

**January 8, 2024**

The oath of office was administered by Scott Eickelberger to Robert Dickson and Levi Shegog

Mayor Jennifer Lyle called the meeting to order on Monday, January 8, 2024 with all members present.

Moved by Shegog, seconded by Wootton, that council dispense with the reading of the December 11, 2023 minutes and approve as distributed. Motion carried.

Visitors: Marsha Wagner, Chris Huebner, Jarvin Talkington

Wagner stated that she would like to encourage residents to attend council meetings and committee meetings. She stated that she would like for meetings to be more of an open format where questions are answered. Mayor Lyle responded that council meetings are a legal formal legislative gathering, which does not allow for a back and forth other than statements from visitors at the beginning of the meeting, but town hall formats do allow for questions and input from residents.

## **REPORTS**

**Police Chief:** Police Chief Mindy Peck gave the December monthly report.

- 1) Reported that there were 263 calls for service.
- 2) Reported that there have been 3444 calls for service year to date.
- 3) Reported that there were 25 traffic citations and 29 traffic warnings for the month.
- 4) Reported that there were 303 traffic citations and 323 traffic warnings year to date.
- 5) Reported that there were 244 business checks and 6 parking citations.
- 6) Reported that there was 1 misdemeanor charge.
- 7) Thanked Riesbeck's and the New Concord community for the support of the food drive.

**Fire Chief:** Fire Chief Matt Hamsher gave the December monthly report.

- 1) Reported that there were 76 total EMS runs for the month.
- 2) Reported that there were 12 fire runs.
- 3) Reported that there were 10 calls that they were unable to respond to, with 6 that were turned down due to how far outside of the mutual aid area they were.
- 4) Reported that there were 942 EMS runs year to date.
- 5) Reported that there were 236 fire runs year to date.

**Mayor:** Mayor Jennifer Lyle gave the December monthly report.

- 1) Reported that the Evergreen Village repair led to a water break with 19 ½ hours of work for the operations department.
- 2) Reported that the bar screen went out of service 12/8/223. Pulled weir plate out of channel and placed the coarse bar rack in service. Knowlton Steel fabricated a temporary screen for us to lay over top our coarse screen to protect downstream equipment.

- 3) Reported that the SOPEC hearings were well attended and that there is legislation to be passed (Ordinance 2024-97 and Ordinance 2024-98) tonight to allow for the rates to take effect.
- 4) Reported that the OPWC grant was submitted to help with paving for 2024.
- 5) Reported that she and Steve Wootton met with AlignHR for an introductory meeting.
- 6) Reported that the EMA\_ARPA retention payments were made to the police department and fire department.
- 7) Wootton asked how the Cintas/Unifirst contract issue was proceeding? Lyle responded that it was ongoing. Shegog asked when the contracts expire? After discussion it was determined that the Cintas contract expires in December 2024 and the Unifirst contract expires in July 2028. Shegog stated that this was longer than he had been told previously. Lyle stated that this is a legal issue that is ongoing.

**Visiting Clerk:** Chris Kerby gave the December financial report.

- 1) Reported that the available primary checking balance is \$1,134,591.15.
- 2) Reported that the income tax receipts will be divided by percentage going forward, with 17.78% going to the fire department and the remainder going to the general fund.
- 3) Reported that payroll has been switched to UAN from ADP, which is a savings to the Village.
- 4) Reported that the Ohio Municipal League will be having training for new and existing council members on March 2, 16, and 23.

**Infrastructure Committee:** Committee chair Robert Dickson reported that the committee met on December 19.

- 1) Committee heard numerous updates from departments about year-end activities.
- 2) Reported that the committee heard about the ongoing Liberty Bridge project and funding issues pertaining to it.
- 3) Reported that the committee has a list of streets to be considered for paving in 2024 as grant money becomes available.
- 4) Reported that the sidewalk program applicants will be completed as the weather allows.
- 5) Reported that the trees for removal or trimming have been chosen and will be replaced or trimmed as the weather allows.
- 6) Reported that there has been a meeting with ODOT about replacing the code for the traffic lights at Stormont/Main and Layton/Main to reduce the time on the side streets.
- 7) Reported that the committee heard about the Evergreen Village water break.

**Safety Committee:** Committee chair KJ Kearns reported that the committee met on January 8.

- 1) Reported that the committee heard about resource sharing between the New Concord Fire Department and the Perry Township Fire Department where the departments will combine when only 1 person is available at each department to work a shift.

**Finance Committee:** Committee chair Steve Wootton reported that the committee met January 8.

- 1) Reported that the committee discussed the financial reports with Melanie Smith and reviewed the bank statement.
- 2) Committee recommends passage of Ordinance 2024-95, which will allow for interim

stipends and wage for employees.

- 3) Committee discussed the credit card policy to be implemented. Wootton stated that there will be one card and that statements will be reviewed by the finance committee monthly. Wootton stated that the policy can be amended as needed. Wootton made a motion to implement the credit card policy, Taylor seconded, all voted in favor.

### **Election of President Pro Tempore of New Concord Village Council**

Taylor nominated Wootton.

Whitehair nominated Shegog.

Wootton	Wootton	Shegog	Shegog
Whitehair	Shegog	Kearns	Wootton
Dickson	Wootton	Taylor	Wootton

Wootton is elected Council President.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** To consider the employment and compensation of public employees.

Moved by Wootton, second by Whitehair that council move to executive session.

Wootton	yea	Shegog	yea
Whitehair	yea	Kearns	yea
Dickson	yea	Taylor	yea

Motion Passes

Motion by Dickson, second by Wootton to adjourn executive session. Executive session adjourned at 8:37 PM.

Kearns left meeting at 8:37 PM.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Moved by Wootton

Seconded by Whitehair

**Ordinance 2024-95**, an ordinance to establish stipends for interim positions, wages for administrative assistant/tax /court and assistant fiscal officer position; and bonuses for two administrative assistants of the Village of New Concord and declaring an emergency.

Wootton	yea	Shegog	yea
Whitehair	yea	Kearns	absent
Dickson	yea	Taylor	yea

Motion Passes

Motion by Wootton, seconded by Shegog to remove section 2.

Wootton	yea	Shegog	yea
Whitehair	yea	Kearns	absent
Dickson	yea	Taylor	yea



**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Village Hall Closed – Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup> – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Village Council Meeting – Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup> - 6:30pm – Village Hall

**ADJOURNMENTS:** Motion by Dickson, second by Taylor to adjourn meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:48 PM.

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Mayor

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Fiscal Officer