

CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL – PRAYER – PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM by Mayor Rich Bingham.

Council Members Present: Louann Artiaga, Dave Riggenbach, Carrie Tuohy, Steve Fine, and Larry Yunker

Council Members Absent: Steve Connelly

Staff Present: Municipal Administrator Jordan Daugherty, Deputy Administrator Joshua Hartbarger, Solicitor Kevin Heban, Director of Public Services Steve Pilcher, Police Chief Allan Baer, Fire Chief Jason Francis, Council Clerk Nicole Hartbarger

Guests Present: Bob Desmond, Benjamin Black, Tim Tuohy, Stephen Bond, Greg Telecky

Council Prayer was given by Pastor Steve Bond, Community of Christ Church

Motion by Councilman Riggenbach, seconded by Councilman Fine to approve the minutes of the September 3rd, 2024 council meeting. 5 ayes

Motion by Councilwoman Artiaga, seconded by Councilman Yunker to approve the bills totaling \$213,231.21 dated September 12th, 2024 and the Addendum bills totaling \$130,536.12 dated September 17th, 2024. 5 ayes

PERSONS TO APPEAR BEFORE COUNCIL

Mayor Bingham asked if there were any people to appear before council. There were none.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Bingham asked if there were any committee reports to share.

Report on the August 29th, 2024 Tree Commission Meeting

Councilman Connelly will share details of this meeting during the next council meeting.

Report on the September 9th, 2024 Planning Commission Meeting

Administrator Daugherty shared that the Planning Commission met with the purpose to hear preliminary discussion on zoning change on 11320 Archbold Whitehouse road – 40 acre lot behind Lone Oak; to the west current farm land zoned S1, request is to convert to R3 which matches zoning to east and south. Daugherty comments that no decision made during this meeting, purpose was for Developer to come in and present discussion on the topic. Mayor Bingham brought up concern from residents in Lone Oak regarding flooding issues, a lot of flood plain in that area. Concern with new development adding more flooding issues – developer was encouraged to make sure they can explain if new development goes in, how it will improve the drainage in the area if it can at all. Daugherty states the Developer is planning to come back – Council will be involved in taking action during October 7th Planning Commission meeting and there will be a public hearing before official Commission meeting starts – allows for concerned citizens to speak. The Commission will then vote to make a recommendation to Council, it will come to Council during their next meeting. There will also be an open/public hearing before next Council meeting before any action is taken.

Daugherty shared there was additional talk about means of getting in and out of the new subdivision, looking to improve overall traffic flow in the area. The meeting adjourned at 7:14pm.

Yunker asks to confirm day of next Planning Commission meeting; Daugherty confirms it will be October 7th, on Monday. Then the public hearing will be before the next Council meeting, the week after.

Report on the September 10th, 2024 Committee of the Whole Meeting

Councilwoman Artiaga shared that the Committee covered several topics during the meeting. First was the idea of applying for OPWC funding was discussed, the Committee voted to send to

Council for approval. Second discussion was the Kleinfelder contract, Committee voted to forward to Council for approval of contract not to exceed \$35k. Spending limits of Administrator was discussed but tabled in order to give Solicitor Heban time to research. Administrator Daugherty gave a presentation and showed renderings on OH-64 Corridor master plan. The Committee discussed the 2024 Whitehouse Village ballot topics, reviewed language and how to dispense written information to residents – strictly facts, there is no recommendation to be shared from Council. Discussion on term limits, reviewed a few different suggestions on how it would be worded – sending issue to Council from Committee for approval; two consecutive terms with limit of eight years, with waiting period of four years before being able to run again.

Report on recent TMACOG Meeting

Councilman Fine shared that he is serving on the TMACOG policy board that works on and approves transportation plans. He shares that during this recent meeting, the group approved an electric vehicle charging infrastructure plan, deciding where to place chargers based on priority, requests including in Whitehouse and Oak Openings. The board approved a public involvement policy which is required by the federal government. Fine shares they discussed surface transportation block grant funding, around \$57MM worth of requests for the \$20MM in funding that TMACOG has; \$4MM is set aside for small projects, each community that applies does get funding for a small project. The board decided to form an ad hoc committee to discuss the requests, Fine shares he is participating in this subcommittee. Riggerbach asks about chargers for Waterville, Fine says yes they are on the request list. Artiaga asks about confirming smaller projects that are approved, Fine says they are ranked, but each community does receive funding if submitted. Fine confirms resurfacing Finzel Road was the Whitehouse TMACOG project.

REPORT OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Bingham begins his report by sharing that the police survey is active. Asks that all share the survey and fill it out. He asks Council about their citizen contacts from the Village survey, has Council completed their contacts. All have reached out at this point to make contact. Bingham shares that the grand opening of Whitehouse Bakery and Coffee Shop went well, around 40 people were there.

Mayor Bingham shares that at this point the Village survey has been taken by 772 people, 737 qualified. Numbers have changed slightly; the majority of individuals are ages 65-74, with 68.9% of households responding having no children.

Bingham shares that he is still actively working on the Swan Creek Ditch Project; met with State Representative Josh Williams and will meet with other state representatives and has been reaching out to Governor Dewine's office.

Mayor Bingham reviews some upcoming events. He shares that he still plans to hold signs and talk to citizens at home football games, including Homecoming this Friday. He shares that Adventure Distilling opening date is coming up but could be pushed back even further, they are working on some licensing with Lucas County and the State - will let all know if the date changes. Coffee with Mayor and Council is scheduled from 8-10am at The Buzz on November 2nd. Curbside pickup is September 28th. Fire Prevention week is October 6-12. Flu shot clinic open to public on October 22nd from 4-7pm. Drug take back 10am-2pm on October 26th. October 31st will be trick or treat in downtown Whitehouse from around 4:30pm to 6pm. December 7th is the holiday celebration from 3:30-7pm downtown Whitehouse.

Mayor Bingham shared one recent complaint; there was a motorcycle road rally in town, participants reported some dips in the road down Waterville Street. It was also shared there has been some parking in right of way in grass on Christopher Street, Zoning Inspector is working on this issue.

REPORT OF THE CLERK OF COUNCIL

Mayor Bingham asked for any items to report from Clerk Nicole Hartbarger. There were none.

REPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR

Mayor Bingham asked for any items to report from Municipal Administrator Jordan Daugherty.

2024 Whitehouse Ballot Issues Education-Requested Discussion

Administrator Daugherty comments that the request is coming out of the Committee of the Whole to touch base on the discussed language. He shares that staff can incorporate most suggestions, they are working on a video, fine tuning it all. Daugherty comments there will be another final legal review and will be on schedule for sharing information to the public. Targeting three-minute length for video. Daugherty comments Council and Staff will be offering video, utility bill inserts, social media, signs to the residents. Riggensbach asks can you push those out one at a time on Access Whitehouse or as we get closer – one at a time per issue to keep it a little less overwhelming. Deputy Administrator Hartbarger comments that he will investigate that.

Request Council Approval of Project Financing Services Contract with Kleinfelder

Administrator Daugherty comments that this is for the economic development contract, it is ready and he has provided a clean version to all. This is now ready for Council action.

Motion by Councilman Fine, seconded by Councilman Riggensbach to approve the Project Financing Services Contract with Kleinfelder. 5 ayes

Request Authorization for Legislation Accepting the Amounts and Rates as Determined by the Budget Commission and Authorizing the Necessary Tax Levies and Certifying Them to the County Auditor, as an emergency.

Administrator Daugherty shared that he talked with Councilman Fine, who asked where these numbers come from and how they come about. He shares that he received an email back with details about an hour or so before this meeting. Daugherty says he can bring this topic up for discussion at the next Council meeting to bring full understanding. All council members agree. Solicitor Heban suggests completing a first reading, all council members agree.

No motion at this time.

Request Authorization for Legislation Requesting the Advance of Monies on Taxes Collected by the Lucas County, Ohio Treasurer as Same Have Been Collected for the Village of Whitehouse, as an emergency.

Daugherty comments that this is an annual housekeeping item. Asks County to forward a little funding at a time, once a month, versus just twice a year. Riggensbach asks if we know the advance amounts, Daugherty comments that it is up to County. Yunker asks do we have to pay a fee to get this advance, Daugherty confirms that yes we do, it's around 1% or just under, netted out of the distributions.

Motion by Councilman Riggensbach, seconded by Councilwoman Tuohy to Request Authorization for Legislation Requesting the Advance of Monies on Taxes Collected by the Lucas County, Ohio Treasurer as Same Have Been Collected for the Village of Whitehouse, as an emergency. 5 ayes

Request Authorization for Legislation Authorizing the Administrator to Prepare and Submit an Application to Participate in the OPWC State Capital Improvement and/or Local Government Transportation Improvement Program and Designating the Administrator as the Signatory Representative for the Village of Whitehouse on Any and All Contracts With Full Power and Authority to Execute Same, as an emergency.

Daugherty confirms that this is giving official consent that we are authorizing to apply for the grant monies.

Motion by Councilwoman Artiaga, seconded by Councilman Fine to Request Authorization for Legislation Authorizing the Administrator to Prepare and Submit an Application to Participate in the OPWC State Capital Improvement and/or Local Government Transportation Improvement Program and Designating the Administrator as the Signatory Representative for the Village of Whitehouse on Any and All Contracts With Full Power and Authority to Execute Same, as an emergency. 5 ayes

Request Authorization for Legislation Declaring the Official Intent and Reasonable Expectation of the Village of Whitehouse, Lucas County, Ohio, For and On Behalf of the State of Ohio and/or the Ohio Public Works Commission; To Reimburse the Village's Street Improvement Fund for the CL13AA/CL14AA, Swanton Street and Neapolis-Waterville Road Improvements With the Proceeds of Tax Exempt Debt of the State of Ohio, as an emergency.

Administrator Daugherty shares that this topic happens around every two years or so. OPWC is a grant provider for a lot of projects. Whitehouse pays the contractor, files paperwork with OPWC and requests them to pay Whitehouse back. If we don't do this, they pay the contractor directly, have always asked for it to be handled this way.

Motion by Councilman Riggensbach, seconded by Councilwoman Tuohy to Request Authorization for Legislation Declaring the Official Intent and Reasonable Expectation of the Village of Whitehouse, Lucas County, Ohio, For and On Behalf of the State of Ohio and/or the Ohio Public Works Commission; To Reimburse the Village's Street Improvement Fund for the CL13AA/CL14AA, Swanton Street and Neapolis-Waterville Road Improvements With the Proceeds of Tax Exempt Debt of the State of Ohio, as an emergency. 5 ayes

Operations Report Summary

Deputy Administrator shares that there is a big update for Access Whitehouse, in the span of Aug 10 to Sept 10 there have been an additional 60+ users to download the app – will continue forward with this campaign. He shares that all upcoming Village events have been commented on by the Mayor.

REPORT OF THE LAW DIRECTOR

Mayor Bingham asks Solicitor Heban for any items to report. Heban comments that the term limits legislation that was sent out. It is asked does this need to go in ordinance form, for next meeting or will it be discussed again at Committee of the Whole. Riggensbach believes intent was to discuss further, after language was written up by Heban. Mayor asks about ordinance, when new Council in future come on can it be removed, Heban confirms yes it can be, but it does have to go to the voters. Heban comments that Council can enact this by ordinance, but it can always be changed by new Council; if in charter format it cannot be changed by any Council, only by resident vote. Fine says suggestion was both ordinance and charter. Yunker does not see anything on there as effective by a certain time, does not state if retroactive, when does the 8-year clock start. It has been decided to take this topic to the next Committee of the Whole for more discussion.

Heban comments on the discussion about emergency, ORC does have section that deals with state spending and governor can declare emergency that suspends everything. Heban asking to discuss this topic at Committee of the Whole as well.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Bingham asked for Citizen Comments pertaining to Agenda items. There were none.

ORDINANCES

Mayor Bingham asked Solicitor Kevin Heban for any ordinances to be reviewed or voted on. He shares Ordinance 14-2024 is ready for council action.

- A. **Ordinance 14-2024:** Authorizing the Award of a Contract for Engineering Services for Waterville Street Improvements with Kleinfelder, Inc. (as an emergency)

Motion by Councilwoman Tuohy, seconded by Councilman Fine to approve **Ordinance 14-2024** to be read by title only, as an emergency, second reading. 5 ayes

Motion by Councilwoman Tuohy, seconded by Councilman Riggensbach to dispense with the third reading of **Ordinance 14-2024**. 5 ayes

Motion by Councilman Fine, seconded by Councilwoman Tuohy to adopt **Ordinance 14-2024: Authorizing the Award of a Contract for Engineering Services for Waterville Street Improvements with Kleinfelder, Inc., as an emergency.** Vote by name. 5 ayes

RESOLUTIONS

Mayor Bingham asked Solicitor Kevin Heban for any resolutions to be reviewed or voted on. There are several requiring council action.

- A. **Resolution 11-2024:** Accepting the Amounts and Rates as Determined by the Budget Commission and Authorizing the Necessary Tax Levies and Certifying Them to the County Auditor (as an emergency)

Motion by Councilwoman Artiaga, seconded by Councilman Yunker to approve **Resolution 11-2024** to be read by title only, as an emergency. 5 ayes

Motion by Councilwoman Tuohy, seconded by Councilman Fine to approve **Resolution 11-2024** as an emergency, first reading. 5 ayes

- B. **Resolution 12-2024:** Requesting the Advance of Monies on Taxes Collected by the Lucas County, Ohio Treasurer as Same Have Been Collected for the Village of Whitehouse (as an emergency)

Motion by Councilwoman Artiaga, seconded by Councilwoman Tuohy to approve **Resolution 12-2024** to be read by title only. 5 ayes

Motion by Councilman Fine, seconded by Councilman Riggensbach to approve to suspend the rules and have the second and third reading of **Resolution 12-2024** by title only. 5 Ayes

Motion by Councilwoman Artiaga, seconded by Councilman Riggensbach to approve **Resolution 12-2024** by title only, declaring an emergency. 5 Ayes

Motion by Councilman Riggensbach, seconded by Councilwoman Tuohy to adopt **Resolution 12-2024: Requesting the Advance of Monies on Taxes Collected by the Lucas County, Ohio Treasurer as Same Have Been Collected for the Village of Whitehouse, as an emergency.** Third reading vote by name. 5 Ayes

- C. **Resolution 13-2024:** Authorizing the Administrator to Prepare and Submit an Application to Participate in the OPWC State Capital Improvement and/or Local Government Transportation Improvement Program and Designating the Administrator as the Signatory Representative for the Village of Whitehouse on Any and All Contracts With Full Power and Authority to Execute Same (as an emergency)

Motion by Councilwoman Artiaga, seconded by Councilman Fine to approve **Resolution 13-2024** to be read by title only. 5 ayes

Motion by Councilman Yunker, seconded by Councilman Fine to approve to suspend the rules and have the second and third reading of **Resolution 13-2024** by title only. 5 Ayes

Motion by Councilman Riggensbach, seconded by Councilwoman Tuohy to approve **Resolution 13-2024** by title only, declaring an emergency. 5 Ayes

Motion by Councilwoman Tuohy, seconded by Councilwoman Artiaga to adopt **Resolution 13-2024: Authorizing the Administrator to Prepare and Submit an Application to Participate in the OPWC State Capital Improvement and/or Local Government Transportation Improvement Program and Designating the Administrator as the Signatory Representative for the Village of Whitehouse on Any and All Contracts With Full Power and Authority to Execute Same, as an emergency.** Third reading vote by name. 5 Ayes

D. **Resolution 14-2024:** Declaring the Official Intent and Reasonable Expectation of the Village of Whitehouse, Lucas County, Ohio, For and On Behalf of the State of Ohio and/or the Ohio Public Works Commission; To Reimburse the Village's Street Improvement Fund for the CL13AA/CL14AA, Swanton Street and Neapolis-Waterville Road Improvements With the Proceeds of Tax Exempt Debt of the State of Ohio (as an emergency)

Motion by Councilman Riggenbach, seconded by Councilman Yunker to approve **Resolution 14-2024** to be read by title only. 5 ayes

Motion by Councilwoman Artiaga, seconded by Councilman Riggenbach to approve to suspend the rules and have the second and third reading of **Resolution 14-2024** by title only. 5 Ayes

Motion by Councilman Fine, seconded by Councilwoman Tuohy to approve **Resolution 14-2024** by title only, declaring an emergency. 5 Ayes

Motion by Councilwoman Tuohy, seconded by Councilman Yunker to adopt **Resolution 14-2024: Declaring the Official Intent and Reasonable Expectation of the Village of Whitehouse, Lucas County, Ohio, For and On Behalf of the State of Ohio and/or the Ohio Public Works Commission; To Reimburse the Village's Street Improvement Fund for the CL13AA/CL14AA, Swanton Street and Neapolis-Waterville Road Improvements With the Proceeds of Tax Exempt Debt of the State of Ohio, as an emergency.** Third reading vote by name. 5 Ayes

OTHER ITEMS DISCUSSED

Department Heads

Public Works Director Pilcher updates on multi use path, subcontractor is putting up railing currently, this should wrap up project by end of this month and then can move forward with planning bridge dedication. Hydrant painting going on through portions of Whitehouse – process started this last year, have been working through different materials to see what works best. Fall prep has started, banners are up, getting ready for leaf collection, end of October will provide link to new leaf collection map for residents, and will work through all zones until all are picked up. Pilcher shares there is a new seasonal employee for fall season, Michelle lives in town, works two days a week helps with downtown watering and leaf collection, park clean up, etc. plan to encourage her to come back next spring. Tuohy comments resident mentioned blasting of fire hydrants if there could be a piece of cardboard behind it to prevent the blast from going all over yards – Pilcher comments the team is aware and working on ways to prevent.

Police Chief Baer comments that the citizen survey is open for police department; and they are still taking sign-ups for KOGS self-defense course, females ages 16+.

Fire Chief Francis shares that monthly stats have been sent out to Council from August. Paramedic Jeff Hibbard is retiring on October 1st, open house is planned from 12-5pm, 5pm is his last hour at the station. Francis shared that he stopped at the new distillery today, they

are on temporary occupancy permit through Lucas County; health dept was there today and passed, did not mention if opening date has changed at all. Francis shares that the fire department awards ceremony is scheduled for October 26th for department and association members at 5pm – dinner and awards. Tuohy asks if need heads up if Council members are attending, Francis says yes.

Council Comments

Councilman Riggenbach comments that the new bridge looks really good.

Councilwoman Tuohy comments that she would like to give more than a week notice for attendees of bridge dedication. Daugherty says this could even be in the spring, there will be more discussion before dedication and signage is purchased. Daugherty says staff currently hasn't seen what type of signage Tiffany Eckert is looking for. Artiaga says it is like the

soldiers cross that is in Veterans Memorial, could be upwards of \$7.5k, Eckert is currently looking into raising funds for this.

Councilman Fine apologizes to the Administrator, shares that during Committee of the Whole he had dates messed up during discussion.

Councilman Yunker mentions he saw banners going up for fall, asks if the students at school who voted for these have been made aware these are up based on their decision. Hartbarger shares that staff plans to reach out to the principal to have him send the message along to the now 4th graders.

Councilwoman Artiaga shares that the Legion has set the date for egg hunt on April 12th, 2025, lots of comments and things happened last year, looking to plan even further ahead. She asks Daugherty, that we have been seeing and hearing that property taxes have potential to go up 29%, do we have any idea how that impacts what the Village receives. Daugherty comments it does not translate dollar for dollar, will connect with Lucas County auditor on their estimate. Lucas County will have a booth at Roche De Boeuf to take petitions for the property value and tax increases.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mayor Bingham asked if there were any Citizen comments to be heard. There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilwoman Artiaga, seconded by Councilwoman Tuohy to adjourn the meeting at 7:26pm. 5 ayes

Duly Appointed Clerk of Council

Mayor