



Regular Council
Tuesday, January 19, 2021 - 6:30 PM
MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Mayor Chip Dutcher called to Order the Village of Johnstown Regular Council Meeting for January 19, 2021 at 6:33 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, Abe Haroon - Chief of Police, Dana Steffan - Finance Director, Bailey Klimchak - Village Planner, Jim Blair - Zoning Inspector, Teresa Monroe - Clerk of Council

Public present - Ryan Green - Planning & Zoning Commission Chairman, Lewie Main, John Luke

3. Invocation - Ms. Hendren

4. Pledge of Allegiance

5. Action on Minutes

a. January 5, 2021

ACTION: Benjamin Lee moved to Approve; Doug Lehner 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

6. Citizen comments on matters not on the agenda

1. Lewie Main; Cited Chapter 901.01(a) of the Village Codified Ordinances (sidewalk ordinance) and stated that the Planning and Zoning Commission gave a variance on an ordinance that is in a chapter not under the zoning code; referenced Chapter 1133.01 that Planning and Zoning Commission may authorize variances from the terms of the Zoning Ordinance, not Chapter Nine; also stated Chapter 1103.01 says that variances are subject to approval by Council, not the Planning Commission. Mr. Main said this should be reviewed and corrections made.

7. Council Committee reports

- a. **Planning & Zoning:** Met 1/12/21; Next 1/25/21 @ 6:30 pm Hybrid
Corrected that next meeting is January 26, 2021.

Variance for sidewalks on Edwards Road was approved. Approved two zoning map amendment applications, Additional conversation on the Zoning Inspector report. Set goals for 2021. Mr. Lenner added that legislation on the zoning map amendments would need to go to Council for approval.

- b. **Safety & Service:** Met 1/5/21; Next 2/2/21 @ 5:00 pm Hybrid
Updated previously.
- c. **Finance:** 1/19/21; Next 2/16/21 @ 5:00 pm Hybrid

Set goals for 2021. Reviewed Finance Director reports, Mr. Lee noted the village is in a very good financial position and he is grateful for the work that has gone into that. Reviewed budget carryover numbers and considered department and committee requests for funding on various items; one action item approved, purchase of a desktop computer for Mayor's Court. Capacity fee engineer report reviewed; committee in favor 3-0 of the recommended increase in capacity fees, legislation for agenda next meeting; in tandem, an Ordinance outlining policy on how or if we accept pre-payments for capacity connections and if we do what the "sunset" would be. Mr. Lenner updated that the State Controlling Board will hear Project Mastodon information on February 24th and the the loan application for three million dollars for the new water tower was submitted today. Committee still desires to get the local government fund formula updated.

- d. **Economic Development:** Met 1/7/21 minutes draft attached; Next 2/4/21 @ 10:00 am Virtual

Minutes provided. Ms. Robertson provided updates: one of the committee goals set was to develop a business census and Jim Lenner has created a form to be reviewed by the committee. Another goal was to help facilitate a meeting for the formation of a Chamber of Commerce, this would be something the businesses would have to do but the village could help get the meeting together. Also noted that Project Circuit has decided to pull out of conversations with the village concerning the Enterprise Center location; Mr. Lenner updated that they may be coming back around, will vet the source and follow up with committee.

- e. **Park & Rec:** Met 1/14/21; Next 2/11/21 @ 10:00 am Virtual
TAP Grant has been submitted for Raccoon Creek Park Trail. Reviewed Walk.Bike.Ohio Program being sponsored by ODOT. Reviewed and approved 2021 goals. Trailhead park project list has been submitted to Mr. Lenner and Ms. Klimchak to get monetary costs added.

8. Director Reports

- a. Finance
Dana Steffan provided her report and highlighted items within. Mr. Lee stated appreciation

for Dana with respect to the budget and her reporting. Mr. Block expressed his pride in the committee that took care of the Federal funding (CARES) the village received and the way it was used and distributed to various organizations.

b. Chief of Police

Chief Haroon reviewed his report with Council; highlighted that CAD is up and running and provided examples in his report on how it is improving many functions within the department. Jim Lenner provided an example of graphs that can be created with data from the CAD system. Village Manager and Council members thanked Chief for updating the technology, for his active role within the department, and the increase in training for the Officers.

Mr. Lenner said he has met with Deputy Chief Smart and Chief Haroon on a plan for reorganization of the police department facility; will be moving the Chief's office, lobby and securing the dispatch office.

Mr. Lenner also added that the Federal Government allowed eighty hours of COVID sick time to employees and believes that benefit expired at the end of 2020; he asked Council to consider authorizing continuation of the eighty hours of sick time to all employees that currently have not been infected with the virus; Council was supportive and there was no objection.

9. Tabled Legislation

- a. **ORDINANCE 38-2020** AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING CHAPTER 1171.04 ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF JOHNSTOWN, OHIO. *Introduced December 8, 2020 ~ Tabled January 5, 2021*

ACTION: Marvin Block moved to take Ordinance 38-2020 off the table; Sharon Hendren seconded and the vote was as follows:

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

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 7 - 0; Ord 38-2020 removed from the table

Mr. Block moved to approve Ordinance 38-2020.

Public Hearing: Mayor Dutcher opened the floor, there were no comments by the public.

Mr. Lee said he was not sure why this was being taken off of the table as this is still an item being discussed in Planning and Zoning, that there are several pieces with respect to accessory units in general that would affect the item specifically and he requests that the motions be withdrawn and put back on the table to allow Planning and Zoning to continue deliberation of this item rather than voting on it tonight. He added that voting in the affirmative would open the village up for some unintended consequences which is the point

of the continued conversation in Planning and Zoning and voting it down would not give a chance to fully consider the entire proposal for the Ordinance with those changes; maybe the alternative is sending it back to Planning and Zoning with some comments from Council if there are objections to certain provisions but he is not in favor of voting for this tonight.

Ms. Van Deest said her understanding also was that this was still being studied by zoning and would like to see this tabled again to let them do their work.

Ms. Robertson said she thinks at this point in time too much time is being spent on Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) when the village has such bigger issues, the guidelines and standards need to be finished, she wants time to be focused on that; this needs to be done and move on.

Ms. Hendren said just end it.

Mayor Dutcher said if this is defeated, there is nothing to preclude Planning and Zoning from writing another ordinance and bringing that to Council but this one has issues with some of the language in it.

Mr. Lee said he understands Ms. Robertson's position however the time that Planning and Zoning has spent on this has been spent and thinks the additional discussion around accessory units etc. has validity independent of this ordinance and will be entertained one way or the other so the only other additional time that would be spent on ADU's would be if they were to have to take this back and bring it up with Planning and Zoning again, the most efficient way would be to put it back on the table unless nobody wants to entertain it whatsoever. Mr. Lee added that if this is defeated tonight and if there is any specific feedback that it be passed on to Planning and Zoning.

There was no indication of desire to withdraw the previous motions as requested and a roll call vote followed.

ACTION:	Motion on the table: Marvin Block previously moved to Approve Ordinance 38-2020; Sharon Hendren seconded and the vote was as follows:
AYES:	Carol Van Deest
NOES:	Chip Dutcher, Cheryl Robertson, Doug Lehner, Marvin Block, Benjamin Lee, Sharon Hendren
ABSTAIN:	None

Failed 1 - 6

Noted for the record: Mr. Lee prefaced his vote with the comment that he would approve it under consideration of it being tabled with further conversation in Planning and Zoning; that approving it tonight with the gaps in the current zoning code would not achieve the ends to

what this was meant to do and is voting no because of that.

10. Public Hearings of Legislation - N/A

11. Introduction of Legislation - N/A

12. Other Business

1. Mr. Main asked for an update on the 2020 Census; Mr. Lenner said the Census Bureau is reporting they will provide results as close to April 1st as possible.

2. Mr. Block said he was asked if the Johnstown celebration of city status could be combined with the dedication of the new Firehouse; Mr. Lenner said he did not have a problem with that, Mayor Dutcher previously asked about the official flag of Johnstown being unveiled at the same time. Mr. Dutcher added that many things are also so dependent on COVID

3. Ms. Hendren asked about Downtown Johnstown becoming the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Block said we should start out seeing if we can get the businesses to participate as a new organization; Mayor Dutcher added that the business community is more than just the downtown.

4. Mr. Lee asked if there was any update on making the downtown outdoor dining more permanent, or continuing to entertain continuation of it in the spring. Mr. Lenner said it was extended into October but has expired; he can get that extended. Bailey Klimchak said she continues to follow the State Downtown Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA) legislation.

5. Ben Lee asked for creation of a Fireworks Committee; he has helped to coordinate the Johnstown fireworks the last couple of years and the American Legion is wanting to take a step back and the village looks to take on more of an active planning role. If the formation is agreeable he asks for appointments to the committee; he sees this as a community lead and involved committee with a Council appointee. Mr. Lee asked to be on the committee to continue the work and to build on the foundation created over the last couple years. Interest will be sought and creation by legislation can be added to the next council agenda.

13. Adjourn

ACTION:	Doug Lehner moved to Adjourn; Cheryl Robertson 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 7:43 p.m.

Next Council Meeting February 2, 2021