

Village of Gates Mills
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
October 13, 2020

A regular meeting of the Council of the Village of Gates Mills, Ohio was held on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. with Mayor Schneider presiding in a remote, virtual meeting that was livestreamed to the internet.

Councilmembers present: AuWerter, Frankel, Reynolds, Sogg, Turner, Welsh, Whitney.

Also present were Chief Minichello, Chief Robinson, Service Director Biggert, Finance Administrator Mulh, Clerk DeCapite, Treasurer Reynolds, Village Engineer Courtney, and Law Director Hunt.

The minutes of the September 8, 2020 Council meeting were presented by the Clerk. It was moved by Councilmember Sogg that the September 8, 2020 minutes be approved. Councilmember Reynolds seconded the motion to approve the minutes.

Roll call: Ayes: AuWerter, Frankel, Reynolds, Sogg, Turner, Welsh, Whitney.
Nays: None.
Motion carried.

The minutes of the September 18, 2020 Special Council Workshop meeting were presented by the Clerk. Mayor Schneider asked that the word “workshop” be included in the name of the meeting. Councilmember Sogg moved to approve the September 18, 2020 minutes with Councilmember Frankel seconding the motion.

Roll call: Ayes: AuWerter, Frankel, Reynolds, Sogg, Turner, Whitney.
Nays: None.
Abstain: Welsh.
Motion carried.

The minutes of the September 25, 2020 Special Council Workshop meeting were presented by the Clerk. Councilmember AuWerter noted a typographical error and questioned income tax credit numbers used on the last page of the minutes. After discussion, Councilmember Reynolds moved to approve the September 25, 2020 minutes with Councilmember Turner seconding the motion.

Roll call: Ayes: AuWerter, Frankel, Reynolds, Sogg, Turner, Welsh, Whitney.
Nays: None.
Motion carried.

Councilmember Reynolds thanked Finance Administrator Mulh for preparing all of the minutes from the recent meetings.

Pay Ordinance #1242 in the amount of \$443,231.55 was presented by the Clerk. Councilmember Sogg asked Finance Administrator Mulh about any unusual payments made. Mrs. Mulh noted Rick Loconti is now completing electrical inspections for the Village as SafeBuilt decided to discontinue providing the service to the Village. She also noted the C.W. Courtney invoice was for three months of work. Councilmember Reynolds asked about a payment made to The Diversity Center. Mayor Schneider responded the payment is for diversity and inclusion training that is upcoming for five participating communities. Councilmember Frankel inquired about an invoice from United Survey. Service Director Biggert noted they cleaned blocked catch basins as a part of storm clean-up. It was moved by Councilmember Sogg, seconded by Councilmember Frankel, that Pay Ordinance #1242 be approved.

Roll call: Ayes: AuWerter, Frankel, Reynolds, Sogg, Turner, Welsh, Whitney.
 Nays: None.
 Motion carried.

Treasurer Reynolds gave his report. His written September 2020 Treasurer's Report is attached. We have received all but 3%, \$123,273, of our budgeted receipts for real estate taxes. Income taxes remain behind budget by \$213,755 or 38%. Overall, revenues are lower than year-to-date 2019 by \$372,371. Operating departments are under budget, which reflects our decision to defer a number of "non-essential" expenditures. While the General Fund has a year-to-date surplus of \$375,491, this will turn into a deficit in the final months of the year as real estate taxes taper off and winter expenses rise. Treasurer Reynolds noted that Council completed two workshops to examine the options and opportunities that were the result of the Long Range Financial Planning process. Several opportunities to enhance revenue and reduce expense will be brought before Council in the form of legislation over the next few months. Some projects do not require Council action but will be implemented by the Mayor and Department Heads. The changes will not be sufficient to resolve in full the long-term structural deficit projected by our LRFP. Council must consider whether to, and how to, raise revenues through taxes. This consideration must involve communication and dialogue with residents to ensure that our overall tax structure remains balanced and competitive with surrounding communities and residents have the opportunity to knowledgably participate in Council's deliberations.

Mayor Schneider gave her report. She stated her hopes that everyone will vote on November 3. The Village's renewal levy is Issue 8 on the ballot. The Village will host a drive-through Halloween event on October 30th from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall complex. She also read thank you notes from Dan and Marlane Renner and Robert Vangunten.

Clerk DeCapite had no report. If the County permits it, she offered to take absentee ballots to the Board of Elections. Councilmember Reynolds will let everyone know if this is permissible after she visits there.

Councilmember Frankel stated the Safety Committee met yesterday, October 12. There was a presentation given by Flock Safety. They provide camera technology that identifies license plate numbers within 15 seconds of going through the community. The Police Department is notified if the car has a warrant associated with it. He asked that locations, where the cameras would work best, be identified. The Police Department will have a Crime

Prevention Officer established. The Officer is attending training and can provide community education services. Officers are being recertified in first aid training as well. The Department is considering the development of a resident camera database. This would include information on who has Ring doorbells or other systems that could be helpful in solving crimes. Also, a proposal for increasing violation fees is being developed. The EMS contract has been negotiated with Mayfield Village and the 2020 fire hydrant program will continue with red bags being put on hydrants to reduce corrosion. There will be an award presentation next week to resident Chris Papouras from the State Fire Marshall.

Chief Minichello provided the Police Department report. He discussed the Flock Safety presentation and how the cameras are an investigatory tool that will pick up and store license plate information in the Cloud for use by the Police Department only. There are no privacy issues with the system usage and information is purged every thirty days. Hunting Valley is considering installing 25 cameras at \$2,500 per year per camera. Pepper Pike is getting 5 cameras. It takes approximately 35-45 days to get the cameras installed and working. They need to be strategically deployed. The Village has experienced more serious crimes recently in the area of Gates Mills Boulevard as the area has easy access to Route 91 and the freeways. We would be able to work with other communities by having access to each other's cameras. Councilmember Sogg noted that red light traffic cameras require a notice be posted and asked if a notice is required with this technology. Law Director Hunt responded the Village would not have to give notice for this purpose. We can do it, but it is not required. Councilmember AuWerter asked what the next step would be if we would want to move forward with the technology. Councilmember Frankel wants receptivity connections to be tested first and then he and the Chief would meet with the Mayor. Chief Minichello added the cameras have 96% accuracy in reading plates and he likes the product. Councilmember Turner asked about the resident camera database. Chief Minichello wants see who has Nest/Ring/Etc. technology to build an internal database as it may be helpful to know who has what kind of technology. He then stated Officer Newsome will be the Crime Prevention Officer and is attending training. Councilmember AuWerter stated the addition of citations and the disposition of them is helpful information on his report.

Service Director Biggert provided his report. Councilmember AuWerter asked if invoices for Chagrin River Road at Mayfield work would come to the Village or go to ODOT. Service Director Biggert stated there is a section in the contract where we can request ODOT pay the contractor directly. Councilmember Frankel asked if the Rogers Road at Chagrin River Road work will be done prior to year-end. Engineer Courtney responded that it will be done.

Fire Chief Robinson provided the Fire Department report. Councilmember Frankel went over the State Fire Marshall's Citizen Hero Award that will be presented to resident Chris Papouras. Commendations will be presented by Senator Dolan and Mayor Schneider. Councilmember Reynolds suggested a photograph be submitted to The Pink Sheet. Mr. Papouras was nominated by Chief Robinson and the incident and award were documented in Chief Robinson's Pink Sheet article this month. Councilmember Reynolds acknowledged Lt. Paul Nemastil and Firefighter Ben Pesuit for 23 and 25 years of service with the Fire Department.

Ordinance No. 2020-09 (Revised 9/8/20) "An Ordinance Adopting New Chapter 1176 "Riparian Setback", of the Codified Ordinances of the Village" was read. The Ordinance has had three readings and a public hearing was held on October 7, 2020. It was moved by Councilmember Whitney that Ordinance No. 2020-9 be approved. Councilmember Reynolds seconded the motion to approve Ordinance No. 2020-9.

Roll call: Ayes: AuWerter, Frankel, Reynolds, Sogg, Turner, Whitney.
Nays: Welsh.
Motion carried.

Resolution No. 2020-34 "A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into the LPA-ODOT-LET Project Agreement and Declaring an Emergency" was read by Councilmember AuWerter. This is for the Mayfield Road at Chagrin River Road ODOT Project in 2021. Engineer Courtney stated ODOT is anxious to get the agreement signed, but the work will not begin until next year in the spring. Councilmember AuWerter questioned Section III. Engineer Courtney explained that the Village would have to pay 100% of the cost if we were to add work to the project. Councilmember AuWerter moved that the rules requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and that Resolution No. 2020-34 be placed upon its final passage. Councilmember Sogg seconded the motion to suspend the rules.

Roll call: Ayes: AuWerter, Frankel, Reynolds, Sogg, Turner, Welsh, Whitney.
Nays: None.
Motion carried.

It was moved by Councilmember AuWerter that Resolution No. 2020-34 be approved. Councilmember Sogg seconded the motion to approve Resolution No. 2020-34.

Roll call: Ayes: AuWerter, Frankel, Reynolds, Sogg, Turner, Welsh, Whitney.
Nays: None.
Motion carried.

Resolution No. 2020-35 "A Resolution Authorizing an Emergency Services Agreement with Mayfield Village for the Provision of Emergency Medical Services" was introduced by Councilmember Frankel. Councilmember Frankel moved that the rules requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and that Resolution No. 2020-35 be placed upon its final passage. Councilmember Sogg seconded the motion to suspend the rules.

Roll call: Ayes: AuWerter, Frankel, Reynolds, Sogg, Turner, Welsh, Whitney.
Nays: None.
Motion carried.

Mayor Schneider noted that further details and changes will be worked on with LifeForce. Councilmember Whitney asked if the prior agreement was for three years. Mayor Schneider responded that the last agreement was for five years, but Mayfield Village would only agree to a three-year renewal at this time. It was moved by Councilmember Frankel that

Resolution No. 2020-35 be approved. Councilmember Welsh seconded the motion to approve Resolution No. 2020-35.

Roll call: Ayes: AuWerter, Frankel, Reynolds, Sogg, Turner, Welsh, Whitney.
Nays: None.
Motion carried.

Resolution No. 2020-36 “A Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of a 2020 Ford Explorer Police Vehicle from Lebanon Ford for School Resource Officer Use and Use of Cares Act Funds for the Purchase” was read by Councilmember Frankel.

Councilmember Frankel moved that the rules requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and that Resolution No. 2020-36 be placed on its final passage. He noted the vehicle is on hold and the purchase will allow the SRO to have a vehicle for his use only, which will protect the students and administrators at the schools. Councilmember Welsh seconded the motion.

Roll call: Ayes: AuWerter, Frankel, Reynolds, Sogg, Turner, Welsh, Whitney.
Nays: None.
Motion carried.

It was moved by Councilmember Frankel, seconded by Councilmember Welsh, that Resolution No. 2020-36 be approved.

Roll call: Ayes: AuWerter, Frankel, Reynolds, Sogg, Turner, Welsh, Whitney.
Nays: None.
Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 2020-37 “An Ordinance to Amend the Annual Appropriation Ordinance No. 2020-2 to Increase Certain Appropriations and Other Expenditures of the Village of Gates Mills, Ohio for the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2020” was read by Councilmember Whitney. Councilmember Whitney moved that the rules requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and that Ordinance No. 2020-37 be placed on its final passage. Councilmember Sogg seconded the motion.

Roll call: Ayes: AuWerter, Frankel, Reynolds, Sogg, Turner, Welsh, Whitney.
Nays: None.
Motion carried.

It was moved by Councilmember Whitney, seconded by Councilmember Frankel, that Ordinance No. 2020-37 be approved.

Roll call: Ayes: AuWerter, Frankel, Reynolds, Sogg, Turner, Welsh, Whitney.
Nays: None.
Motion carried.

Resolution No. 2020-38 “A Resolution Authorizing and Directing the Transfer of Certain Sums from the General Fund to the Capital Improvement Fund” was read by Councilmember Whitney. Councilmember Whitney moved that the rules requiring ordinances to be read on three different days be suspended and that Resolution No. 2020-38 be placed on its final passage. Councilmember Reynolds seconded the motion.

Roll call: Ayes: AuWerter, Frankel, Reynolds, Sogg, Turner, Welsh, Whitney.
Nays: None.
Motion carried.

It was moved by Councilmember Whitney, seconded by Councilmember Reynolds, that Resolution No. 2020-38 be approved.

Roll call: Ayes: AuWerter, Frankel, Reynolds, Sogg, Turner, Welsh, Whitney.
Nays: None.
Motion carried.

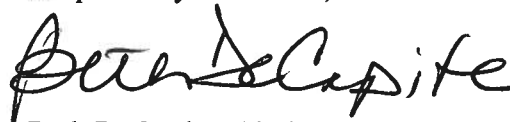
Chief Robinson noted there were seven viewers on YouTube. A comment from Mr. Divita was read. He agreed with Councilmember Sogg that signs can deter people. Chief Robinson then read a question submitted by David Atton. His question read, “Does Council intend to create ‘an education plan to be promptly developed and executed’ covering finance/taxation matters for the benefit of Villagers, as proposed by the Taxation Subcommittee of the LRFP Committee?” Mayor Schneider stated yes. There may be a few formats used, such as Zoom, print, and meetings. Treasurer Reynolds stated it is in everyone’s best interest to have an understanding of the Village’s financial situation. Councilmember Sogg added that educating the Village is a continuous effort being done all the time.

Chief Minichello announced that on Monday, November 23, 2020, the Police Department is going to hold a Zoom safety presentation from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Councilmember Reynolds added that Councilmember Turner is attending a Hillcrest Council of Councils meeting on Saturday. Councilmember Turner said she will provide a summary of the meeting.

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

Roll call: Ayes: AuWerter, Frankel, Reynolds, Sogg, Turner, Welsh, Whitney.
Nays: None.
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Beth DeCapite, Clerk

Approved:

Karen E. Schneider
Karen E. Schneider, Mayor

Village of Gates Mills
Treasurer's Report
Month Ended September, 2020

As expected, Real Estate tax receipts continued higher than normal for this time of year due to the delayed payment deadlines set by the County. We now have collected all but 3%(or \$123,273) of our budgeted receipts and should expect to end the year at or slightly above budget for this revenue item. Our Municipal Income tax receipts remain behind budget, with 38% remaining to be collected (213,755). We expect to end the year under budget on this item. overall, Revenues are lower than YTD 2019 by \$372,371.

Our operating departments are all well under budget and expenses are \$225,903 lower than this time last year, reflecting our decision to defer a number of "non-essential" expenditures. Overall, our general fund has a YTD surplus of \$375,491. This surplus will reduce and turn to deficit in the final months of the year as Real Estate Tax receipts taper off and winter expenses rise.

Our Investment account stands at \$4,883,66.61 including accrued interest. Income over the next 12 months is estimated at \$89,141.

Council completed 2 workshops examining options and opportunities developed by the LRFP Committee. Several opportunities to enhance revenue and reduce expenses will be brought before Council in the form of resolutions or ordinances over the next few months. Some projects do not require Council action but will be implemented by the Mayor and by our Department managers.

These projects will not be sufficient to resolve in full the long-term structural deficit projected by our LRFP. To do so, Council must consider whether and how to raise revenues through taxes. It was agreed during our Council workshops that this consideration must involve communication and dialogue with our residents to ensure that our overall tax structure remains balanced and competitive with surrounding communities and that residents have the opportunity to knowledgably participate in Council's deliberations.