



Regular Council
Tuesday, August 3, 2021 - 6:30 PM
MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Mayor Chip Dutcher called to Order the Village of Johnstown Regular Council Meeting for August 3, 2021 at 6:38 PM.

2. Roll Call

Present - Mayor Chip Dutcher, Cheryl Robertson, Doug Lehner, Marvin Block, Benjamin Lee, Sharon Hendren, Carol Van Deest

Absent - None

Staff present - Jim Lenner - Village Manager, Jack Liggett - Assistant Village Manager, Abe Haroon - Chief of Police, Bailey Klimchak - Village Planner, Jim Blair - Zoning Inspector, Teresa Monroe - Clerk of Council

Public present - Mary Queen Cool

3. Invocation - Mr. Lee

4. Pledge of Allegiance

5. Action on Minutes

a. July 20, 2021

ACTION: Cheryl Robertson moved to Approve; Carol Van Deest seconded and the vote was as follows:

AYES: Doug Lehner, Marvin Block, Ben Lee, Cheryl Robertson, Mayor Dutcher, Sharon Hendren, Carol Van Deest

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 7 - 0

6. Citizen comments on matters not on the agenda

No comments by the public

7. Council Committee reports

a. **Planning & Zoning:** Met 7/27/21; Next 8/10/21 @ 6:30 pm Council Chambers

Two Ordinances sent to Council for introduction tonight; Ordinance amending Chapter

1195 of the Village of Johnston Codified Ordinances to include trash cans, also Ordinance amending Chapters 1133, 1137 and 1181 which will require a sign notification to the public on hearings. Resumed work on the Zoning Ordinance update, Sections 30.08 and 31 Accessory Structures, Lot Coverage and Additional Lot Standards.

- b. **Safety & Service:** 8/3/21; Next 9/7/21 @ 5:00 pm Council Chambers
Discussed trash can Ordinance on for this evening. Talked about the Sidewalk Replacement Program. Discussion on the interchange at Sportsmans Club and US 62, Jim Lenner shared engineer proposals for design and anticipated cost; committee voted 3-0 in favor of recommendation to Council on final design.

Mr. Lenner updated full Council on the two design options for Sportsmans Club Road; a third option would be signal only.

ACTION:	Benjamin Lee moved to Approve engineering for the in-line roundabout design; Carol Van Deest seconded and the vote was as follows:
AYES:	Ben Lee, Marvin Block, Cheryl Robertson, Mayor Dutcher, Sharon Hendren, Carol Van Deest, Doug Lehner
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

Passed 7 - 0

- c. **Finance:** Met 7/20/21 draft minutes attached; Next 8/17/2021 @ 5:00 pm Council Chambers
- d. **Economic Development:** Next 8/5/21 @ 10:00 am Amin Conference Room
Last meeting was canceled; the new Economic Development Director for GROW Licking County will join for next meeting.
- e. **Park & Rec:** Met 7/8/21 updated last time; Next 8/12/21 @ 10:00 am Admin Conference Room

Joint Recreation District Board: Organizational meeting 8/12/21 @ 5pm Council Chambers
Agenda preparation in progress for the Joint Recreation District Board organizational meeting; the village has provided email accounts for board members as in-kind contribution.

- f. **Personnel Board of Review:** Next TBD for review of Employee Handbook and Police Dept. Manual

- g. **Events Committee:** Updated previously; Next 8/4/21 @ 5pm Council Chambers
Next meeting will be a hindsight discussion on the fireworks event for feedback on what went well and what could be improved going into next year.

8. Director Reports

a. Service: Water, Wastewater, Street

Jack Liggett reviewed Director report for Street; added that the department has begun to advertise for the new position, highlighted the CPR/AED trauma training received by some staff and desire to schedule for all employees as well as outfitting city vehicles with AED and trauma kits, add to Finance Committee agenda. Review of Water and Sewer Department reports and statistics; regarding sewer specifically and higher loads received from egg farm, Mr. Lee asked if we feel like what we are receiving financially is still set up to provide a good ROI on the service we are providing. Mr. Liggett said we are still doing very well and we are able to handle, not experiencing any violations at this time. As more homes are built and the industrial park comes online, we could get up toward the maximum flow the plant can handle and higher strengths could become a problem, but hoping to have the upgraded facility to handle by that time. Mr. Liggett noted that per our contract, New Day wastewater should be delivering five million gallons per year to us; to date, they have delivered four million nine hundred thousand gallons so the target goal is being met and will well exceed goals. Mr. Lee asked about the stress on the machinery, Mr. Liggett said we are OK.

b. Village Manager

Jim Lenner noted that the village was mentioned in Drive Ohio's press release today for the Nation's First Systems Engineering Guidebook for Connected and Automated Vehicles; good recognition for the Mobility Hub.

Review of Manager report, shared overview of the meeting on the water line extension to the Village of Croton/Hartford Fairgrounds, he said it was made clear that the village is not spending any of its funds on the extension if it goes forward, Mr. Lenner said he has not committed the village to anything other than further conversation. Noted two primary concerns by the Village of Hartford, annexation and mandatory hook-ups; Mr. Lenner said we are not annexing, that is private property prerogative and we cannot force anybody to tap on; noted some potential for grant money on tap fees. Conversation progressing; asked Council if this is still of interest to the village; Ms. Robertson expressed her concerns with the proposal, does not envision many tapping on and maybe only a few users, the fairgrounds only using water two weeks of the year and the village would be responsible for the lines forever and sending our employees to Hartford to work on them; also thinks the egg farm is a deterrent to development; does not see the potential. Jack Liggett said if Hartford can get the grant money for tap fees he thinks they would all hook on; he also thinks the ground out there will develop one way or another at some time, if we can have the infrastructure in place and we own and control it and don't have to pay a penny to put it in the ground, he thinks the maintenance on it over the next fifty years will be minimal and it will be easy to pay for the expense with what is being sold. Ms. Robertson asked if we would need a new water tower, Mr. Liggett said that was figured into the price that the county would pay and added that if we do not supply the water, Delco will. Some

discussion on water providers and boundaries, corridor protection, the number of addresses in Croton/Hartford and potential for water tap in numbers; desire expressed to extend along SR 37 toward County Line.

Ms. Van Deest asked if we ever got a definitive answer on the aquifer; Mr. Liggett said the answer was that we do have the second million for the water plant expansion and are already starting studies to look for the third million to see if it is underground.

Mr. Lee said he thinks we should continue to engage in the conversation and meetings on Hartford water line extension because he wants the village to have a seat at the table, he has some agreement that if somebody else is paying to put water lines in the ground it is hard to say no. His questions come down to ROI and cost for running the water, operation and maintenance costs and whether the two hundred and fifty million dollars can be accessed for tap fees; he is fine continuing conversation but not ready to commit one way or the other. Ms. Robertson asked when the money would be available, said she would not want to sign on to this before she knew if Hartford had grant money available for tap ins; Mr. Lenner gave an overview of the application process. Mayor Dutcher said until there is a firm commitment from the Commissioners this is not going anywhere.

Ms. Van Deest said a "pro" "con" sheet from staff would be helpful to her making her decision; Mayor Dutcher said they would all want that; Mr. Lenner said absolutely.

Continued review of report; Ms. Robertson asked when ODOT would give us a plan for US 62 intersection; Mr. Lenner said they should be discussing at the meeting next week. Ms. Robertson asked when we would notify Pulte of the layout so they can get back to us with what they are going to do with the light they are supposed to put in, she still has fear that they won't. Mr. Lenner he understands the fear but said they will put it in and the plans will be given to Pulte right after the meeting with ODOT. Some discussion on traffic light, round-a-bout options, costs, project options.

9. Introduction - Revitalization District; cover letter/application

Mayor Dutcher provided a letter introducing the concept and application for a Revitalization District in the downtown area, the process could result in additional liquor licenses for the village to encourage independent businesses. Ms. Klimchak stated we could get five or six more. There is public notice going in the paper (Newark Advocate) and there will be an Ordinance at next meeting.

10. Tabled Legislation

- a. **ORDINANCE 07-2021** AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING WAGE AND SALARY STRUCTURES FOR THE VILLAGE OF JOHNSTOWN
Legislation remains tabled.

- b. **RESOLUTION 2021-28** A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AN UPDATE TO THE EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK
Legislation remains tabled.
- c. **RESOLUTION 2021-29** A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A POLICE DEPARTMENT AGREEMENT MANUAL
Legislation remains tabled.

11. Public Hearings of Legislation

- a. **ORDINANCE 30-2021** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 34-20, THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF JOHNSTOWN TO APPROVE NECESSARY CHANGES OF APPROPRIATIONS

Introduced July 20th; this appropriates funds for legal fees to pay outstanding invoices.

Ms. Robertson moved to approve. Mr. Lee said Finance Director stated this would take care of invoices she has currently, but it would be prudent to increase this to \$30,000 for future invoices. Council discussion ended in favor of increasing now and avoiding future legislation to appropriate more funds.

Public Hearing: There were no comments by the public either for or against.

ACTION:	Cheryl Robertson moved to Amend the dollar amount from \$16,000 to \$30,000; Benjamin Lee seconded and the vote was as follows:
AYES:	Marvin Block, Ben Lee, Cheryl Robertson, Mayor Dutcher, Sharon Hendren, Carol Van Deest , Doug Lehner
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

Passed 7 - 0

- b. **RESOLUTION 2021-30** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MANAGER OF THE VILLAGE OF JOHNSTOWN TO ACCEPT THE DONATION OF REAL PROPERTY

The Village has an easement on a property that holds a village owned lift station; the property was split and the owner has offered to donate the lift station parcel to the village. This would authorize the Village Manager to accept deed to the parcel.

Public Hearing: There were no comments by the public either for or against.

ACTION:	Carol Van Deest moved to Approve; Benjamin Lee seconded and the vote was as follows:
AYES:	Cheryl Robertson, Mayor Dutcher, Sharon Hendren, Carol Van

Deest, Doug Lehner, Marvin Block, Ben Lee
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

Passed 7 - 0

c. **RESOLUTION 2021-31** A RESOLUTION ADOPTING RULES FOR THE JOHNSTOWN DOG PARK

The Village of Johnstown will be constructing a dog park at the Trailhead Park, scheduled to begin August 16th, the dog park needs rules for visitors and their pets to create a safe environment. These rules have been provided by the Licking Park District and are currently in use. Ms. Klimchak said if approved she would be ordering rule signs to install on the fence.

Mayor Dutcher said this is really a happy occasion, this dog park has been under discussion for a number of years, dog parks are big and dog owners are passionate; we have done this with the help of the Licking Park District, can't thank them enough for their expertise and experience and they have helped pay for it. Ms. Van Deest said when Lewie Main was on the Parks and Rec committee, he was always pushing the dog park and he wanted it at the trailhead so if you see him, tell him.

Public Hearing: There were no comments from the public either for or against the legislation

Prior to his vote, Mr. Block asked if we would be able to enforce no dog or human treats allowed, a lot of people control their animals with treats. Mayor Dutcher said these came from the park district.

ACTION: Carol Van Deest moved to Approve; Mayor Dutcher seconded and the vote was as follows:
AYES: Sharon Hendren, Carol Van Deest, Doug Lehner, Marvin Block, Ben Lee, Cheryl Robertson, Mayor Dutcher
NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None

Passed 7 - 0

d. **RESOLUTION 2021-32** A RESOLUTION COMMITTING FUNDS TO THE DUNCAN PLAINS ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Jim Lenner said he committed \$50,000 to this \$400,000 project; this will improve Duncan Plains Road, widening berms and roadway from US 62 to the Enterprise Center entrance. \$200,000 was approved by the State Controlling Board, \$100,000 through Jobs and Commerce, \$50,000 from the Village and \$50,000 from the County Engineer, the County Engineer will be running the project so we will just cut a check. Mr. Lenner asks for a formal commitment from Council by way of this resolution.

Ms. Robertson asked if this is passed when it would start. Mr. Liggett said we would want to get the water line in before the project starts. Mr. Lenner said he assumes it would be next year; Mr. Lee said this could be a 2022 disbursement, Mr. Lenner thought so but said he reserves the right to change that answer based on the County Engineer plan. Mr. Lenner said Representative Fraizer helped Rick Platt out a great deal with this application so if we see him, thank him.

Public Hearing: There were no comments from the public either for or against the legislation

ACTION:	Marvin Block moved to Approve; Sharon Hendren seconded and the vote was as follows:
AYES:	Sharon Hendren, Carol Van Deest, Doug Lehner, Marvin Block, Ben Lee, Cheryl Robertson, Mayor Dutcher
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

Passed 7 - 0

12. Introduction of Legislation

a. **ORDINANCE 32-2021** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1195 OF THE VILLAGE OF JOHNSTOWN CODIFIED ORDINANCES

This amends Chapter 1195 of the Johnstown Codified Ordinances and will require property owners to remove their trash cans from their front yard and the public sidewalk by the day following trash pickup; also requires that cans are not placed out for pickup until the day before. This was forwarded to Council by Planning and Zoning. **Public Hearing August 17, 2021.**

Mr. Lee said the hope that comments on the ordinance made in Safety Service committee and some language within would filter to staff for further consideration so there may be an updated ordinance in two weeks to address those concerns; other comments of Council should also be forwarded for a robust conversation in two weeks.

b. **ORDINANCE 33-2021** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTERS 1133, 1137, 1181 OF THE VILLAGE OF JOHNSTOWN CODIFIED ORDINANCES

Vision Statement: The Village of Johnstown is dedicated to providing a secure community environment that fosters cultural, recreational, educational and economic opportunities while preserving our unique historical character

Amendments to these chapters will require applicants to post yard signs on their properties alerting the public of hearings for Variances, Amendments and Non-Conforming Use applications; this came out of Planning and Zoning and discussion on how members of the public hear about public hearings that might concern them or their properties or properties close to them. **Public Hearing August 17, 2021.**

Discussion on sign requirements and design for uniformity.

c. **ORDINANCE 35-2021** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1187 OF THE VILLAGE OF JOHNSTOWN CODIFIED ORDINANCES

This will amend the chapter requiring yard signs for COA's and design plans, Ms. Klimchak said this is included in a separate Ordinance because she needed to make some clarification on required meeting times for the Design Review Board, changing to as needed. **Public Hearing August 17, 2021**

d. **ORDINANCE 36-2021** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 34-20, THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE OF THE VILLAGE OF JOHNSTOWN TO APPROVE NECESSARY CHANGES OF APPROPRIATIONS

This will add revenue coming in from municipal income tax to the General Fund, those receipts are trending higher than originally anticipated, it also appropriates the tree trimming, Oliver Bigelow's headstone at the veteran's cemetery, additional cost for the street maintenance employee hire, includes the \$267,000 American Rescue Plan funds received and transfers thirty percent to Capital Improvements for the Trailhead Park parking lot paving. **Public Hearing August 17, 2021**

Mr. Lee said original conversation in Finance Committee was to increase by \$100,000; because of expending from CIP payment for the parking lot paving the increase was bumped to \$150,000; still very conservative for what is expect at the end of the year.

13. Other Business

1. Arborist is coming August 24-26 to do the Main Street tree trimming, Ms. Klimchak working with the police to get some traffic control.
2. Notice for Design Review Board interest is posted on website, Ms. Van Deest asked if a Council person could apply, Ms. Klimchak said she did not see why not.
3. Jim Lenner said it has been busy and asked Council for reminders if there is something they wanted and haven't seen done.
4. Doug Lehner would like employees, committee/commission members etc. to sign up for Ohio ethics commission training by the middle of October.
7. Doug Lehner said when we receive city designation, we should change out village signage. Mayor Dutcher said a lot of that has been in process. Inventory of what is left and cost can be looked at.
8. Flag contest entries still need to be reviewed (Parks and Rec).
9. Doug Lehner wants PZ to look at construction standards, specifically lot sizes. Bailey

said they have been and are working on that currently in Planning and Zoning. Discussion progressed to aspects of PUD zoning.

14. Adjourn

ACTION: Carol Van Deest moved to Adjourn; Mayor Dutcher seconded and all were in favor.

AYES: Chip Dutcher, Cheryl Robertson, Doug Lehner, Marvin Block, Benjamin Lee, Sharon Hendren, Carol Van Deest

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 7 - 0

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 pm

Next Council Meeting August 17, 2021