

**OTTAWA HILLS VILLAGE SPECIAL COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES**

**August 20, 2021 8:30 AM
Council Chambers**

Call to Order – Vice Mayor Shimborske III

8:30 AM

Village Representatives in Attendance

Councilman Edward Shimborske III	Councilman John Lewis
Councilwoman Dana Dunbar	Councilman Rex Decker
Councilman Marc Thompson	Councilwoman Katherine O’Connell (via zoom)
Village Administrator John Wenzlick	Finance Director Karen Urbanik

Citizen Attendees

Heather Phillips Ashlee Decker - The Nature Conservancy
Nasrin Afjeh

Acting Clerk

A motion was made by Mr. Decker and seconded by Mr. Lewis to appoint Mr. Wenzlick as acting clerk. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes

A motion was made by Mrs. Dunbar to approve the minutes from the August 2, 2021 Council meeting, and Mr. Thompson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Lewis to approve the minutes from the August 11, 2021 Council meeting, and Mrs. Dunbar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Citizens Comments

None

Services & Environment – Mrs. Dunbar

Mrs. Dunbar introduced Ashlee Decker, from The Nature Conservancy, who described a proposal for her organization to apply for an EPA grant to fund environmental work at the sled hill. The grant does not require matching funds, and if awarded, would fund the project from design through completion. The request today is for a letter of support from the Village. A Memorandum of Understanding is being drafted for the Village’s approval if the grant is awarded. Ms. Decker answered Council’s questions, making clear that the Village would have control at each stage of the project, and confirming that public input was part of the proposal. The project would have a timeline of one to three years.

A motion was made by Mrs. Dunbar and seconded by Mr. Lewis to allow the Village Administrator to submit a letter of support for The Nature Conservancy Sled Hill project. The motion passed unanimously.

Streets & Bridges – Mr. Shimborske

Mr. Shimborske reported there is one piece of legislation on the agenda, authorization to apply for an Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) grant for a 2023 project.

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Mr. Shimborske noted that 2022 projects will include the Riva Ridge Road and Secor Road bridge replacements along with reconstruction of a segment of Riva Ridge Road. The road reconstruction aligns with the bridge project and addresses roadway identified in the pavement analysis as needing attention. Grants have been awarded which will reduce our costs substantially. Mr. Wenzlick said the construction is expected to take place in the fall of 2022 and the engineer has already been in contact with University of Toledo. Mrs. Dunbar would like further discussion of a Secor Road sidewalk extension in this area.

Mr. Shimborske described 2023 road work proposed to be submitted for an OPWC grant. Our engineer has estimated construction cost of \$830,000 to reconstruct Bexford Road, repair Hillandale & Sulphur Spring, improve drainage on Underhill, along with other road repairs. Mr. Lewis noted that lighting on Bexford should be considered for children getting to and from school.

Mr. Shimborske reported that the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) recently commissioned a traffic safety study of Central Avenue between Hasty and Corey Roads. This section of roadway ranks poorly in the state for accidents, especially rear-end collisions. The study identified potential measures to reduce the number of accidents on Central Avenue. The Council discussed causes of the safety problems and potential improvements. Mr. Wenzlick has requested that ODOT continue to communicate with the Village as the review is underway.

Finance Report – Mrs. Urbanik

Mrs. Urbanik reported that revenues have been strong, taxes are ahead of projections, and expenditures are below budget. She reported that our road construction costs are below budget but noted that additional costs at White Field are anticipated.

Mrs. Urbanik stated that last year the Village received \$305,000 in CARES Act funds. For 2021 we have received \$235,000 in ARPA funds and expect an additional \$235,000 next year. While these federal funds come with extensive restrictions, it appears that the Village will be able to use the ARPA funds for any Village expenditures. Mrs. Urbanik also noted that at year end she will be consolidating some funds under the General Fund to simplify the accounting structure.

Ordinances & Resolutions

Vice Mayor Shimborske read Ordinance 2021-19

Ordinance 2021-19

Authorizing the Mayor to submit one or more applications for funding through the Ohio Public Works Commission, and authorizing the Mayor to enter into agreements as they may be necessary and appropriate for obtaining such financial assistance.

Motion to waive three readings:

Motion –
Second –

Mr. Thompson
Mr. Lewis
Unanimous Approval

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Motion to adopt legislation:

Motion – Mr. Thompson
Second – Mr. Lewis
Yeas (5) – Mrs. Dunbar, Mr. Lewis,
Mr. Shimborske,
Mr. Thompson, Mr. Decker
Nays (0) –

Executive Session

None

Next Meeting Date

September 07, 2021 at 6:00 PM

Adjournment

9:34 AM



Vice Mayor Shimborske III