

Village of Gates Mills
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
December 19, 2023

A regular meeting of the Council of the Village of Gates Mills, Ohio was held at the Community House on Tuesday, December 19, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. with Mayor Schneider presiding. The meeting was livestreamed to the internet.

1. Roll Call starts at 3:00

Councilmembers present: Atton, AuWerter, Deacon, Press, Steinbrink, Turner, Welsh.

Other Village officials present were Treasurer Siemborski, Clerk DeCapite, Service Director Biggert, Police Chief Minichello, Fire Chief Majeski, Finance Administrator Mulh, Village Engineer Courtney, and Law Director Hunt.

Councilmember Turner advised of the unexpected passing of Gates Mills postal clerk Paula Nock and then introduced Mayfield Village Mayor Brenda Bodnar. Mayor Bodnar thanked Mayor Schneider for her leadership, partnership, and friendship and presented Mayor Schneider with Keys to Mayfield Village.

2. Minutes of the Regular Council meeting of November 21, 2023 starts at 7:13

Mayor Schneider made a correction to the Mayor's Report on page 3 regarding the donation made by Dan Kish. He is donating his house and property to the Village, and he is donating the contents of his house to the Gates Mills Historical Society.

Councilmember Deacon addressed the inclusion in the November minutes of an email from Councilmember Atton. Since the email was only mentioned and the content was not discussed at the November Council meeting, Councilmember Deacon moved to amend the November minutes by removing that email. Councilmember Welsh seconded the motion.

Ayes: AuWerter, Deacon, Steinbrink, Turner.

Nays: Atton, Press, Welsh.

Motion carried.

Councilmember Turner moved to approve the November 21, 2023 minutes as corrected and amended and Councilmember AuWerter seconded the motion.

Ayes: Atton, AuWerter, Deacon, Press, Steinbrink, Turner, Welsh.

Nays: None

Motion carried.

3. Pay Ordinance # 1280 \$766,758.50 starts at 10:44

Councilmember Atton asked if BVM Enterprises \$7200 was the consultant we used for the Council workshop on the Comprehensive Plan. Yes.

Councilmember Press moved to approve Pay Ordinance #1280 and Councilmember Steinbrink seconded the motion.

Ayes: Atton, AuWerter, Deacon, Press, Steinbrink, Turner, Welsh.
Nays: None
Motion carried.

4. Financial Statement/Treasurer's Report attached and starts at 11:42

At 19:51 Councilmember Press asked if Ancora has altered the investment strategy in any way to take advantage of the view that interest rates have peaked. Treasurer Siemborski replied there is nothing maturing imminently so Ancora is following the same guidance and latitude that they have been following. Ancora understands that we would like them to look at a little longer term. He hopes Council can reach a conclusion in January on whether to appoint two or three members to the Treasury Committee called for in our legislation, use that Committee as our spokesperson with Ancora going forward, and bring the topic to an end.

Regarding an update of our long-term projection numbers, Treasurer Siemborski reported that at the Finance and Budget Committee meeting held yesterday it was decided budgeted 2024 revenues and expenditures will be firmed up in January and that would be the appropriate time to update the long range planning numbers.

5. Mayor's Report starts at 21:57

- Reminder of Improvement Society's Annual Christmas Eve celebration
- At this last official Council meeting as Mayor, thank you to residents and employees for your support during 20 years on Council and eight years as Mayor. Please extend the same support to new Mayor Steve Siemborski.

6. Clerk's Report starts at 24:20

- Mayor Schneider, we will miss you.

7. Committee Reports

Cell Tower Update (Councilmember AuWerter) starts at 24:35

- Gilmour and Verizon finalized the lease document today. Verizon will put their equipment on the tower probably at the end of the first quarter or early second quarter. It is anticipated T-Mobile will be the second carrier on the tower late in the year. Gilmour is still trying to contact AT&T.

2024 Road Program (Councilmember AuWerter) starts at 25:35

- Gauga County has allocated funds to repave their half of County Line Road in 2024. Based on discussion at the Finance and Budget Committee yesterday, Gates Mills will commit to go forward with resurfacing our half of County Line Road because it makes sense to do it all at once. The estimated cost may exceed the 2024 road program budget by about \$40,000. Before County Line Road entered into the equation, the priority of roads to work on in 2024 would have been Andrews Lane - the only remaining road in a failed state according to our master road assessment - followed by the roads deemed

in poor condition. At this point, Hillcreek and Andrews Lanes will be addressed in the 2025 road program. Village Engineer Courtney has committed to come to Council no later than February asking for approval to go out for bid on the 2024 road program. He will specify a range of square yards of pavement to be bid - giving Council a clearer picture of the costs of adding to the 2024 program. A new Council may choose to dip further into our cash balance and be more aggressive on what other roads to do in 2024, especially as the uncertainty of traffic camera and municipal income tax revenue unfolds.

- At the end of 2024 Council will be asked to approve an update of the master road assessment to provide a fresh look for prioritizing future road programs.

Finance and Budget Committee (Treasurer Siemborski) starts at 31:13

- Committee met yesterday to discuss, approve, and recommend the appropriations ordinance before you tonight.

Gates Mills Land Conservancy (Councilmember Turner) starts at 31:42

- 45 were in attendance at the Annual Meeting where the Executive Committee for the Board was selected.
- 144 Members currently.
- Application for renewal of the accreditation from the Land Trust Alliance will be submitted early this year.

Gates Mills Improvement Society (Councilmember Turner) starts at 32:25

- Please attend a Farewell Reception for Mayor Karen Schneider on Friday, January 19th at 5:30 p.m. at the Community House. This celebration will hold some surprises.

At 32:55 Councilmember Atton asked who is the Chairman of GMLC for next year and Councilmember Turner replied Nat Smith. Councilmember Atton thought he was only going to do it for a year - has he decided to extend? Councilmember Turner answered yes - President is Nat Smith, Vice President is Jamie Carracher, Treasurer is Nancy McGuinnis, as an understudy to Cindy Zins, and Diane Kennedy is Secretary.

Fiber Optic/Broadband Committee (Councilmember Deacon) starts at 33:30

- The Committee received a proposal from Reid Consulting late last week for the additional consulting that we requested in our workshop. The proposal is being put on first reading tonight to allow time for digestion.

Friends of the Library (Councilmember Welsh) starts at 34:07

- Cuyahoga County Public Library System has disallowed the distribution of cookies inside Gates Mills Library, a longstanding tradition of the Friends of the Library. Disappointment was high and it was decided as an alternative, cookies would be packaged, labeled, and distributed outside.

8. Police Department Report attached and starts at 35:00

Councilmember Atton noted that from the beginning of the traffic camera program in the middle of August to the end of October, over 650 average citations per week were issued. In November less than 475 per week were issued. Is that a reflection of holidays, less traffic, or slowing traffic? We need to understand why. Police Chief Minichello replied probably all of those factors. Last week our Gatso account manager reviewed the activity and advised our results are very similar to what he has seen in other communities. Weather, less traffic, and public awareness all have bearing on the results. The account manager advised it is going to take 12-18 months to develop a baseline. Police Chief Minichello again stated the program is performing exactly as we intended - speeds are coming down.

Councilmember Press suggested there is a decay curve. Finding out what a decay curve might look like in other communities would be helpful for budgeting and long-range financial forecasting. Councilmember Welsh asked if there is thought about expanding the program. Not at this time. Treasurer Siemborski agreed good data from Gatso or other communities of our size could be helpful. We want to get the most reasonable number. We are not looking to make the number too optimistic or too pessimistic.

Councilmember AuWerter would like Council to be insistent that the Police Chief reports at every Council meeting the percentage of drivers that are going over 55 mph and going over 60 mph. Councilmember Atton agreed that was a good idea. Police Chief Minichello advised there were 900 citations the first two weeks of December, so 450 average citations per week.

9. Service Department Report attached and starts at 41:04

Mayor Schneider commented on the beautiful Village lights, and Service Director Biggert said he will pass that on to his department as they do appreciate hearing the compliments.

10. Fire Department Report attached and starts at 42:13

- Fire Chief Majeski provided as of today we are at 204 EMS calls.
- Vehicle Extrication Certification Training was completed in November using the Genesis tool purchased early in 2023, new rescue jacks and cribbing.
- The boiler explosion incident in the basement of Gates Mills Elementary School was managed by their maintenance staff. They shut the boiler down immediately, switched over to the standby, and had the other one repaired.

At 45:16 Councilmember AuWerter asked the Fire Chief to explain the response process once an alarm is received - an alarm that may or may not be false.

11. Ordinance No. 2023-38 - Amended (Third Reading) starts at 48:53

Ordinance No. 2023-38 "An Ordinance Amending Section 1377.05 of the Village Building Code to Revise the Property Maintenance Code at 302.4 to Add Maintenance of Trees; and Declaring an Emergency" was read by Councilmember Steinbrink. We adopted the Property Maintenance Code in 2017. Based on feedback from Service Director Biggert, we are looking to add a section for dead, diseased, or dying trees and

limbs that hang over a public right of way or hang on the neighbor's property. The individual whose property the tree is on is responsible for removal and not the service department. Some changes were made in November - the addition of a section regarding the manner of remedial action at the top of page 2 - based on feedback from Councilmembers.

Councilmember Turner asked in the instance of an utility easement on private property, who is responsible for making good on the violation, the property owner or the utility? Law Director Hunt replied it would still be the property owner. Electric utilities have the right to go on the easement area to clear trees, but not the obligation. A dying tree or limb over the top of an electric line is dangerous and should be called into CEI to take care of. CEI has not given us problems with trimming trees.

Councilmember Steinbrink moved to approve Ordinance No. 2023-38 with Councilmember Welsh seconding the motion. Law Director Hunt spoke to adding the word "noxious" before the word "weeds" in line two of 302.4 on page one as requested at the November meeting.

Ayes: Atton, AuWerter, Deacon, Press, Steinbrink, Turner, Welsh.
Nays: None
Motion carried.

12. Resolution No. 2023-46 (First Reading) starts at 55:10

Resolution No. 2023-46 "A Resolution Requesting the County Auditor to Advance Taxes from the Proceeds of Tax Levies Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 321.34" was read by Councilmember AuWerter. Councilmember AuWerter moved that the rules requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and that Resolution No. 2023-46 be placed upon its final passage. Councilmember Press seconded the motion to suspend the rules.

Ayes: Atton, AuWerter, Deacon, Press, Steinbrink, Turner, Welsh.
Nays: None
Motion carried.

Councilmember AuWerter moved to approve Resolution No. 2023-46 with Councilmember Press seconding the motion.

Ayes: Atton, AuWerter, Deacon, Press, Steinbrink, Turner, Welsh.
Nays: None
Motion carried.

13. Resolution No. 2023-47 (First Reading) starts at 56:20

Resolution No. 2023-47 "A Resolution Authorizing a Contract with Wichert Insurance Services, Inc. to Furnish and Provide Liability and Property Insurance Coverages for the Village of Gates Mills, its Officials and Employees and Declaring an Emergency" was read by Mayor Schneider. We had two bids. The bid we want to accept is from Selective Insurance, which gives us better coverage at a lower rate and lower deductibles. Councilmember Welsh moved that the rules requiring ordinances to be

read on three different days be suspended and that Resolution No. 2023-47 be placed upon its final passage. Councilmember Steinbrink seconded the motion to suspend the rules.

Ayes: Atton, AuWerter, Deacon, Press, Steinbrink, Turner, Welsh.
Nays: None
Motion carried.

Councilmember Welsh moved to approve Resolution No. 2023-47 with Councilmember Steinbrink seconding the motion.

Ayes: Atton, AuWerter, Deacon, Press, Steinbrink, Turner, Welsh.
Nays: None
Motion carried.

14. Ordinance No. 2023-48 (First Reading) starts at 57:30

Ordinance No. 2023-48 “An Ordinance to Amend the Annual Appropriation Ordinance No. 2022-42 to Increase Certain Appropriations and Other Expenditures of the Village of Gates Mills, Ohio for the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2023” was read by Councilmember AuWerter. We changed policy a couple of years ago and started making our annual appropriations exactly what we budgeted for the year. We now need a little bit more than what we budgeted when we went into the year. Councilmember AuWerter moved that the rules requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and that Ordinance No. 2023-48 be placed upon its final passage. Councilmember Deacon seconded the motion to suspend the rules.

Ayes: Atton, AuWerter, Deacon, Press, Steinbrink, Turner, Welsh.
Nays: None
Motion carried.

Councilmember AuWerter moved to approve Ordinance No. 2023-48 with Councilmember Deacon seconding the motion.

Ayes: Atton, AuWerter, Deacon, Press, Steinbrink, Turner, Welsh.
Nays: None
Motion carried.

15. Ordinance No. 2023-49 (First Reading) starts at 59:00

Finance Administrator Mulh advised a typo occurred at the bottom of page 1 - the Transfer to Other Funds amount of \$1,095,500 should be \$1,096,500. The typo does not change the Total General Fund amount.

Ordinance No. 2023-49 “An Ordinance Providing Appropriations for Expenditures for the Village of Gates Mills, Ohio for Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2024, Repealing Certain Ordinances and Declaring an Emergency” was read by Councilmember AuWerter. This is based on the budget process. The Finance and Budget Committee recommends approval for this level of expenditure. It is necessary so we can start paying bills in 2024. Councilmember AuWerter moved that the rules requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and that Ordinance No.

2023-49 be placed upon its final passage. Councilmember Press seconded the motion to suspend the rules.

Ayes: Atton, AuWerter, Deacon, Press, Steinbrink, Turner, Welsh.
Nays: None
Motion carried.

Councilmember AuWerter moved to approve Ordinance No. 2023-49. Councilmember Deacon seconded the motion.

Ayes: Atton, AuWerter, Deacon, Press, Steinbrink, Turner, Welsh.
Nays: None
Motion carried.

16. Resolution No. 2023-50 (First Reading) starts at 1:01:07

Resolution No. 2023-50 “A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Contract with Akron Tractor & Equipment, Inc. for the Purchase of a New Tractor with a Boom Mower Attachment and Declaring an Emergency” was read by Councilmember AuWerter. This tractor is in the 2024 budget and replaces a very old piece of equipment (33 years) necessary for our terrain. Akron Tractor indicated that this tractor is about to undergo a substantial price increase in January 2024. If we give them our commitment now, they will honor the 2023 price. We will take delivery in early 2024. Councilmember AuWerter moved that the rules requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and that Resolution No. 2023-50 be placed upon its final passage. Councilmember Deacon seconded the motion to suspend the rules.

Ayes: Atton, AuWerter, Deacon, Press, Steinbrink, Turner, Welsh.
Nays: None
Motion carried.

Councilmember AuWerter moved to approve Resolution No. 2023-50. Councilmember Welsh seconded the motion.

Ayes: Atton, AuWerter, Deacon, Press, Steinbrink, Turner, Welsh.
Nays: None
Motion carried.

Councilmember AuWerter suggested Council seeing a schedule of major assets, age, purchase date and expected life would be helpful to anticipate equipment needs in future years.

17. Resolution No. 2023-51 (First Reading) starts at 1:04:35

Resolution No. 2023-51 “A Resolution Authorizing and Directing the Transfer of Certain Sums from the General Fund to the Capital Improvement Fund” was read by Councilmember AuWerter. Again this is based on the original appropriation and what we now need to finish up the year. Councilmember AuWerter moved that the rules requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and that Resolution No. 2023-51 be placed upon its final passage. Councilmember Steinbrink seconded the motion to suspend.

Ayes: Atton, AuWerter, Deacon, Press, Steinbrink, Turner, Welsh.
Nays: None
Motion carried.

Councilmember AuWerter moved to approve Resolution No. 2023-51.
Councilmember Deacon seconded the motion.

Ayes: Atton, AuWerter, Deacon, Press, Steinbrink, Turner, Welsh.
Nays: None
Motion carried.

18. Resolution No. 2023-52 (First Reading) starts at 1:05:43

Resolution No. 2023-52 “A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Subscription Renewal Agreement with Flock Safety for the Village’s License Plate Reading Equipment for a Term of Sixty (60) Months and Declaring an Emergency” was read by Councilmember Steinbrink. There are five Flock cameras throughout the Village. This is a five-year renewal with no price increase over what we are currently paying. Councilmember Steinbrink moved that the rules requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and that Resolution No. 2023-52 be placed upon its final passage. Councilmember AuWerter seconded the motion to suspend the rules.

Ayes: Atton, AuWerter, Deacon, Press, Steinbrink, Turner, Welsh.
Nays: None
Motion carried.

Councilmember Steinbrink moved to approve Resolution No. 2023-52 and
Councilmember Press seconded the motion.

Ayes: Atton, AuWerter, Deacon, Press, Steinbrink, Turner, Welsh.
Nays: None
Motion carried.

19. Resolution No. 2023-53 (First Reading) starts at 1:07:00

Resolution No. 2023-53 “A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Contract with Fabrizi Trucking and Paving for the Mayfield Road Culvert Replacement” was read by Councilmember AuWerter. In the 1980’s a large diameter drainage pipe under Mayfield Road was repaired by inserting a smaller diameter pipe. It worked fine except during a major storm when we would get flooding. Once ARPA funds were received and it was determined the funds could be used for this purpose, we went out for bids this summer. All the bids came in more than 10% above Village Engineer Courtney’s estimate and under State law could not be rewarded. The Village Engineer suggested we provide some latitude with timing and go out for bid again. Lo and behold we received a bid not at \$500,000, but at \$300,000, by a reputable firm using their winter crew. Councilmember AuWerter moved that the rules requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and that Resolution No. 2023-53 be placed upon its final passage. Councilmember Deacon seconded the motion to suspend the rules.

Ayes: Atton, AuWerter, Deacon, Press, Steinbrink, Turner, Welsh.

Nays: None
Motion carried.

Treasurer Siemborski expressed concern that the Resolution doesn't refer to funding from ARPA funds, and the use of ARPA funds requires Council approval. Finance Administrator Mulh advised a separate piece of legislation will provide that the project will be paid for with ARPA funds. This Resolution had to be approved first.

Councilmember Steinbrink asked if a ballpark timeline was available. Village Engineer Courtney answered they indicated they would start within 10 days of signing the contract and complete the work in 60 days. This is a 42" diameter steel pipe about 300 feet long that's going to go under Mayfield Road. It will probably take about 30 days to get that pipe, so anticipate a start near the end of January. They will be working from the downstream side (north side) to the upstream side (south side) behind the wastewater treatment plant. They will be boring underneath the road because the culvert is almost 30 feet deep. They'll be digging a hole in the median near the intersection to go down and make sure the pipe is in the right location and put a manhole in. There will be one interior lane closed in each direction while they do that work. The outside lanes will remain in operation at all times during construction.

Councilmember Atton inferred the lowest bid might not do the best job. The range of cost estimates is enormous. Why the difference? The Village Engineer replied we have reached a perfect storm with when we bid this project. We've got a long-time reputable quality contractor that very likely has a crew that they don't want to lay off for the winter and potentially lose to another employer. They have their own equipment in-house. The primary difference in pricing is the line item for boring and installation of the 42-inch pipe at \$720 per foot compared to the other contractors which are almost twice that - almost \$200,000 right there. The Village Engineer has never had a problem with this contractor's performance and they have worked in the Village previously. Councilmember Atton stated another consequence of this low bid is that we won't need conservation levy funds to fund it.

Councilmember AuWerter moved to approve Resolution No. 2023-53 and Councilmember Press seconded the motion.

Ayes: Atton, AuWerter, Deacon, Press, Steinbrink, Turner, Welsh.
Nays: None
Motion carried.

20. Resolution No. 2023-54 (First Reading) starts at 1:15:00

Resolution No. 2023-54 "A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Reid Consulting Group for Procurement of an Internet Service Provider for Village-Wide Broadband Service" was read by Councilmember Deacon. Hunting Valley still has not taken any action. They are still negotiating and aren't able to share any details with us yet. We really don't know when that might change. The Broadband project is far-reaching, complex enough, and impactful enough that we should consider very seriously going to RFP.

Councilmember Press thinks we will learn something from Hunting Valley that might alter our approach when they are prepared to talk to us and thinks that will be

within the next 30 days. He thinks it foolhardy to go ahead with Reid Consulting right now when in another 30 days we'll be smarter than we are today. Councilmember Deacon said we still have some time as this is first reading. We are not spending anything at this stage. We are getting the critical path going because all Councilmembers need to look at it and need to ask questions rather than delay and wait for who knows what to happen in Hunting Valley. There is a window to get this done before 2024 closes. We need to keep pressing on and make sure we're prepared to go forward.

Councilmember AuWerter suggested spending a little money to put Reid Consulting and Ohio Gig together is not a bad thing - given Reid Consulting's quandary with understanding how the Hunting Valley/Ohio Gig proposal could make economic sense.

Councilmember Welsh is under the impression that AT&T is in the process of wiring the Village. Councilmember Deacon disagrees and will verify.

Councilmember Turner reminded Council that connectivity/Broadband was high among all the priorities of the Comprehensive Plan, and she sees us struggling with moving forward.

Treasurer Siemborski was impressed by Reid Consulting's presentations and thought both gentlemen were true experts in an area in which we don't have any personal expertise. Recall Gates Mills is not a very attractive location because of the lack of density and we would need to induce players to install this in the Village. We're at a point here with a potentially large expenditure that none of us at this table has the expertise to handle. He would like to have Reid Consulting alongside us whether it be to do the entire RFP or for periodic questions. Resolution No. 2023-54 will be placed on first reading.

21. Council Matters - None

22. Business from the Audience - None

At 1:29:26 Treasurer Siemborski set the stage for a discussion to occur at next month's Council meeting - that being competitive bids for resurfacing the tennis courts into 4 pickleball courts as well as possible costs of building four new pickleball courts sometime in 2024 for which a lead donor would identify themselves to start funding with naming rights on the facility. The demand is documented. This announcement is an effort to be a little more open with what's going on behind the scenes as opposed to just hearing things at the coffee shop.

At 1:30:56 Treasurer Siemborski spoke of his desire for the Village and the Gates Mills Land Conservancy to be roughly on the same page in terms of where both bodies are heading with the money that has been given by our taxpayers. He would like there to be a joint plan that would encompass things the Land Conservancy wants to do and things the Village would like to do. Nat Smith is available to attend the January or March Council meeting to present the second half 2023 report.

At 1:32:18 Councilmember Turner acknowledged this to be Councilmember AuWerter's last Council meeting and extended appreciation for all the hard work he

has contributed to the Village. A complete asset to the community, he will be missed and is encouraged to remain engaged in Village matters. With thanks, Councilmember AuWerter took the opportunity to praise an outstanding, dedicated, and responsive staff that is the heart and soul of this Village.

23. Adjourn

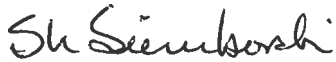
There being no further business, it was moved by Councilmember AuWerter, seconded by Councilmember Steinbrink, and unanimously carried, that the council meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Beth DeCapite, Clerk

Approved:



Steven L. Siemborski, Mayor

Village of Gates Mills

Division of Police
1470 Chagrin River Road
Gates Mills, Ohio 44040-9703
Phone: (440) 423-44505 Fax: (440) 423-2002
www.gatesmillsvillage.com

December 2023 Council Meeting (November Report)

- 1) Three arrest warrants were cleared during the month.
- 2) A firearm that was reported lost by a former Epping Road resident was located by the new homeowner after moving in. The firearm was turned over to the police department and returned to the owner.
- 3) First Aid Training is being coordinated with the fire department for January, 2024.

**** 1,884 camera citations were issued during the month.**

Monthly Totals:

- 57 Traffic Citations.
- 24 Warnings.
- 15 Incident/Accident reports
- 6.746 Patrol Miles.
- 28,667 house checks (YTD).

Gregg Minichello



Chief of Police
Gates Mills Police Department
[Gminichello@gatesmillsvillage.com](mailto:gminichello@gatesmillsvillage.com)
440.423.4405 x 112

Gates Mills Service Department

"Yours in service since 1920"

TO: Mayor
and Council Members

FROM: Dave Biggert, Service Director

RE: SERVICE DEPARTMENT REPORT – NOVEMBER 2023

1. In November, 6 building permits were issued for a total construction value of \$742,862.
2. In November 2022, 4 building permits had been issued for a total construction value of \$361,484.
3. All the members of the Service Department would like to wish everyone a Merry Holiday Season and a Happy New Year. Thank you for all your help and support throughout the year.

I hope this information is helpful. If you have any questions or need any additional information, please feel free to contact me at (440) 423-1581.

Respectfully Submitted,



David L. Biggert, RBO, RBI, PI, MI, EMT-B
Service Director/Building Official

VILLAGE OF GATES MILLS
FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE ELEVEN MONTHS ENDED NOVEMBER 30, 2023
December 14, 2023

NOVEMBER RESULTS AND FINANCIAL POSITION

The financial statements were provided to the Mayor, Clerk and Council prior to the December Council meeting.

GENERAL FUND

Revenue for the month of November was \$564,000, consisting of \$251,000 of municipal income tax revenue, \$243,000 of traffic camera gross receipts and \$70,000 of other revenue. Tax amounts represent collections by the taxing agencies (Cuyahoga County and RITA) that are forwarded to the Village. The Village is dependent on the timing of those agencies' billing and collection activities and on the timing of taxpayer remittances.

For real estate taxes, receipts are dependent on the seasonal nature of tax due dates, payments by property owners and county remittances to the Village. For the first eleven months of 2023, real estate tax receipts of \$2,488,000 are slightly ahead of the prior year and budget by \$52,000.

Municipal income tax revenue was \$251,000 in November. We have been reporting for several months that tax receipts in 2023 have been less than in 2022. For the eleven months in 2023, income tax revenue of \$2,110,000 is below 2022 amounts by \$950,000. As discussed, we have conferred with RITA several times on expectations for 2023. Their latest projection of \$1,976,000, has been surpassed in November with collections of \$251,000. In the first two weeks of December, we have collected \$185,000 bringing our likely 2023 income to \$2,295,100. Our budget was \$2,600,000, so a shortfall of \$305,000.

In November, the Village received the second collection from the traffic camera enforcement program. Gross collections appear in the revenue category, while expenses to the Lyndhurst Court and to Gatso appear in the Police expenditure categories. In November, the Village received \$243,000 and remitted \$42,000 to Lyndhurst. We are anticipating Gatso sending a partial invoice to the Village for October and November collections, as they are working out reporting issues with the Court's reports.

Other sources of revenue (excluding the traffic camera receipts) is favorable to the prior year by \$140,000 due to higher receipts in most categories. Of note, the village received rental income from the cell tower, Mills Building rentals and interest on investments.

Expenditures for the month of November were \$409,000 for operations. Our monthly operating costs are approximately \$450,000 to \$500,000. For the first eleven months of 2023, expenditures were \$5,893,000 compared to \$5,536,000 in 2022. The 2023 amount includes \$932,000 of transfers from the General Fund to other Funds (\$1,093,000 in 2022). Excluding those transfers, cash expenditures were \$4,961,000 in 2023 and \$4,443,000 in 2022, an increase of \$518,000 (11.6%).

The Police Department is on budget in 2023. In the Fire Department, we spent greater amounts on personnel costs and on ambulance/EMS costs. The additional volume of fire calls requiring our Fire Department personnel has risen 30% this year including a record 42 calls in the month of July. As to EMS, calls are up 20%. EMS costs are \$447,000 in 2023 (compared to \$354,000 in 2022) due to more emergency calls. We are not expecting anymore invoices from Mayfield Village this year, as they invoice

quarterly. In the Service Department, we spent more on upgrades to the Village Hall and Mills Building, fees to evaluate the possible expansion of Burton Court and the new front-end loader purchase.

For the first eleven months of the year, the Village operated with a General Fund shortfall of approximately \$172,000 (\$72,000 recorded and \$100,000 possibly owed to Gatso). We had budgeted for a break-even year of \$19,841. Our results are lower than budgeted due to lower income tax receipts, higher Fire and EMS costs due to greater volumes, and start-up costs for the traffic enforcement program. It is possible we could end the year at a shortfall of several hundred thousand dollars rather than break even.

The General Fund cash balance at November 30 was \$7,738,000 compared to the beginning of the year balance of \$7,811,000.

OTHER FUNDS

The Village is required to maintain other special purpose funds by statute or contract. Cash in these special purpose funds amounted to \$2,036,000 at November 30. During the month, we distributed \$340,000 from the Capital Improvement Fund for the 2023 Roads Program.

This report will be published on the Village website.

Please direct any questions or comments to Treasurer@gatesmillsvillage.com.

Steven L. Siemborski
Treasurer, Village of Gates Mills
Chair, Budget and Finance Committee

**VILLAGE OF GATES MILLS
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
NOVEMBER 30, 2023**

	2023 BUDGET	Current Month	2023 Year to Date	2022 Year to Date
General Fund (GF) Revenues:				
Taxes:				
Real Estate Taxes	2,436,728	-	2,488,258	2,436,728
Municipal Income Taxes	2,600,000	251,090	2,110,079	3,066,556
Share of Sales and State Taxes	62,000	4,762	62,316	64,337
Total Tax Revenue	5,098,728	255,852	4,660,653	5,567,621
Other Sources:				
Fines and Costs	100,100	6,195	74,873	88,756
Traffic Camera Gross Receipts	200,000	243,220	387,185	-
Building/Liquor Permits & Licenses	48,000	8,343	87,329	43,716
Interest Income	150,000	19,577	143,913	105,816
Rental Income	210,200	20,074	215,773	195,852
Mills Building Rental Income	114,031	10,449	113,982	71,603
Ambulance Income	40,000	-	35,850	39,552
SRO Reimbursement	90,858	-	76,913	77,858
Misc	100,000	738	24,581	10,132
Total Other Sources Revenue	1,053,189	308,595	1,160,399	633,285
Assessments:				
School Board/Property Assessment	-	-	-	42,129
Total General Fund Revenues	6,151,917	564,447	5,821,052	6,243,035
Add Year Beginning General Fund Balance		7,584,267	7,811,278	7,366,903
Less Expenses:				
Administration Costs (see Page 2)		(61,587)	(728,649)	(753,936)
Administration - Transfers		-	(932,500)	(1,093,000)
Police Department Costs (see Page 3)		(192,145)	(1,848,102)	(1,570,642)
Fire Department Costs (see Page 3)		(18,418)	(200,178)	(208,529)
Fire Department Ambulance (see Page 3)		-	(447,197)	(354,439)
Service Department Costs (see Page 4)		(137,665)	(1,736,804)	(1,555,765)
Total General Fund Expenses		(409,815)	(5,893,431)	(5,536,311)
Current General Fund Balance		7,738,899	7,738,899	8,073,627
Plus:				
Other Fund Current Balances		2,036,662	2,036,662	2,233,690
Total Current Balance - All Funds		9,775,561	9,775,561	10,307,317

VILLAGE OF GATES MILLS
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
NOVEMBER 30, 2023

	2023 BUDGET	2023 Month Expenses	2023 To Date Expenses	2022 To Date Expenses
ADMINISTRATION:				
Salaries and Wages	159,500	15,436	147,286	139,050
Health Insurance	51,600	6,880	49,433	42,499
Worker's Comp/Medicare	7,800	333	2,906	2,881
Employee Retirement (OPERS)	27,000	2,021	24,252	22,996
PERSONNEL COSTS	245,900	24,669	223,878	207,426
Legal - Law Director	45,000	6,164	85,022	77,074
Legal - Prosecutor	38,000	8,300	34,501	37,475
Legal - Other	500	-	499	399
Engineering	34,900	2,713	29,918	31,366
Other Professional Services	85,500	11,350	120,642	104,679
LEGAL AND PROFESSIONAL	203,900	28,527	270,581	250,993
General Insurance	140,000	-	103,976	138,120
Income Tax Expense	90,500	7,440	61,418	91,223
County Auditor Expenses	58,500	-	58,289	54,498
Office Expenses	9,500	703	6,025	8,604
Miscellaneous Expenses	4,500	248	4,483	3,072
OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	303,000	8,391	234,190	295,517
ADMINISTRATION OPERATING COSTS	752,800	61,587	728,649	753,936
Transfers to Other Funds	996,500	-	932,500	1,093,000
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION COSTS	1,749,300	61,587	1,661,149	1,846,936

VILLAGE OF GATES MILLS
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
NOVEMBER 30, 2023

	2023 BUDGET	2023 Month Expenses	2023 To Date Expenses	2022 To Date Expenses
POLICE DEPARTMENT:				
Salaries and Wages	1,142,000	104,389	1,028,525	984,857
Overtime	42,000	7,369	45,121	36,093
Health, OPERS, MEDI, Worker Comp	262,656	20,711	225,838	223,884
PERSONNEL COSTS	1,446,656	132,469	1,299,483	1,244,834
Gasoline	28,000	-	16,940	24,172
Repairs and Maintenance	13,000	1,016	12,825	12,524
Uniforms	14,000	181	8,124	7,510
Training/Conferences	17,000	1,290	13,319	15,588
Dispatch Operating Fee	162,000	13,393	160,719	153,798
Alarm System Fee	20,000	-	18,567	22,017
Maintenance Agreements/Radio Expenses	28,000	-	25,125	19,414
Traffic Camera Program LMC	-	42,405	188,160	-
Traffic Camera Program Gatso	-	-	26,034	-
Other Expenses	16,000	405	11,968	13,815
V.E.G.	10,000	-	10,000	10,000
OTHER POLICE DEPART COSTS	308,000	58,690	491,780	278,838
Vehicle Purchases	62,000	-	48,451	46,970
Equipment Purchases	9,500	986	8,388	-
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	71,500	986	56,839	46,970
TOTAL POLICE DEPARTMENT COSTS	1,826,156	192,145	1,848,102	1,570,642

FIRE DEPARTMENT:				
Salaries and Wages	130,000	11,531	136,126	119,623
PERS, MEDI, SOC SEC, Worker Comp	30,000	1,149	12,552	10,422
PERSONNEL COSTS	160,000	12,679	148,678	130,045
Vehicle Maintenance	6,000	758	2,317	1,744
Ambulance/EMS <i>see below</i>	382,000	-	447,197	354,439
Training/Conferences	5,500	168	2,128	1,722
Contracts & Annual Fees	22,000	1,542	19,810	19,065
Other Expenses	9,500	156	3,881	3,394
OTHER FIRE DEPARTMENT COSTS	425,000	2,624	475,333	380,364
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	68,750	3,115	23,364	52,559
TOTAL FIRE DEPARTMENT COSTS	653,750	18,418	647,375	562,968
<i>Ambulance Income on Cover Page</i>	40,000	-	35,850	39,552

**VILLAGE OF GATES MILLS
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
NOVEMBER 30, 2023**

	2023 BUDGET	2023 Month Expenses	2023 To Date Expenses	2022 To Date Expenses
SERVICE DEPARTMENT:				
Salaries and Wages	722,500	72,067	683,833	654,144
Overtime	30,000	564	17,125	23,449
Health, OPERS, MEDI, Worker Comp	298,000	23,636	277,941	252,464
PERSONNEL COSTS	1,050,500	96,267	978,898	930,057
Salt/Aggregate (snow removal)	76,500	-	70,924	58,601
Building Inspection	15,000	1,320	11,067	13,903
Equipment Maintenance	48,000	2,513	44,356	47,007
Gasoline Expense	40,000	2,980	34,827	37,776
Supplies	33,000	3,628	32,423	28,667
OPERATING COSTS	212,500	10,441	193,598	185,954
BUILDING OPERATION & MTC				
Village Hall	140,500	6,353	120,064	96,239
Village Houses	12,600	150	1,198	702
Community Building	38,700	686	23,404	18,158
Post Office	12,000	62	15,232	18,142
OBT Building	2,120	162	1,652	1,558
Wash House	3,700	26	66	61
Burton Court	3,150	117	16,026	3,023
Mills Building	83,500	3,355	77,184	43,814
BUILDING OPERATION & MTC	296,270	10,911	254,827	181,697
Street Repair	9,000	249	9,235	8,879
Ditch, Drain, Sewers	18,500	15,233	31,584	15,572
Tree Grinding (Contractors)	16,500	-	800	12,500
Street Lighting	11,000	1,359	15,764	9,181
Parks	20,000	2,270	18,019	19,941
Guardrails, Signs, Bridges	16,600	286	5,474	16,367
STREETS AND ROADS	91,600	19,396	80,877	82,440
Vehicles	235,000	-	208,512	174,499
Other Equipment	17,000	650	20,093	1,118
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	252,000	650	228,604	175,617
TOTAL SERVICE DEPARTMENT COSTS	1,902,870	137,665	1,736,804	1,555,765

**VILLAGE OF GATES MILLS
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
NOVEMBER 30, 2023**

	Beginning Year Balance	Year-to-date Actual Receipts	Year-to-date Actual Expenses	Unexpended Balance
Street Const Maint Repair	80,941	185,969	148,903	118,007
State Highway	25,654	15,204	15,000	25,858
Bond Retirement (KeyBank Loans)	2,730	-	-	2,730
	109,324	201,173	163,903	146,594
Capital Improvement	339,875	829,057	702,092	466,840
Water	287,998	16,500	20,494	284,003
Wastewater Plant	14,309	81,185	61,339	34,155
Park Recreation	56,232	20,530	22,815	53,947
Cemetery	47,983	12,000	5,683	54,299
Mayor's Court-Violations Bureau	1,611	20,325	20,589	1,347
Mayor's Discretionary	334	1,500	1,549	285
Purcell Trust	31,800	-	-	31,800
Land Conservation	110,976	225,143	125,809	210,310
Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (ARPA)	192,312	407,723	77,955	522,080
Building Bond Deposit	103,919	26,070	-	129,989
Underground Storage Tank	11,000			11,000
Safety Fund	56,368	20,585	50,239	26,714
Police Relief & Pension	5,238	227,510	191,491	41,257
Law Enforcement	10	255	-	265
VEST Grant	-			-
OneOhio Fund (Opiod)	569	1,200		1,769
STATE Grants	7,491	12,517	-	20,008
TOTAL OTHER FUNDS	1,377,346	2,103,273	1,443,958	2,036,662
GENERAL FUND	7,811,278	5,821,052	5,893,431	7,738,900
TOTAL ALL FUNDS	9,188,624	7,924,325	7,337,388	9,775,561

STATE OF THE VILLAGE
NOVEMBER 30, 2023

	2023	2022
Total Current Balance - All Funds	9,775,561	10,307,316
Cash and Investments:	11/30/2023	11/30/2022
Cash:		
ANCORA	8,459,465	8,664,501
CHASE DDA	419,113	46,438
CHASE SAV - LAND CONS	210,310	159,279
CHASE VIOLATIONS BUREAU	45,569	33,772
Star Ohio	1,029,362	1,405,035
Total Cash	10,163,820	10,309,025
(OUTSTANDING CHECKS)	(388,258)	(1,709)
Total Cash and Investments	9,775,561	10,307,316

** From Wastewater Fund

GENERAL FUND SUMMARY	BUDGET	NOVEMBER	2023 YEAR TO DATE	2022 YEAR TO DATE
Real Estate Taxes	2,436,728	-	2,488,258	2,436,728
Municipal Income Tax	2,600,000	251,090	2,110,079	3,066,556
Share of Sales and State Taxes	62,000	4,762	62,316	64,337
Other Sources	1,053,189	308,595	1,160,399	633,285
Assessments	-	-	-	42,129
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	6,151,917	564,447	5,821,052	6,243,035
 OPERATING EXPENSES				
Administration Department	752,800	61,587	728,649	753,936
Police Department	1,826,156	192,145	1,848,102	1,570,642
Fire Department	653,750	18,418	647,375	562,968
Service Department	1,902,870	137,665	1,736,804	1,555,765
Transfers excluding Inheritance Taxes	996,500	-	932,500	1,093,000
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	6,132,076	409,815	5,893,431	5,536,311
 SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	 19,841	 154,632	 (72,379)	 706,724

Project	November 30, 2023	BUDGET	NOVEMBER	YEAR TO DATE EXPENSES	COURTNEY	OTHER	SCMR/STHWY
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT							
2022 ROAD PROGRAM				251,085		251,085	
2023 ROAD PROGRAM		1,100,000	338,084	402,825	82,110	180,715	140,000
CEDAR RD RECONST							
HILLCREEK CULVERT REPAIR		22,000	1,616	7,440	7,440		
STORM WATER REGS AND ISSUES		20,000	1,053	1,867	1,367	500	
MAYFIELD ROAD CULVERT		400,000		22,700	22,700		
COMM HOUSE LOWER LEVEL DOORS/BATH		40,000		34,531		34,531	
PUBLIC RESTROOM RENO (NEAR PARK)		30,000					
GM BLVD EMERGENCY REPAIR				58,032	3,415	54,617	
TOTAL		1,612,000	340,754	778,479	117,032	521,447	140,000



Gates Mills Fire Department

Thomas Majeski, Fire Chief Office: 440-423-1580 Fax: 440-423-2001

Vehicle Extrication Training with Genesis Extrication Tools Recently Purchased

Tuesday, November 7, 2023



1470 Chagrin River Road · Gates Mills · Ohio · 44040 9703



1470 Chagrin River Road · Gates Mills · Ohio · 44040 9703