**Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting**

**November 20, 2023**

Mayor Shelton called the meeting to order. The November Council Meeting was held in the Fairfax Municipal Building – Council Chambers. Those present were Robert Ernst, Donald Kessel, Sharon Lally, Jeanne Perkins and Christine Renik.

Prior to the start of the November Council Meeting, Mayor Shelton asked for a moment of silence for Council Member Russell Riffle, who passed away on October 30th.

**Reading of the Bills and Bank Reconciliation**

Mayor Shelton asked for the reading of the bills and bank reconciliation. Ms. Lally stated that the bills had been paid and bank statement had been reconciled for the month of October 2023. Ms. Lally made a motion to approve the bills and bank reconciliation, and seconded by Mr. Kessel. All members present voted Aye.

**Reading of the Minutes**

Mayor Shelton asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the October 16, 2023 Regular Council meeting. Ms. Lally made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Kessel. All members present voted Aye. The October minutes were approved.

**Communications**

None

**Committee Reports**

The Planning Commission continues to meet with Hamilton County representatives to update the Villages zoning code. The next meeting will be Wednesday, December 6.

**Mayor’s Monthly Report**

$5,771.00 was received in Mayors Court fines, forfeitures and fees for the month of
October 2023. Mayor Shelton asked for a motion to approve the Mayor’s Monthly Report. Mr. Kessel made a motion to accept the Mayor’s Monthly Report, seconded by Ms. Lally. All present voted Aye. The Mayor’s monthly report has been approved.

**Administrator’s Report**

**Virginia Avenue**: The contractor emailed this information last week: We will be on Virginia Ave project starting November 16 to begin layout and saw cutting.  We will begin installing the proposed water main Monday November 20.  Starting at the dead end and working towards Murray, we expect the water main install to take approximately 4 weeks.  Once the watermain is installed we will begin the pressure and bacteria test this will take approximately 1.5 weeks.  While this is going on we will rebuild the 4 catch basins per the project plans.  Once the bacteria test is complete, we will connect the businesses to the proposed watermain.  This will also take approximately 3 weeks.  The concrete portion is weather dependent and most likely will have to wait till spring.

**New Business:** Resolution 15-2023 is to adopt the Hamilton County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. All jurisdictions in Hamilton County are asked to adopt the plan by mid-December. The entire plan is over 1000 pages since it covers potential hazards, such as flooding, storms, shelter-in-place, tornados, etc. in all political jurisdictions in Hamilton County. Ms. Kaminer had pulled out the pages specific to the Village of Fairfax which lists plans of action for the Village in mitigating some of the potential risks. The Village has already undertaken many projects in the past including the removal of flood-prone homes in the floodplain. If a disaster occurs, being a party to the County’s plan will allow the Village to receive funds in the case of an emergency declaration by the governor for any future disaster.

**Aggregation**: As council is aware, both the electric and gas aggregation issues passed on the ballot. The next steps are as follows:

1. Update the website with all the latest information.    [Village of Fairfax — Energy Alliances](https://energyalliances.com/village-of-mariemont) This information was posted today (11/20). This gives an outline of the steps we need to take to get certified. The first step is to hold the public meetings.
2. Public Notice – The community must hold two public hearings per community to give residents the opportunity to give any feedback related to the Plan of Operations (see next bullet). community needs to decide when they would like to hold these meetings (2 for each commodity).
3. Plan of Operation – they have provided a draft Plan of Operation which Ms. Kaminer provided to Mr. Abes to review. This Plan would be executed after the Public Notices are held.
4. Draft Ordinance for Plan of Operations

You are free to adjust this document anyway you see fit as it is just a guide from us to get you 95% of the way there.  Please also note that Section III is optional. Though we’d hope you pass as an emergency so we can file the PUCO application the next day and start the program late winter/early spring, the Village needs to be comfortable doing so. If you plan to have multiple readings or don’t pass as an emergency, then you’d need to strike Section III.

**Police Chief Report**

Lieutenant Naticchioni attended Council in place of Chief Bronson. Hamilton County Adult Probation unit will occupy space at the sub-station. Currently getting the space ready. ASP instructor course was at the Rec Center for 3 days last week. The police department received very positive feedback from attendees. Two officers are now considered instructors for this training. The Police Department continues the overnight details at the Castrucci dealership with modified hours. All Continued Professional training will be completed by November 30, which is a requirement for the Ohio Peace Officers Training Academy. The Department is preparing for a LEADS audit to be conducted by the Ohio State Highway Patrol. Two cameras have been installed at the Sub-Station to monitor the parking lot and steps that lead to the Cincinnati Sports Club. CSC has paid for these cameras. The homeless camp at Lawyers Title has been removed and the area is being cleaned up.

**Fire Chief Report**

There were 21 calls for service in October for the Village of Fairfax. No significant events during the month. Chief Siefke mentioned that the Santa Pancake Breakfast will be held on Saturday, December 16th.

**New Business:**

**Resolution R15-2023**

Resolution R15-2023 Adopting the 2023 Hamilton County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan. Mayor Shelton asked for a motion to adopt the Resolution. Ms. Resnik made a motion to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Ms. Perkins. All present voted Aye.

**Old Business:**

**Ordinance 17-2023**

Ordinance 17-2023 Authorizing the Village Administrator to Execute a Memorandum of Understanding with The Little Miami Joint Fire & Rescue District and Columbia Township, Ohio. *Third Reading.* Mayor Shelton asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance 17-2023. Ms. Lally made a motion to adopt the Resolution, seconded by Mr. Kessel. All present voted Aye

**Council Discussion:** **None**

**Five minutes for audience questions/comments: None**

**ADJOURN:**

Mayor Shelton requested a motion to adjourn.

Motion to Adjourn: Mr. Kessel

Motion was seconded: Ms. Lally

All present voted Aye.

The meeting was adjourned.

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Carson Shelton, Mayor Robert Doppes, Fiscal Officer