

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
AMBERLEY VILLAGE COUNCIL
MONDAY, MAY 13, 2019**

The Council of Amberley Village, Ohio met in regular session at the Amberley Village Municipal Building, 7149 Ridge Road, on Monday, May 13, 2019 at 6:30 pm. Mayor Muething called the meeting to order. The following roll call was taken:

PRESENT

Richard Bardach
Peg Conway
Ed Hattenbach
Elida Kamine
Thomas C. Muething
Ray Warren
Natalie Wolf

ALSO PRESENT

Scot Lahrmer, Village Manager
Chief Rich Wallace, Police-Fire Department
Kevin McDonough, Village Solicitor
Tammy Reasoner, Clerk of Council
Rick Kay, Village Treasurer

Mayor Muething welcomed everyone to the meeting of the Amberley Village Council. He led those in attendance through the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

Mayor Muething asked if there were any changes to the April 8, 2019 meeting minutes as distributed. There being none, he stated the minutes were accepted as submitted.

FINANCE REPORT

Village Manager Scot Lahrmer presented the March 2019 Finance Report (a copy of which is attached hereto.) Mr. Lahrmer reported a summary of this report and noted tax collections for the month of March totaled \$169,479. The total General Fund Revenue for the month of March was \$230,596, while expenses equaled \$278,905. At the end of March, the unencumbered General Fund balance was \$4,446,349. The report was accepted as submitted.

REPORT ON ONE STOP DROP

Kathie Kraemer and Pete Duffy, citizen coordinators of the One Stop Drop, reported that this year's event collected 450,069 pounds of recyclables, including 30,250 pounds of paper and 10,250 pounds of donated items for Goodwill. The total collected is the equivalent of 42.8 tons, which represents an increase of 17.5 times the amount collected last year. The event was attended by 924 vehicles, or 205 more vehicles than last year. Amberley Village Environmental Stewardship Committee committed 53 hours toward making the event a success. Kathy also thanked Village staff, police and recyclers, as well as Mother Nature for the nice day.

Mayor Muething thanked Kathy and Pete for a successful event, citing a \$1,500 return to the Village as result. He also presented them with a framed photograph of the Tree USA presentation they recently attended as a token of his appreciation for all they do for the Village.

CITIZENS TO SPEAK

Frank Gallenstein, 8133 Fontaine Court, introduced himself as a dog lover and owner of five dogs over the course of his lifetime. However, he stated that after being bitten and charged by a dog while at Amberley Green, he is in favor of a leash law or designated dog park. Mr. Gallenstein stated that he finds the "Dogs Under Control" approach a bit too ambiguous to enforce, and feels that dogs at Amberley Green are not under control.

Leslie Kreines, 6695 W. Beechlands Drive, introduced herself and stated that she is a volunteer for Circletail, which trains dogs. She stated that even despite the intense training these dogs undergo, she wouldn't be able to ensure dogs under control, and advocates initiating a dog leash law. Ms. Kreines stated that no dog should be allowed to approach without permission. She stated she has been verbally attacked by dog owners, and her dog has been physically attacked. She stated she feels Amberley Green is no longer a safe space.

Council Member Natalie Wolf thanked Mr. Gallenstein and Ms. Kreines for their feedback, and stated that after learning of social media posts announcing an "off-leash dog park in Amberley Village," she shares concerns that come with a higher volume of dog traffic.

Council Member Peg Conway stated she has also heard from residents on this topic, and recommended that the issue be referred to a council committee.

Mayor Muething suggested the Public Buildings & Parks Committee might be a good option for the topic, and as Chair of the Committee, Ms. Conway accepted the assignment.

Council Member Elida Kamine stated her support of a leash law, and suggested looking into potential space for a dog park, especially as the issue has grown beyond the confines of Amberley Village. Ms. Kamine suggested that part of the feedback process related to potential plans for Amberley Green should be related to dogs.

Council Member Ray Warren questioned whether or not the issue would be better sent directly to the Law Committee to save time.

Mayor Muething stated that the Public Buildings & Parks Committee would meet in the next month, and that discussions there could determine if there are portions to be sent to the Law Committee. Ms. Conway agreed to guide the process.

Ms. Wolf encouraged residents to attend, stating that the Committees are open to the public.

Chief Wallace stated that with over 100 acres at Amberley Green, the police department cannot be the prosecuting witness to file charges. He stated that residents will need to do this, but it's been his experience that people often do not want to file charges. He advised that without a witness, charges will be thrown out.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:
STREETS, PUBLIC UTILITIES & SEWERS COMMITTEE

Mr. Warren read, presented and motioned to pass Resolution 2019-12, proclaiming May 19-25, 2019 as National Public Works Week. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hattenbach, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Warren then read, presented and motioned passage of Resolution 2019-13, authorizing the purchase of fuel for Village-owned vehicles. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hattenbach, and also carried unanimously.

POLICE AND FIRE COMMITTEE

Ms. Conway read and motioned the adoption of Resolution 2019-14, proclaiming the Week of May 12 – 18, 2019 as National Law Enforcement Week, and May 15, 2019 as Peace Officers'

Memorial Day. Ms. Conway commented on how every year this honor becomes more meaningful, and invited all to celebrate on May 17th at Fountain Square as Chief Rich Wallace will be recognized. The motion was seconded by Natalie Wolf and passed unanimously.

Ms. Conway then read and moved for the adoption of Resolution 2019-15, authorizing the Village Manager to purchase 12 Apple Mac Books for the Heroin Task Force for use in the field. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wolf and passed unanimously.

LAND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Mayor Muething shared the Committee Report, which included studies on connectivity and vehicle access to the Amberley Green property, as well as the viability of a multi-use path. Mayor Muething also shared that the study, which was paid for by a grant, simply offered plans for options, and increased the possibility of locating grant money to potentially carry out portions of the project in phases. He stated that with the total project cost at approximately \$2.5 million, Amberley Village couldn't afford to proceed on its own.

Ms. Wolf stated that the plans are very important for Amberley in allowing options for getting from one place to another within the Village without a car, and thanked staff for identifying the grant. She further stated that without plans, no opportunity for further grants would be possible.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS & PARKS

Peg Conway presented, read and moved for the passage of Resolution 2019-16, authorizing the Village Manager to enter into a contract with Mid-Miami Roofing to make roof repairs to the Municipal Building. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hattenbach, and passed unanimously.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Scot Lahrmer began by introducing the new Clerk of Council, Tammy Reasoner, who will also serve as the Executive Assistant to the Village Manager.

Mr. Lahrmer invited all in attendance to stop by any of six Open Houses being conducted regarding the JCC proposal for the Amberley Green, and added that dates and times were sent out in the recent Spring Newsletter.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Muething announced that the Environmental Stewardship Committee would meet the following Monday to discuss the One Stop Drop and similar programs, including those involving Cincinnati Parks. He encouraged residents to take advantage of these programs, as well as this coming Thursday's Clean the Green.

Mayor Muething then turned the focus to honoring Chief Richard L. Wallace on the occasion of receiving the Hamilton County Law Enforcement Award for Superior Achievement in Police Leadership. Mayor Muething stated that one of the real privileges of being mayor is swearing in police officers; he then stated it was an even greater privilege honoring Chief Wallace for his unique leadership style. He commended the Chief for his quiet but effective style, as well as for establishing a culture of serving the community.

Mayor Muething then asked Ilana Nadel from the JCC to make comments.

Chief Wallace thanked his staff for taking on so many responsibilities that enable him to be involved in the community, his assistant in particular. He talked about his reasons for going into

police work, and credited the entire community for sharing in the efforts that went toward winning the award.

Mayor Muething then presented Chief Wallace with the award he received from Hamilton County Law Enforcement before a standing ovation.

NEW BUSINESS

General announcements were made, highlighting upcoming meetings for those in attendance.

There being no further business, the Mayor adjourned the meeting, which was followed by a recognition reception honoring Chief Wallace.

Tammy Reasoner, Clerk of Council

Mayor Thomas C. Muething