

Minutes of the Council Meeting April 21, 2025

Mayor Sharon Lally called the meeting to order. Those present were Hunter Boschert, Robert Ernst, 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. Mr. Kessel stated that the Finance Committee met and that bills had been paid and bank statements had been reconciled for March, 2025. Ms. Resnik made a motion to approve the bills and bank reconciliation. Mr. Kessel seconded the motion. All members present voted Aye.

Reading of the Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Mayor Lally asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Boschert made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Resnik seconded the motion. All members present voted Aye. The minutes for March, 2025 have been approved.

Communications

The police department received a letter of appreciation from Sal Fucito, a resident since 2010 who shared his story of life here in the Village with a live-in nephew who had several bad behaviors and received kindness and understanding from our officers. He moved last month and will miss the services he's enjoyed for the last fifteen years.

Chief Bronson sent a letter to Dave Yost, Ohio Attorney General extending his sincere appreciation for all the assistance the Village received from the Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) during the incident of February 2, 2025. He credited their dedication in the speedy, successful conclusion of the investigation. Chief also offered Village assistance if ever needed.

Committee Reports:

Ms. Naticchioni indicated that the **Park Committee** will be meeting this Wednesday. She also shared that **Rec Center Improvement Committee** will be meeting on Monday, the 28th; therefore, there is nothing new to report. The Mayor then asked if the **Website Committee** had anything to share. Mr. Boschert stated that some changes have been made. The Police Department's Records Request has been added and other areas have been re-arranged.

Mayor's Monthly Report

\$3,928.00 was received in Mayor's Court fines, forfeitures and fees for the month of March, 2025. Mayor Lally asked for a motion to approve the Mayor's Monthly Report. Ms. Naticchioni made a motion to accept the Mayor's Monthly Report, which was

seconded by Mr. Kessel. All present voted Aye. The Mayor's monthly report was approved.

Administrator's Report

Waste Collection Bid: Bids went out today through the Southwest Ohio Regional Refuse Consortium sponsored by the Center for Local Government. Fairfax has participated with the communities of Greenhills, Mt. Healthy, Loveland Springdale and new this year, Riverside, Ohio for waste collection and recycling services. Being a part of a consortium of about 19,000 households compared to just under 800 here in Fairfax have provided us an economy of scale and the overall bid prices have been cheaper than if we were to be on our own. The current contract expires in March 2026 and was for a 5-year period. The new bid is also out for a 5-year period. Pricing is estimated to go up several more dollars per household per month compared to our current contract due to increasing costs, provider payrolls, insurance, etc. Cost of services can increase between 5-10% each year depending on several factors. Currently, our contract costs \$14.10 per household per month. We are expecting costs to come in between \$20-22 per household per month. If bids come in on the higher end, that would be about a \$73,000 increase. Having 5-year contracts is beneficial for budgeting purposes, but when those 5 years are up, pricing adjustments are made and the first year of a new contract period always has the higher jump. However, we would know budget wise what the pricing would be over the next several years and that always helpful to know. Bids are due May 19, 2025 and will be thoroughly reviewed and discussed by the Center for Local Government along with each participating community and their respective legal counsels. Going out to bid now allows a thorough review period and a rebidding process in case the bid(s) are rejected for any reason. This will also allow us to receive costs for our waste collection contract before fiscal officers have to present the 2026 Budget in July.

<u>UPS Backup Systems for Traffic Signals:</u> As a follow up to discussion at the ECC meeting since several people were not able to attend, I have provided costs for all of the traffic signals in the Village to be upgraded with Uninterrupted Backup Systems in case of power outages in the Village. This would allow for signals to keep operating up to 8 hours in case of a power outage. I am asking Council to provide some direction on this project so that I can get back with Capital Electric on what the Village wishes to do. Discussion ensued with a list of questions for Capital Electric. Mrs. Kaminer indicated she will seek out answers; sharing info provided by email.

GCWW Water Main Project: To recap for council members who were not at the ECC meeting, GCWW is ready to put their Fairfax water main project out to bid. These streets include the full length of Meadowlark Lane and Southern Ave. as well as the portion of Elder, Robert, Hawthorne and Grace between Southern and Germania. The Village had plans to replace the concrete on Meadowlark and Southern already. GCWW is willing to cover the cost of concrete for half of Meadowlark and 1/3 of Southern (Southern is 3 lanes wide on the area that is concrete). Concrete costs are much higher than the cost of asphalt and it is estimated that the Fairfax share of concrete for Meadowlark and Southern could be \$950,000. The Village has \$700,000 budget for street replacement this year, so additional monies may need to be appropriated for this project in 2025. It is possible that some of the work could go into 2026 because GCWW is estimating about 6 months before all work is done. GCWW is currently having their legal counsel draft a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between GCWW and Fairfax that would spell out the costs between each entity.

As soon as I receive anything I will forward to Mr. Abes for review. There is a possibility that an ordinance with MOU will be presented at the May council meeting.

Birkdale Townhome development/Maronda Homes: For council's information, Maronda Homes has submitted to Tony Perkins construction plans for the second building of 4 townhomes. This will be built directly across from the current building under construction. I have not yet heard about any definitive plans for an open house on the model townhome. I am told this will be sometime in May. I will keep council posted on anything I may hear.

Police Chief Report

Stats and service calls information was distributed. Flying Pig is 5/4; PD working with Eagle Bridge Co. for street sweeping. We've also requested property maintenance at the vacant Frisch's lot. Postcards will go out soon advising routes and street closures. Police Memorial Service is 5/12; Chief offered to drive anyone who is able to attend. Last week was Dispatcher Appreciation Week; we delivered donuts from a local bakery. We'll be doing an OVI checkpoint at 6000 block of Wooster; more info to follow. Speed complaint received for the 5700 block of Murray Road. 26 days survey was done showing an average of 2,962 cars per day with average speed of 27.25mph. Briefing on Election Day which is Tuesday, 5/6 0630-1930 in the Rec Center. One of the new vehicles is back from Parr Outfitters; both vehicle and outfitting came in under budget.

Fire Chief Report:

Chief Siefke greeted those present and said 27 calls for service were received in March. Update on our ambulance went to the F.I.C. in Indianapolis which is an International Conference and the vehicle was very well received. It should be in service next month after our training has been complete. More information will be shared in May. More medical resources from the District are being staged for the Flying Pig Marathon.

New Business:

Ordinance No. 4-2025

Ordinance No. 4-2025 To Provide for the Current Expenditures and Other Expenses of the Village of Fairfax, Ohio During the Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2025 with a Transfer of Funds from Enforcement and Education, Unappropriated to Enforcement and Education, Training Services and Declaring an Emergency. Mayor Lally asked for a motion to suspend the three readings. Mr. Kessel made the motion, seconded by Mr. Boschert. All present voted Aye. Mayor Lally asked for a motion to adopt the Ordinance. Mr. Kessel motioned, seconded by Mrs. Naticchioni. All present voted Aye.

Ordinance No. 5-2025

Ordinance No. 5-2025 Authorizing the Village Administrator to Execute a Debt Collection Agreement with Integral Recoveries, Inc. and Declaring an Emergency. Mayor Lally asked for questions and Chief Bronson provided additional information. Mayor Lally requested a motion to suspend three readings. Mrs. Naticchioni made a motion to suspend, seconded by Mrs. Perkins. All voted Aye. Mayor Lally asked for a motion to adopt the Ordinance which was made by Don Kessel, seconded by Mrs. Resnik. All voted Aye.

Ordinance No. 6-2025

Ordinance No. 6-2025 Adjusting the Fringe Benefit Pick-Up Plan for Eligible Police Personnel and Declaring an Emergency. Mayor Lally asked for a motion to suspend three readings. Mr. Kessel so moved and Mrs. Resnik seconded. All voted Aye. Mayor Lally requested a motion to adopt Ordinance 6-2025. Mrs. Naticchioni did so; Mr. Kessel seconded it. All present voted Aye.

Ordinance No. 7-2025

Ordinance No. 7-2025 Adjusting the Fringe Benefit Pick-Up Plan for Eligible Village Employees Other Than Police Personnel and Declaring an Emergency. Mayor Lally asked Council members if there were any questions and provided clarity. She then asked for a motion to suspend the readings. Mrs. Naticchioni made a motion which Mrs. Perkins seconded. All present voted Aye. Mayor Lally requested a motion to adopt the Ordinance. Mr. Boschert so moved, seconded by Mr. Kessel. All present voted Aye.

Ordinance No. 8-2025

Ordinance 8-2025 Amending Ordinance No. 18-2004, as Amended and Supplemented, Providing Certain Fringe Benefits to Regular Full-Time Employees of the Village of Fairfax, and Declaring an Emergency. Mayor Lally asked for questions; hearing none, she requested a motion to suspend the readings. Mrs. Resnik made the motion to suspend, seconded by Mrs. Perkins. All present voted Aye. Mayor Lally requested a motion to adopt Ordinance 8-2025. Mrs. Naticchioni did so and Mrs. Perkins seconded it. All voted Aye.

Ordinance No. 9-2025

Ordinance 9-2025 Amending Ordinance No. 36-2004, as Amended and Supplemented, Providing Additional Fringe Benefits to Full-Time Employees in the Form of Sick Leave. This Ordinance was tabled at the request of Village Solicitor, Alan Abes.

Ordinance No. 10-2025

Ordinance 10-2025 Providing Shift Differential Pay for Eligible Village Employees. First Reading

Old Business: None

Council Discussion:

The poorly maintained condition of the Frisch's Mainliner property was discussed. Village resources will be provided for basic upkeep in time for the Flying Pig with cost recovery through County property tax assessments to current owner.

Five minutes for audience questions/comments:

None

ADJOURN:

Mayor Lally requested a motion to adjourn.

Motion to Adjourn: Mr. Kessel

Motion was seconded: Ms. Naticchioni

All present voted Aye.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:49pm.

Sharon Lally, Mayor

Lisa Kammerer, Fiscal Officer