

**November 25, 2019**  
**RICHWOOD VILLAGE COUNCIL**

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the regular meeting of the Richwood Village Council was called to order by Mayor Scott Jerew, November 12, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Jerew called for attendance, Council members present: George Showalter, Donald Ridgeway, Laurie Eliot-Shea, Pat Morse, Von Beal, and Reddy Brown. Police Chief / Village Administrator Monte Asher, Solicitor Alison Boggs, Fiscal Officer Sarah Sellers, Zoning Officer Marion Bump and other residents were present.

Pat Morse moved and George Showalter seconded a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 11/12/2019. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Von Beal moved and Laurie Eliot-Shea seconded a motion to approve the warrants as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Visitor Jason Wills stated that he is working on the street project on Dudley Circle. The final version of his preliminary plans are not completed due to the weather. He will return to council with drawings after January 1, 2020. Wills stated that his intent for the first plans is to do a cul-de-sac for both sides and not go all the way around Dudley Circle.

Rachel Schadel attended the meeting due to questions and concerns she has on the Opera House. Mayor Jerew stated that he would address some of the concern and questions in his report.

Mayor's report was presented to council. Mayor Jerew stated that someone wanting to purchase the other side of Ira-Bean Parkway and put a self-storage unit in approached him. The suggestion from the county was not to do it, due to the lack of income that it would produce. There was a brief discussion and council decided to wait for another opportunity.

Mayor gave an update for the Opera House. The second floor of the building is concrete. That will save money. It will be six figures to shore up the building and need forty temporary structures to secure it. The feasibility study will be twelve thousand five hundred dollars (\$12,500.00) just to tell us a yes or no; to go after it or cut our losses.

Mayor met with Representative Richardson, they did not look at the Opera House or Splash pad projects. The only project in for Capital Budget will be for the kayak launch, pedestrian bridge and the two (2) toilets. Mayor Jerew stated that the school board meeting went well for the Resilience Center; they need an answer by the end of December meeting. They will put it to vote the meeting of December 16. Mayor Jerew will be attending the school board meeting on the December 16 and Reddy Brown will run the Council meeting in his absence.

The national champions sign at the edge of town that is being donated by the school board, FFA, bank and other donors was approved. They are looking at one hundred percent funding. They will also be making this sign so that it can be added to in the future.

The concrete for the shelter house is on hold until spring. All In One Construction can finish the shelter house before the concrete is poured.

Mayor presented water and sewer rate suggestion from Access Engineering. The paperwork explained that in order to qualify for any additional funding, the increase is necessary. There are two phases of increase, one on January 1, 2020, increasing one dollar (\$1) to water and one dollar (\$1.00) to sewer on the minimum bill and a dollar per thousand thereafter for each (water and sewer). In July 2020, another dollar (\$1.00) will be added to water minimum with an additional fifty cents (\$0.50) per thousand thereafter and one dollar (\$1.00) additional to sewer minimum with one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) added per thousand thereafter. This will allow us to get the funding for a new water plant with softened water and to rework the current sewer plant that needs updates. Laurie Eliot-Shea moved to increase the water and sewer rates. Pat Morse seconded. The motion to increase the water and sewer rates passed unanimously. The rate increase will be in effect, January 1, 2020.

Administration Report was presented to Council. Updates were given for Edgewood storm line project. Rt 47 has been completed. Brennaman installed two (2) catch basins on the east side and paved the road. This week they will be going back to Edgewood to finish. The village workers helped with traffic control for Rt 47 and also with lowering the water main line. The village workers also replaced the motor and heater for the chlorine room at the waste plant. The police department is scheduling handgun requalifying Wednesday in Marysville.

Finance Report was presented to Council. Sellers stated that she is still working on the outstanding payments listed that date back to 2010, this will be cleaned up by the end of the year. There was a budget meeting on November 11. Another meeting was set for Monday December 2, 2019 at 5:30. Sarah will also call and get another quote from Walter Drane to update the council ordinance book.

Pat Morse voiced his concerns for many of the streetlights being out. It appears very dark. Monte Asher will be contacting Ohio Edison, he has a current list to report.

Reddy Brown stated that Laurie Eliot-Shea and he would have a proposal ready for the next council meeting for the trees.

Reddy Brown also suggested to invite Sarah Barr to a meeting to further explain her ideas for the Opera House and what the future might be for the building and the pros and cons for the expense. If the expense is too large or the building is not able to be saved, maybe they can save the clock tower and make a green space. The mayor agreed and will pass along the invitation to Sarah Barr.

Christmas parade is December 7 at 4:00 pm.

Alison Boggs gave an update regarding minor misdemeanor drug charges. The judge is dismissing on all cases. When the tests are being sent to BCI, they cannot determine if it is hemp, which is legal, or marijuana, that is not legal. Therefore, all the cases are being dismissed and they will be charging back the village between sixty-five and one hundred dollars (\$65.00 - \$100.00) for the test.

Mayor stated that they property on Lynn Street received no bids for the forty four thousand dollars (\$44,000.00) in back taxes, there for it will be going back to the land bank. They will be asking the village and the school's first to see if there is any interest in the property.

George Showalter moved and Laurie Eliot-Shea seconded a motion to adjourn and Council approved the motion unanimously. Mayor Jerew adjourned the meeting at 7:56 PM.

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Mayor

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Fiscal Officer