

Carroll Village Council met in regular session on Tuesday, August 13, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Preston Barringer called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Members of Council present were Linda Dattilo, Will Burns, Kenny George, Shelly Squibb, Kevin Rinehart and Adam Tippet. Also, in attendance were Solicitor Jeff Feyko, Fiscal Officer Crystal Roberts, and Dennis Rose (Zoning/Property Maintenance Inspector).

Approval of Agenda

Will Burns made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Adam Tippet, roll call was all in favor.

Visitors

Dave Leffler and June Queen

Visitors Comments

None

Approval of Minutes

Kevin Rinehart made a motion to approve the council minutes from the July 9, 2024, seconded by Adam Tippet, roll call was all in favor.

Approval of Bills, End of Month Reports, and Mayor's Monthly Statement

Each member received copies in their packet of computer-generated Management Reports for end of July (original to be signed by the Council and Mayor); Primary Checking Account Reconciliation (to be signed by Council and Mayor); paid bills and/or due bills. Also, included was the Mayor's Monthly Statement for the month of July.

Will Burns made a motion to approve, seconded by Adam Tippet, roll call was all in favor.

Committee Reports

Finance:

Tuesday, August 13, 2024
5:45 p.m.

Members: Will Burns-Chairperson, Adam Tippet, and Shelly Squibb. All were present.

Mayor Preston Barringer and Fiscal Officer Crystal Roberts were present.

Visitors present: Chief Brad McMenamin

On the agenda was to discuss water and sewer rates for 2025, police budget, loan/grants for Sanitary Sewer Project, new business, old business, and any other business brought before the committee.

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Water and sewer rates for 2025 was discussed and was tabled at this time until more information is gathered.

Backhoe was discussed and tabled at this time.

Police budget was discussed. The chief provided the committee with costs for uniforms to provide for hiring new officers. He would like to order enough for 2-3 officers. Everything that will be distributed will be returned to the Carroll Police Department upon the officers leaving, or retirement. The purchase of a new cruiser was discussed and the mayor would like multiple estimates for a cruiser.

Shelly made a motion to allow the chief to purchase needed supplies for uniform disbursements for new officers onboarding package, seconded by Adam Tippet, roll call was all in favor.

Chief applied for a grant to cover new body cameras and radio system through MARCS.

Old Business

New Business

The mayor mentioned investing the village's money. The interest rate is very low on the checking account. There are options through the bank and a program through the state called STAR Ohio.

Adam Tippet made motion to adjourn, seconded by Shelly Squibb, roll call was all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Service: Did not meet.

Safety:

Tuesday, July 23, 2024
6:30 p.m.

Members: Will Burns- Chairperson, Kenny George, and Kevin Rinehart. All members were present.

Mayor Preston Barringer and Fiscal Officer Crystal Roberts were present.

Visitors: Chief Brad McMenamin, Lt. Tom Romine, and Lt. Jason Blankenship.

On the agenda was to discuss police recruitment, uniforms, benefits, animal ordinances, and any other business brought before the committee.

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Police recruitment hours for current officers was discussed. The committee asked the chief what he thought the issue was in recruiting for the Carroll Police Department? The chief stated that it is hard to get people to work part-time right now. He has had applicants, but their backgrounds didn't check out. The police department has been to the academies, spreading by word of mouth, especially officers that work in a hospital to see if they want part-time work outside of the hospitals. There are so few people that want to do the job now that all the good candidates are going to the bigger departments first. The chief suggested a benefit package might entice some applicants. The chief also stated that it was suggested to him to advertise in magazines that are issued to retired police officers. The cost of hiring a new police officer over a retired police officer is huge. Lt. Blankenship stated that someone just coming out of the police academy takes a lot to get them trained and out on the street and then they want to leave to go to a bigger department with better benefits and is full-time. Whereas, if someone is retired it doesn't take as long to train and they are most likely not interested in benefits, or full-time, as well as they already have all the gear needed to perform their duties. The chief at Bexley offered to possibly go into a MOU agreement with the Carroll Police Department to allow our officers to have special duty opportunities with the Bexley Police Department. Will Burns asked about the DROPS program? Chief stated that they don't technically retire. They do retire and take all the benefits and then are rehired. Kevin Rinehart asked about how offering benefits would be beneficial? Chief stated that he has a police officer that had to take some time off for training. Instead of the officer trying to make up time lost, it would be nice to have PTO to offer. The chief stated this may or may not entice an applicant. Kevin asked if the hourly rate was enough? The chief stated that our pay range is not the lowest around since it was restructured last year. The mayor stated that we have not had any real applicants since we did the pay increase. The mayor stated he knew in the past offering to pay for their uniform was brought up. He asked the chief what the start-up cost would be for an applicant coming out of the police academy? The chief stated approximately \$4,000-\$6,000. They also have the cost of the Police Academy. The chief stated that the police department could buy some of the uniform cost, issue it, and require it to be turned back in when they leave the department. Chief stated they do have uniforms, guns, holster, and handcuffs that he could issue and have returned upon leaving the department. The main cost is the body armor. The mayor asked what was the life expectancy of the body armor? Chief replied five years. Chief stated that he does receive a grant every year for body armor. Once the body armor is issued through the grant program, he has the officer sign an agreement they will stay on with the village for a certain amount of time. The mayor stated that it sounds like the uniform is the biggest cost. The mayor wants to get the finance committee involved and figure out possible offering an onboarding package. A full-time position is currently not an option, but possibly in the future. The mayor stated bottom line is that he needed a real number. The chief said \$5,000-\$6,000. The chief stated he will need to replace a cruiser next year. He will get the cost together for the fiscal officer. Kenny George asked how many officers we have? Chief stated five. Kevin Rinehart asked how many of those five officers are active? Chief stated four. Kevin also stated that he would like to see the officers rotated on shifts that the village most needs them.

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Will brought up animal ordinances. He asked the police department if there were any ordinances the village could put in to do a better job with dog bites? Lt. Tom Romine suggested they talk to Solicitor Jeff Feyko and read up the state law.

New Business

Kenny said that Mike used to mow the weeds in front of Thompson Concrete and they are not getting mowed now that Mike is not here. Kenny stated that there are posts on the hill and the agreement was anything before the posts were the village's responsibility and anything after the posts were the county's responsibility. Kenny didn't think the county had been mowing their portion. The mayor asked if the portion before the posts is being taken care of? Kenny stated yes. Kenny will get more information about the ordinance from 1997.

Old Business

Mosquito spraying was mentioned for the festival. The mayor stated they are currently spraying every week already, and he has asked the Fairfield Health Department to spray Thursday the week of the festival, instead of Tuesday or Wednesday. Kevin asked if a map could be established for them to go by? This would help for it to be consistent every time. Will said they have a map of the last time they traveled the route, but he wasn't sure how long that saves. The last time Will did a ride a long some of the areas they went to wasn't on their map. Kevin and Will would like a paper map printed out to give to the person who is spraying for mosquitos, this will prevent them from not spraying in the same areas every time.

Kevin Rinehart asked if the village should have an agreement with property owner Dawn Wyne for the purposes of driving on her property to spray for mosquitos? Will agreed that this is something that the village should do.

Kevin Rinehart made motion to adjourn, seconded by Kenny George, roll call was all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

*Scheduled a meeting for Monday, August 26, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

*After giving report, Will Burns asked if there was a way to put some sort of separate lock on the gate back to the maintenance building to allow the Fairfield County Health Department to have their own access to spray for mosquitos in that area?

Rules: Did not meet. Scheduled a meeting for Tuesday, August 27, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

Police Report

No one from the police department was in attendance to give a report. A written report was given to council.

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Zoning/Property Maintenance Inspector

In Zoning: nothing new, he has had a few questions sent in for different projects. He asked some questions to the property owners about the projects and hasn't heard anything back, yet.

In Property Maintenance: Had a complaint sent in about a property on Oberle Ave, but the pictures that were sent to him were from 2023, so he has to take updated photos.

Solicitor's Report

There is no legislation on the agenda tonight. There are two properties on Carnes Rd that are contiguous to the village and would like to annex into the village. The solicitor discussed how the procedure would work for the annexations. Historically the village picks up the cost that allows the properties to annex. A surveyor is required to survey the properties. The solicitor has received an estimate of \$4,000.00 for both parcels. There is also a filing fee with the county commissioners, solicitor fee, which is his normal fee per contract with the village, and the recording fees at the end. The village is not required to pay these fees, but again has historically been paid by the village. The solicitor stated that the survey fees are the most expensive part of the process. Will Burns stated that he assumed the surveyor fee was Tobin-McFarland? The solicitor stated, yes. Will didn't think that we would be able to find anyone cheaper, along with Tobin-McFarland is familiar with this area. Will felt we should stay with the company the solicitor used. The solicitor did mention one of the properties has to have a field study, due to they have no history on it and have to find the pins. The other property they do have history on. Adam Tippet asked the solicitor if we went forward with all the costs and the property owner decided to back out, what happens then? The solicitor stated that first the village should get an agreement with the property owner stating if they back out, they will reimburse the village for all the costs entailed during the process. Adam also asked if both parcels were already adjacent to the village? The solicitor stated yes, they are absolutely annexable. Shelly Squibb asked if the \$4,000.00 was for both parcels? The solicitor stated, yes. Will Burns asked if the properties will be filed together or separately? The solicitor stated that it was his plan to file separately. As long as all the standards are met, it is annexable. It will have to go through a hearing with the county commissioners. Kevin Rinehart asked when was the last time a property was annexed into the village? The solicitor stated he believes the Jackson property was the last annexed property, they paid for their own survey and the village paid for all the other fees. Shelly asked how many acres both properties were? Shelly also asked if there was anything negative that he thought would come from annexing these parcels? The solicitor stated that one property was 1.3 acres and the other is .99 acres. The solicitor didn't feel there was anything that was negative that would come from annexing these properties. Once the survey is completed the solicitor will do all the paperwork and will be reviewed by the county engineer. The solicitor stated that house numbering can cause issues, because the village has the authority to change if they want. The solicitor asked for a motion to vote on annexation.

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Will Burns made the motion for the solicitor to proceed with necessary paperwork, filing, using Toby McFarland Surveying, and not to change any house numbers, seconded by Kevin Rinehart, roll call was all in favor. Shelly did reiterate that there would be an agreement made with the property owners. The solicitor stated, yes.

Fiscal Officer's Report

August 13, 2024

- Updated copy of Delinquent bills at the end of June, 2024, total of \$15,684.49 which includes the two customers that have been placed on taxes. There are 45 delinquent customers. Customers that have not paid by the due date for delinquent bills will receive a tag on their door for shut-off. They have until 11:00 a.m. the following day to get their account up to date. Current dates for due date/tag/shut-off are updated monthly on the Penalty Transaction Log received the evening of council meetings. Attached is copy of updated payments.
- Each member has a report for July, 2024 for R.I.T.A.
- Attended Safety Council Training on Tuesday, August 6, 2024

Mayor's Report

- The mayor made sure James prepped for the festival
- Festival turned out well and was a good community project for everyone. He also thanked everyone that participated.

Old Business

New Business

Will asked if Kenny wanted to bring up anything about the ordinance, he presented to council concerning the mowing of Winchester Rd. Kenny said it just needs mowed, Mike use to do it, but hasn't been done since he hasn't been here. Also, there is a 30-foot easement on each side of the road that trees are starting to grow in and they need removed. The mayor asked if that was the village property? Kenny stated it was the village right away. He also said that there are posts that are from the traffic light at Winchester Rd to those posts is village responsibility and after the posts was the county's responsibility.

Kevin Rinehart asked about the Zoning Boards decision on mirroring the Suburban Residential for the PUD. The information will be sent to the solicitor for follow up. Will thought this would be a temporary patch until the county finishes their code to see if and what the village would like to adopt of their code.

Adam Tippet stated he heard some negative comments on the DORA. He would like to discuss some changes concerning that. This will be taken to the safety committee. The mayor informed Adam that anyone that had those concerns should attend these meetings to state their concerns. Adam stated he did invite the community and business owners to come to council to state their concerns.

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The solicitor stated in fairness to the village there were plenty of meetings concerning this topic for the public to attend. Also, the solicitor stated one of the complaints he heard was having to dispose of the cups prior to entering another establishment, we are not alone on this issue, this is how surrounding areas handle their DORA policies.

Ordinances/Resolutions

First Read

Second Read

Third Read

Tabled

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 10, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no other business before council, Adam Tippet made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Shelly Squibb, roll call was all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Crystal L. Roberts Fiscal Officer

Preston M. Barringer, Mayor