

At 6:30 PM Mayor Don Atkinson called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL: Mindy Curry, Bob Keogh, Dennis Recker, Louann Artiaga, Richard Bingham, and Rebecca Conklin Kleiboemer,. Also present were the following: Administrator Jordan Daugherty, Solicitor Kevin Heban, Director of Public Services Steve Pilcher, Fire Chief Joshua Hartbarger, Deputy Police Chief Alan Baer, Clerk Susan Miller, Karen Gerhardinger, Rob Casaletta, Scott Duncan, Jeff Yoder, Rita Yunker, Mona Snyder, Larry Yunker, Adam C. Brody, Joe Miller, Christina Green, and Lynn Brough.

Council prayer was given by Pastor Marcus Lohrmann of Community of Christ Church.

Motion by Dennis Recker, seconded by Richard Bingham to approve the minutes of the April 19, 2022 meeting. 6 ayes

Motion by Louann Artiaga, seconded by Mindy Curry to approve the bills totaling \$860,919.90 dated April 28, 2022 and the Addendum bills totaling \$265,490.05 dated May 3, 2022. 6 ayes

Motion by Richard Bingham, seconded by Dennis Recker to approve 28 foot by 6 foot memorial constructed of dog tags of veterans killed in Afghanistan and Iraq to be brought through town for the Task Force 20 Race on June 26, 2022. 6 ayes

Motion by Richard Bingham, seconded by Mindy Curry to approve the Anthony Wayne Volleyball 5K run/walk on September 18, 2022 beginning at 9:00 AM with Safety Services assistance and to waive the special event fee. 6 ayes

Motion by Dennis Recker, seconded by Bob Keogh to accept Ordinance 2-2022 Amending the Codified Ordinance of the Village of Whitehouse and to Repeal the Income Tax Credit in Whitehouse Municipal Code Section 186.08 and Section 186.081 for Tax Year 2023 and Thereafter and to pass said Ordinance. 4 ayes, 2 nays Richard Bingham, Louann Artiaga

Other items discussed:

- Task force 20 run sign up [TF20.org](https://www.tf20.org)
- Union Cemetery District, balance, revenue, expenses, bills, trailer, gator, collapsed foundations, safety, Whitehouse pump house door, lawncare, paving Whitehouse Cemetery, platting Wakeman and Waterville, Clerk/Treasurer Tiffany Bachman hired at \$22/hour, joint meeting May 9 at 6:00 PM in Waterville chambers, millage remaining the same, Waterville Township Trustee nomination
- Memorial Day celebration at Veteran's Memorial Park in Whitehouse at 10:00 AM and 11:00 AM at Wakeman Cemetery in Waterville
- Revenue increase discussed for the last 10 years, doing more with less, qualified Financial Staff no one wants to pay more, alternative measure staved off increase, surveys said to improve or maintain services, cut costs, absorbed duties within staff, hourly staff are incredible assets, sensitive to the resident's concerns, Whitehouse is the greatest value in Ohio, highest level of services, held off on an increase for as long as possible, waiting will cause issues, review financial statements, audits and records, EPA requirements and expectations, storm water and mapping systems - \$100,000, police training mandates, Dispatching, healthcare savings only delays the need, timelines for options, conscientious Staff
- Water, sewer, parks, sanitation, proud of the job 7 public works employees do, doing more with less, doing a lot of the work in house, the budget is as bare as it can get
- Budgets are lean with the needs being met
- Police training mandates, ask for needs not wants, gear is expensive
- Costs are higher, surveys repeatedly say the desire is for a bedroom community, Whitehouse has one of the lowest tax rates, eliminating the credit instead of reducing services and staff

- Police and Fire are the largest expenses, phenomenal job for the service received at this cost
- No choice in doing mandates, not cutting essentials such as staff, staff could find better pay and better benefits elsewhere, everyone will pay 1.5% and the burden will be shared evenly, money should go where the services are provided
- Removing the Income Tax Credit should be the last resort, go to a vote of the Citizens, Raising income tax .25% spreads the burden and will include the schools , Ardagh, raises more revenue, see removing the ITC as plan B
- Community problem, community solution, agree something needs to be done, spread the burden out and let people have a say
- Waiting calls it close with emergency funds based on what we know, not accounting for what we don't know
- Referendum
- We are on plan E, cost cuts, JEDD, JEDZ, JEDD, 10 years of implementing without burdening the citizens
- People on fixed incomes, workers at local business already pay the full 1.5%, scheduling, Employee retention issues, overtime, mandates, COLA
- The longer we wait, the more expensive it gets, staff goes above and beyond
- Joint Cemetery District meeting Monday, May 9 at 6:00 PM in City of Waterville Chambers
- ARPA funding plan is complete, maintenance safety supplies, uniforms, fire department fire gear (10 year life span), mandated decant facility (\$50,000), truck repairs, fire and police remodels discussed for 15 years, shelter house improvement
- Mowing and mulching, community garden drainage - in house labor, final clean up of sewer project, Industrial Parkway bid opening
- Swearing in Jim Christian at the fire station at 5:30 PM tomorrow, John Deere lawnmower given to the fire department from public works
- Drug take back collected 72 pounds
- Waiting on a revenue increase would deplete the surplus for emergencies, taxes should go where the services are provided, people working outside of the Village not using the services, Income tax applied to everyone and raises more money, give employees a raise
- RITA costs 3% (\$60,000 - \$70,000), finds non filers, net gain on books and can reallocate Employees
- Why should family A pay more than family B because family A makes more money
- Refuse cans left out and storage locations, not appealing, wild animals, place on the Committee of the Whole agenda
- The surplus/carryover for emergencies took years to build up with a lot of sacrifices
- Why is this an issue all of a sudden? This has been looked at for 10 years and new Mandates moved the timeline up
- The Village can delay for a year, but it is not good financial management to do so
- Removing the ITC disproportionately effects the community, increase the income tax, anticipated deficit is March 8, 2022, if the income tax increase fails, vote the ITC elimination through
- Referendum requires 20% of the voters that voted in the last election 202 signatures
- How many residents work outside of the Village
- Not waiting until in deficit spending, decision needs made no later than June 2022
- Toledo tax, infrastructure for the economy where you work
- I don't use services in the Village while I'm at work in Toledo, if my house catches fire, I would still like you to come
- Everyone's tax rate is 1.5%, those that work outside the Village get a reduction, stabilization 1.5% across the board
- Flags to be placed on vets graves in the cemetery on May 11, 2022 at 7:00 PM, assistance needed setting up chairs for the May 30 Memorial Day Service in Veteran's Memorial Park at 9:00 AM

Regular

May 3,

22

- Copper Press Coffee House ribbon cutting at 11:00 AM
- Keeping the revenue increase footprint small, credit established by Council, 13 communities have removed the ITC, will see more, amount in mind \$500,000, short term solution for 5 Years
- Hope Church Wednesday luncheon May 18, 2022, third Wednesday of every month
- Committee of the Whole meeting May 10, 2022 at 6:30 PM
- Referendum, could have tabled the Ordinance, then put the income tax on the ballot and then removed the ITC if it failed on the ballot

Motion by Rebecca Conklin Kleiboemer, seconded by Richard Bingham to adjourn at 8:34 PM. 6 ayes

Duly Appointed Clerk of Council

Mayor