

Village of Gates Mills
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
June 20, 2023

A regular meeting of the Council of the Village of Gates Mills, Ohio was held at the Community House on Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. with Mayor Schneider presiding. The meeting was livestreamed to the internet.

1. Roll Call

Councilmembers present: Atton, Deacon, Turner, Welsh.

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

Councilmember Welsh moved to excuse Councilmembers AuWerter, Press, and Steinbrink. Councilmember Deacon seconded the motion.

Ayes: Atton, Deacon, Turner, Welsh.

Nays: None

Motion carried.

2. Minutes of Regular Council meeting of May 9, 2023

Clerk DeCapite stated two changes were suggested by Councilmember Atton. On page 7, first paragraph, line 13, "complied" should be "compiled". On Page 1, item 4, "Treasurer Siemborski was not on attendance" should be "not in attendance". Councilmember Welsh moved to approve the May 9, 2023 minutes with Councilmember Atton's corrections. Councilmember Turner seconded the motion.

Ayes: Atton, Deacon, Turner, Welsh.

Nays: None

Motion carried.

3. Pay Ordinance # 1274 \$654,260.02

Councilmember Turner asked what was purchased from Southeastern Equipment for \$172,000. Service Director Biggert answered a new loader.

Councilmember Welsh moved to approve Pay Ordinance #1274. Councilmember Turner seconded the motion.

Ayes: Atton, Deacon, Turner, Welsh.

Nays: None

Motion carried.

4. Financial Statement/Treasurer's Report attached and starts at 2:31

Not included in the report are RITA municipal income tax collections for June 2023 in the amount of \$343,000. This is an increase of \$75,000 when compared to \$269,000 RITA collections in June 2022. Although this trend puts us well over our yearly income tax collection average, we are looking at a large shortfall from what was planned.

5. Mayor's Report starts at 9:42

- The successful Street Sign Sale held on June 9 by the Historical Society and the Village brought in \$10,000. Call Town Hall to see what signs are still available.
- There will be a Land Conservancy report at the July Council meeting.
- A Special Council meeting will be held next week because we need to pass our legislation with five people. Thursday June 29 seems to be best.

6. Clerk's Report starts at 12:20

- Kudos to the party responsible for the new swings at Marston Park. Mayor Schneider stated it was brought about by the Improvement Society.
- November Council Meeting falls on the 21st - two nights before Thanksgiving. It might be necessary to reschedule if a quorum cannot be reached.

7. Committee Reports

Comprehensive Plan Update (Councilmember Turner) starts at 13:52

- The Advisory Committee held their 8th and final meeting on May 16th. 17 of 23 members attended. Advisory Committee members were given the opportunity to bring up unaddressed issues and were again asked to prioritize goals and objectives-these were compared to goals and objectives from the April Town Hall meeting and were found to be remarkably similar. Text edits that came from the prior meeting were reviewed, recommendations were made, and the consultant prepared a summary that is now on the website.
- Law Director Hunt took on the role of zoning expert and reviewed the plan draft prior to the 5/16 meeting. He determined that zoning issues raised in the plan were legal and would pass muster if Council decided to move forward with them. The provisions in the plan are more general than specific and appropriate for a comprehensive plan.
- The consultant's final report should be submitted to the Mayor and Council by the end of the month and after ample time to digest its contents, a special workshop will be scheduled for the Mayor and Council to review and discuss the comprehensive plan. Mayor Schneider concurred.

Mark Shoag, from the audience, asked how much had been spent and if there is a cap on cost of the comprehensive plan. Councilmember Turner stated Council voted \$57,500 and we have not received the final invoice. Councilmembers Turner and AuWerter and consultant will retrospectively review the whole experience, consider extra work done by consultant and by Turner/AuWerter in lieu of consultant, and negotiate a final number for Council approval. Treasurer Siemborski recalled Council appropriating \$65,000 with approximately \$60,000 paid for services through January.

He will verify those numbers and guesstimates a total payout with a magnitude of probably \$75,000.

Charter Review Committee Update (Councilmember Deacon) starts at 22:18

- Chair is setting up final meeting followed by recommendations to Council

Broadband Committee Update (Councilmember Deacon) starts at 22:34

- Reid Consulting is currently mapping the number of fiber miles and number of Village households to determine financial viability. We expect the report by the end of the month.
- At last week's Hunting Valley Council meeting, their Broadband Committee proposed proceeding with final negotiations with both Spectrum and Ohio Gig. Those are two very different proposals and solutions. We will stay connected with Hunting Valley.

Betsy Dvorak, from the audience, asked what time frame to expect. Councilmember Deacon responded that once the financial viability study is received and we know what the options are, we will have a better idea of time frame, hopefully next month. We are aware of the need for more speed.

8. Police Department Report (Traffic Camera Update) attached and starts at 25:18

Charlie Baker, from the audience, asked if those driving 56 mph and above would be ticketed. Chief Minichello answered we are not administratively equipped to handle that volume of tickets. The most egregious speeders will be ticketed - those going over 60 mph. In the 34 days since inception, there has been a significant drop in those going over 60 mph - from 6.54% to 3.5% - exactly what we wanted. Mr. Baker then asked what percentage of people actually pay their fine and Chief Minichello answered 50-65% depending on the community.

9. Service Department Report attached and starts at 33:57

Councilmember Atton asked if there is a timeline on what the program is for the property at 640 Chagrin River Road. Service Director Biggert has asked the same of the homeowner and was advised basement waterproofing would be completed, backfilled, and concrete basement floor poured this week or early next week. Within two weeks framing of the structure will start.

In June an emergency repair was necessary on Gates Mills Blvd. Village Engineer Courtney has left pictures on the table of a small 6-inch sinkhole that became a 15' x 20' x 23' deep excavation. A 24-inch clay stormwater culvert had collapsed and has now been repaired. That area will remain reduced to one lane until the asphalt pavement is completed when the contractor comes in for the road program. Treasurer Siemborski asked if the repair was done by an outside firm and Service Director Biggert replied yes it was quicker and more cost effective to hire an outside contractor due to the depth of the issue and the need for a trench box and extended arm machine that we don't have. By the time the necessary equipment was rented more pavement could have been lost.

10. Fire Department Report attached and starts at 36:53

Charlie Baker, from the audience, appreciated the fantastic response and service provided by the Fire Dept during a recent accident.

Fire Chief Robinson noted year to date numbers for EMS last year at this time were 56 and this year we are at 99. A significant increase in call volume is going to be a significant increase in cost.

11. Ordinance No. 2023-18 (Second Reading) starts at 38:50

Ordinance No. 2023-18 “An Ordinance Amending Section 1313.05 of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of Gates Mills to Change the Meeting Time of the Architectural Board of Review’s Historic District Subcommittee” was read by Mayor Schneider. This ordinance is going to be amended. Representatives of HRB and ARB, Law Director Hunt, Service Director Biggert, and Mayor Schneider met just before this Council meeting. A variety of things still need to be talked through. Council will be presented with the input and flow chart at the July Council meeting (Third Reading). Ordinance No. 2023-18 will be placed on second reading.

Councilmember Atton asked where we stood on creating the Historic Preservation Task Force. Mayor Schneider replied as soon as we get HRB and ARB Ordinance No. 2023-18 straightened out in July, we will go forward with the task force.

12. Resolution No. 2023-19 (First Reading) starts at 41:00

Resolution No. 2023-19 “A Resolution Authorizing An Emergency Services Agreement with Mayfield Village for the Provision of Emergency Medical Services” was read by Mayor Schneider. Successful negotiations with Mayfield Village reduced the initial 17% increase to a 3% increase and a three-year contract to a five-year contract. Treasurer Siemborski commended Mayor Schneider and Finance Administrator Mulh for navigating that conversation and achieving those results. Resolution No. 2023-19 will be placed on first reading.

Councilmember Atton thought it would be a good idea for the Safety Committee to review alternatives in the event the EMS Agreement was cancelled by either party with a 12- month notice.

Councilmember Atton’s concern for a 12-minute response time and commentary from Mayor Schneider, Fire Chief Robinson, Treasurer Siemborski, Councilmember Welsh, and Charlie Baker starts at 43:00

13. Resolution No. 2023-20 (First Reading) starts at 46:48

Resolution No. 2023-20 “A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Fifth One-Year Extension of an Agreement for the Provision of School Resource Officer Services with the Mayfield City School District and Declaring an Emergency” was read by Mayor Schneider. Resolution No. 2023-20 will be placed on first reading.

Councilmember Atton asked if the SRO reimbursement received from Mayfield City Schools covered a part of the cost of Officer Kimbrew's car and Chief Minichello responded no. Councilmember Welsh if the reimbursement was still at 80% and Chief Minichello responded it has not changed.

14. Resolution No. 2023-21 (First Reading) starts at 49:27

Resolution No. 2023-21 "A Resolution Expressing the Intent of the Village of Gates Mills in 2023 to Sell by Internet Auction Personal Property, Including Motor Vehicles and Other Property Referenced in Ohio Revised Code 721.15 Which is No Longer Needed for Public Use or is Obsolete or Unfit for the Use for Which It Was Acquired; Authorizing GOVDEALS.COM, INC. to Perform the Sales; and Authorizing the Sale of Specific Personal Property by Internet Auction" was read by Mayor Schneider. Resolution No. 2023-21 will be placed on first reading.

15. Resolution No. 2023-22 (First Reading) starts at 50:15

Resolution No. 2023-22 "A Resolution Awarding a Contract for the Repair and Resurfacing of Various Public Roads in 2023; and Declaring an Emergency" was read by Mayor Schneider. Village Engineer Courtney reported bids were discussed by Councilmember AuWerter, Finance Administrator Mulh, Service Director Biggert and himself and two options for award have been identified dependent on the budget. One option includes Service Department repaving and the amount would not exceed \$750,000. When bundled with the overage from last year's road program, that puts us right at the \$1,100,000 included in this year's budget and long-range plan. The other option for award does not include Service Department repaving and the amount would not exceed approximately \$688,000. This provides a little wiggle room in the budget especially in light of what just happened on Gates Mills Blvd. Attached in your packet is an analysis of this year's budget given where we are and what we could award for the road program. Also attached is an analysis of where we stand in our multiple year road program showing that there is still \$2,200,000 worth of road work to do per our program to address the worst roads in the village. Next year we should be addressing the worst of the worst which is all of the failed roads and then we start knocking off some of the roads that ranked in poor condition. Resolution No. 2023-22 will be placed on first reading.

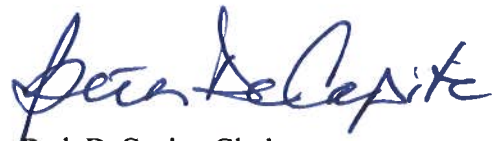
16. Council Matters starts at 52:58 - None

17. Business from the Audience starts at 53:05 - None

18. Adjourn

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

Respectfully submitted,



Beth DeCapite, Clerk

Approved:



Karen E. Schneider, Mayor