seymour, Kenney Nauer, and Randy Wolf. Councilmember Stacy Stoner was excused from this meeting.

Others in attendance: Mayor James Layton, Interim Administrator/Village Fiscal Officer Deborah Morgan, Village Solicitor Wesley K. Untied, Attorney Jarod Rose, Water Reclamation Superintendent Tom Coleman, and Clerk of Council/Administrative Assistant Christina Furbee.

Others in attendance remotely: Jung-Han Chen

Visitors in attendance: Clifford Mason, Cathy McCoy

**ACKNOWLEDGE VISITORS**

Mayor Layton acknowledged the visitors in attendance.

**NOTICE: MEETING DOCUMENTATION**

Mayor Layton said the minutes for this meeting are being recorded and a written summary will be available by request at a later date.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

July 26, 2023 Council Meeting

Mrs. Porter moved to approve the July 26, 2023 Council Meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Mr. Wolf. A roll call vote was taken with all Councilmembers present voting in favor, except Mrs. Seymour who abstained.

August 9, 2023-Council Meeting

Dr. Mockus moved to approve the August 9, 2023 Council Meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Mrs. Seymour. A roll call vote was taken with all Councilmembers present voting in favor.

August 16, 2023-Combined Council Committees Meeting

Dr. Mockus moved to approve the August 16, 2023 Combined Council Committees Meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Mrs. Porter. A roll call vote was taken with all Councilmembers present voting in favor except Mrs. Seymour who abstained.

August 23, 2023-Council Meeting

Mrs. Porter moved to approve the August 23, 2023 Council Meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Dr. Mockus. A roll call vote was taken with all Councilmembers present voting in favor.

## **DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORT-WATER RECLAMATION**

Water Reclamation Superintendent Tom Coleman distributed his report to Council. He said the plant has treated 164.394 million gallons for the year through August. He said this number is comparable to last year.

He said the cleaning and televising of sewer lines throughout the Village has been completed. He said Burgess and Niple are in the process of reviewing the televising but so far, the Inflow and Infiltration does not seem to be too bad and everything seems to be in decent shape. He said the review should be completed by the end of the month.

The new Utility Task Vehicle for the Water Reclamation Department was received on August 1<sup>st</sup> and is running well.

Mr. Coleman said the pump service contract for the plant pumps has been completed. He said three pumps were removed-- two to be repaired, and one to be replaced.

He said the level sensor for the lift station at Basin Street has been replaced and is now operational, and the lift station at the Water Reclamation Facility was being worked on today.

The Ohio EPA is coming in to audit Village's pretreatment program. Mr. Coleman said the last time this was done was around the time of the Covid pandemic. He said this year, they will be reviewing pretreatment records and taking a tour of Clean Harbors.

Mr. Coleman said former Water Reclamation Superintendent Dave Robertson passed away on Saturday.

Dr. Mockus asked if the Water Reclamation Department keeps their UTV on premises. Mr. Coleman said the UTV is kept on the Department premises. She asked if there is ever a need to cross SR 79 with the UTV. Mr. Coleman said they do not need to cross SR 79. Mayor Layton noted that the Water Department and Public Works Department do need to cross SR 79 at times.

## **VISITOR COMMENTS**

None

## **LEGISLATION**

**ORDINANCE 21-23-** AN ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT THE APPLICATION FOR AN EXPEDITED TYPE II ANNEXATION FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY INTO THE VILLAGE OF HEBRON, OHIO FROM UNION TOWNSHIP, PURSUANT TO THE PETITION FILED BY CONNIE KLEMA, AGENT FOR PETITIONER-**Second Reading**

**ORDINANCE 22-23-** AN ORDINANCE DECLARING CERTAIN MUNICIPAL PROPERTY SURPLUS, NOT NEEDED FOR PUBLIC USE, OBSOLETE OR UNFIT FOR USE, AND AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF SAID PROPERTY VIA INTERNET AUCTION (PER ORC. §721.15(A))-**Second Reading**

**RESOLUTION 23-09-** A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE LICKING COUNTY AUDITOR AND LICKING COUNTY BUDGET COMMISSION TERMINATE THE VILLAGE OF HEBRON FIRE LEVIES-**First Reading**

Mayor Layton asked Council to consider suspending the rules of this legislation. Mrs. Morgan said the previous legislation for the Fire Levies was for only one year. She said Licking County needs to receive this legislation prior to receiving the rates and amounts Resolution.

Dr. Mockus moved to suspend the readings of Resolution 23-09, seconded by Mr. Nauer. A roll call vote was taken with all Councilmembers present voting in favor.

Dr. Mockus moved to adopt Resolution 23-09 as presented, seconded by Mrs. Seymour. A roll call vote was taken with all Councilmembers present voting in favor.

**RESOLUTION 23-10-** A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR-**First Reading**

Mrs. Morgan said Council typically has to waive the readings of this legislation, but because the fire levy resolution needs to be passed first, Council will want to wait and consider waiving the readings on the second reading of this legislation.

**ORDINANCE 23-23-** AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE EMPLOYMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF LEGAL COUNSEL FOR THE VILLAGE OF HEBRON-**First Reading**

**ORDINANCE 24-23-** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND FISCAL OFFICER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH V3 COMPANIES LTD, WITHOUT ADVERTISING, FOR CERTAIN PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING CONSULTING SERVICES FOR THE VILLAGE OF HEBRON, SPECIFICALLY, THE ROADWAY AND STORM WATER COLLECTION SYSTEM, WATER RECLAMATION UTILITY, AND WATER UTILITY ENGINEERING-**First Reading**

**ORDINANCE 25-23-** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR AND FISCAL OFFICER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH FISHEL, DOWNEY, ALBRECHT & RIEPENHOFF LLP, WITHOUT ADVERTISING, FOR CERTAIN LEGAL SERVICES FOR THE VILLAGE OF HEBRON, SPECIFICALLY FOR PLANNING & ZONING AND EMPLOYMENT MATTERS-**First Reading**

Mrs. Porter asked for an explanation of “without advertising” in the title of this legislation. Village Solicitor Wesley K. Untied said statute states municipalities can contract for professional services without advertising. Dr. Mockus said if the Village were to hire another firm, we would need to onboard them and provide them with our files to get them caught up. She said she is concerned about how long it is taking to resolve some zoning items such as farm animals and Airbnb. She asked what needs to be done to address these issues. Mayor Layton said the Airbnb topic went by the wayside when the applicant withdrew her request. Dr. Mockus said there are other issues that she did not mention as well. Mayor Layton said the Attorney switched companies in the middle of the year, which may have added to the delay. He said he will discuss the issues with him. Village Solicitor offered his assistance if needed.

## **COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS**

### August Bank Reconciliation

Mrs. Seymour moved to acknowledge receipt and review of the August, 2023 bank reconciliation, seconded by Mr. Wolf. A roll call vote was taken with all Councilmembers present voting in favor.

### Trick or Treat

Clerk of Council/Administrative Assistant Christina Furbee said she reached out to surrounding areas to determine when they will be holding their trick-or-treat events. She said the areas she spoke with said they will be holding their event on October 26<sup>th</sup>, and some said they have established a rule to hold it on the Thursday before Halloween each year, typically from 5:30-7pm. She asked Council if they want to consider the same.

Hebron resident Cathy McCoy suggested setting Trick or Treat on a Saturday afternoon so that children are out during daylight hours. This item will be carried over to the Combined Council Committees Meeting for discussion.

## **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Interim Village Administrator Deborah Morgan said she received a call from Keith Baldwin, owner of the car wash on S. High Street. She said Mr. Baldwin wants the Village to consider placing a snow fence along the field across the street to help stop corn stalks and drifting snow from causing entrance issues into his business. Mayor Layton said a snow fence may be needed for a wetland in Sunny acres as well. This item will be moved to the next Combined Council Committees Meeting agenda.

Mrs. Morgan said the President of Commodore Bank called and asked if the Village would be interested in advertising on their new sign. She said they are willing to work with the Village on the cost. Mrs. Morgan said she will follow up with him to get more information.

Mrs. Morgan said the bi-annual audit is complete and being finalized. She said she believes it went well and the audit team said they were impressed with the Village's organization of records. She said there were two posting findings for items that were out of the Village's control.

Dr. Mockus asked Mrs. Morgan's opinion on the audit company's work, as she recalled some issues with them from the past audit. Mrs. Morgan said she found out the last audit was contracted out and the individual who conducted it had issues with all five audits that he did. She said the audit team this year was thorough and she has no complaints. Council thanked Mrs. Morgan for her hard work.

Mrs. Morgan said the Warrant Study for W. Main and 8<sup>th</sup> Streets has been completed. She said Mrs. Furbee will send the report to Council.

Mrs. Morgan said paving of the walking path and parking lot at Evans Park, and a few roads is complete. Mr. Nauer asked if the grindings were saved. Mr. Wolf said the Village was able to pay a cheaper rate for the project because they sold the grindings to the contractor. Mr. Nauer asked if some of the edges will be smoothed out. Mrs. Morgan said she will check with the contractor.

Mayor Layton asked Mr. Chen when he will be ready to start his new position with the Village of Hebron. Mr. Chen said he will most likely start the second week of October.

## **COUNCILMEMBER'S REPORTS**

Mr. Wolf said the West Licking Fire District is doing good. He said the new station will open in January.

Dr. Mockus said she attended the recent Licking County Area Transportation Study meeting with Mayor Layton. She said it was very interesting, and they do much funding. She said they also met with Mr. Jim Roberts from Southwest Licking. She said there are a lot of people, including seniors, using the free bussing. She said the 1000<sup>th</sup> rider was acknowledged yesterday.

Dr. Mockus said she attended a Council Meeting In Millersport last night and she noted some interesting differences from Hebron. She said their budget is significantly smaller than Hebron's budget. She said Millersport will be doing a Monster Mash for Halloween and coordinating with area businesses to hold a Holly jolly weekend at Christmastime. They are planning a Constitution Day with a proclamation, discussion, etc., and will have performers in their park through the summer.

Mrs. Morgan said Hebron Public Works Superintendent Cliff Ward Jr. has similar ideas. She said one of the things she wants to discuss with Mr. Chen is possibly starting an ad-hoc committee to consider some events such as food trucks, etc.

Dr. Mockus asked if there are any update about the Army Corps of Engineers. Mayor Layton said he has not heard from them but he will reach out.

Dr. Mockus asked if there has been any traction with Licking County about water sales. Mayor Layton said they are reviewing our proposed contract.

Dr. Mockus asked about the recent River Round Up event. Mayor Layton said V3 Companies brought 5 or 6 people on Friday and there was a good turn out on Saturday.

#### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Layton said he attended the recent Grow Licking County meeting. He said Mrs. Misner attended as well. He said there are is a lot going on and much interest in Licking County. ot of things and interest in Licking County.

Mayor Layton distributed a postcard about the upcoming Electric and Natural Gas aggregation ballot issues.

Mayor Layton said he attended the recent Framework meeting. He said they have completed their program guide. He gave all Councilmembers a copy of a briefing document.

#### **VISITOR COMMENTS**

Cathy McCoy, 134 Hamilton Avenue, said the flowers downtown are beautiful. Mrs. Morgan said she will pass the compliment on to Mr. Ward.

Clifford Mason, 113 Dennison Street asked what online auction site will be used for the items Council declares as surplus. Mrs. Morgan said the Vilage will use Municibid auction site. Mr. Mason thanked the Village for paving.

He said the transition from sidewalk to 9<sup>th</sup> Street has a lip that may need to be feathered down, and some yards had material removed, and there are some piles of asphalt along the edge of residents' yards. He asked if those items will be addressed. Mr. Nauer said the contractor was out there yesterday doing some clean up. Mrs. Morgan said she will get in contact with them.

#### **REVIEW OF EXPENSES**

Council reviewed the current list of expenditures. There were no questions regarding the expenses.

#### **MEETING/EVENT SCHEDULE**

September 20, 2023-6pm, Combined Council Committees Meeting, Council Chambers

September 27, 2023-6pm, Council Meeting, Council Chambers

October 2, 2023-6pm, Planning & Zoning Meeting, Council Chambers

October 11, 2023-6pm, Council Meeting, Council Chambers

October 18, 2023-6pm, Combined Council Committees Meeting, Council Chambers

October 25, 2023-6pm, Council Meeting, Council Chambers

#### **ADJOURN**

Mr. Wolf moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:51pm, seconded by Mrs. Porter. A roll call vote was taken with all Councilmembers present voting in favor.

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James Layton, Mayor

Attest:

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Deborah Morgan, Village Fiscal Officer