**Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting**

**January 16, 2024**

Mayor Sharon Lally called the meeting to order. The January Council Meeting was held in the Fairfax Municipal Building – Council Chambers. Those present were Donald Kessel, Tracy Naticchioni, Jeanne Perkins and Christine Resnik.

**Reading of the Bills and Bank Reconciliation**

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

**Reading of the Minutes**

Mayor Lally asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the December 18, 2023 Regular Council meeting. Ms. Resnik made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Ms. Perkins. All members present voted Aye. The December minutes were approved.

**Consideration of Council Vacancies**

Mr. Kessel nominated Mr. Robert Ernst to complete the term of Mr. Riffle, and seconded by Ms. Resnik. Mr. Kessel nominated Mr. Hunter Boschert to fill the vacant position left by Ms. Lally, and seconded Ms. Perkins. All Members present voted Aye.

Mr. Hunter Boschert and Mr. Robert Ernst were sworn in by Mr. Abes to fill the vacant Council positions left by Ms. Lally and Mr. Riffle, respectively.

**Election of Vice Mayor**

Mayor Lally asked for nominations for Vice Mayor. Ms. Perkins nominated Mr. Kessel to serve as Vice Mayor. Seconded by Ms. Naticchioni. All Members present voted Aye.

**Rules and Regulations for Council**

Ms. Resnik noted a few changes for the Rules and Regulations for Council. Mayor Lally asked for a motion to approve the Rules and Regulations for Council, with changes. Mr. Ernst made a motion to approve the Rules, seconded by Mr. Kessel. All Members present voted Aye.

**Communications**

Chief Bronson received a letter of appreciation from Cincinnati Police Chief Teresa Theetge for supporting Operation Santa Sleigh 2023. The event brought much joy to young people who are undergoing severe health issues and were unable to be home for Christmas.

**Committee Reports**

The Planning Commission continues to meet with Hamilton County representatives to update the Villages zoning code. Hamilton County is finalizing the changes. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, February 7.

**Mayor’s Monthly Report**

$2,155.00 was received in Mayors Court fines, forfeitures and fees for the month of
December 2023. Mayor Lally 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. Resnik. All present voted Aye. The Mayor’s monthly report has been approved.

**Administrator’s Report**

**Virginia Avenue**: The catch basin rebuilds are complete. All GCWW work to connect each business to the new water main should be completed by the end of January.

Rack & Ballauer will meet with Tim King once GCWW is complete with all of their work to get some specific direction on concrete curb repairs and certain aprons that need to be replaced. That work is weather dependent and will most likely occur in March. Asphalt paving of the entire road may not occur until April or May. Coordination with the businesses and a maintenance of traffic will need to be discussed, although the paving work will not be as intrusive or take as long as the water main work did.

**Picnic Shelter – Ziegler Park:** Mr. Huskey and I met with Tom Braxterman of Hueber general contracting. They are quoting us on the replacement of the support poles on the picnic shelter as well as replacement of the concrete decking. Mr. Braxterman said that work would take approximately 3 weeks, depending on weather. Our goal is to have the work complete by the time we normally start rentals in early April. It is possible that work may go into April a little bit if Spring comes a little later than normal, but most of the inquiries we have had on shelter rentals so far have been for June or later.

**The retirement open house for Carson Shelton** has been scheduled for Thursday February 15, 2024 from 5-7 PM at the Cincinnati Sports Club. The Club is allowing us to use their meeting and event space at no charge. There is an ordinance under New Business to approve the food costs and retirement gift for this event. After council approves the ordinance, Ms. Kaminer will work with the Club’s café to coordinate an appetizer buffet for guests. The open house will be posted on Facebook and put in our newsletter so that members of the community can stop by to wish Carson well, but individual email invites will be sent to other elected officials, past council members and administrative personnel, his family, and others who had close working relationships with Carson.

**The Fairfax Family Bowling Day** will be held on Sunday February 4, 2024 from 1-4 PM at Madison Bowl. The entire bowling alley is reserved for Fairfax during that time. For $10 each player gets 2 games and is eligible to win a ribbon or trophy. High scores in categories for kids, teens, men and women will be awarded. This has become a very popular event with Fairfax as well as some from other communities

**Police Chief Report**

Chief Bronson stated that calls have been down for the past month due to the cold weather. The Fairfax Police Association is providing support for the Mariemont Police officer recently diagnosed with breast cancer. Employee evaluations are being completed for year-end 2023. The Department will be doing a 72-hour detail at Wal-Mart due to a former employee making threats to current employees.

**Fire Chief Report**

There were 25 calls for service in December for the Village of Fairfax. No significant events during the month. Total calls for 2023 was 308 in the Village of Fairfax.

**New Business:**

**Ordinance 1-2024**

Ordinance 1-2024 Consenting to the Appointment of a New Member of the Board of Zoning Appeals for the Village of Fairfax Ohio and Declaring an Emergency. Mayor Lally asked for a motion to suspend the three readings. Mr. Kessel made a motion to suspend the three readings, seconded by Mr. Ernst. Mayor Lally asked for a motion to adopt the Ordinance. Mr. Kessel made a motion to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Ms. Resnik. All present voted Aye.

**Ordinance 2-2024**

Ordinance 2-2024 Authorizing an Expenditure for the Retirement/Open House for Former Mayor Carson L. Shelton, and Declaring an Emergency. Mayor Lally asked for a motion to suspend the three readings. Mr. Kessel made a motion to suspend the three readings, seconded by Mr. Ernst. Mayor Lally asked for a motion to adopt the Ordinance. Mr. Kessel made a motion to adopt the Ordinance, seconded by Ms. Naticchioni. All present voted Aye.

**Old Business:**

**Appointment of JEDZ Trustees**

Mayor Lally asked for nominations for the JEDZ Trustees. Mr. Kessel nominated Ms. Sharon Lally, Ms. Jennifer Kaminer and Mr. Carson Shelton, and was seconded by Mr. Ernst. All present voted Aye.

**Council Discussion:**

**None**

**Five minutes for audience questions/comments:**

Mayor Lally welcomed the new members of Council and Board of Zoning Appeals. She also thanked Ms. Gloria Daley for her service on the Board of Zoning Appeals.

**ADJOURN:**

Mayor Lally requested a motion to adjourn.

Motion to Adjourn: Mr. Kessel

Motion was seconded: Mr. Ernst

All present voted Aye.

The meeting was adjourned.

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Sharon Lally, Mayor Robert Doppes, Fiscal Officer