

**OTTAWA HILLS VILLAGE COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES**

September 11, 2023 7:00 PM

Call to Order – Mayor Gilmore

7:00 PM

Village Representatives in Attendance

Councilman Edward Shimborske III
Councilwoman Dana Dunbar
Councilwoman Heather Phillips
Councilwoman Katherine O’Connell
Clerk/Treasurer Eric Shreve
Interim Finance Director April McDonald

Solicitor Sarah McHugh
Councilman Marc Thompson
Councilman John Lewis
Mayor Gilmore
Village Administrator John Wenzlick (Zoom)

Citizen Attendees

Nasrin Afjeh
Diane Rusk
Dan Wimmers

Yarko Kuk
Larry Nameche

Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Lewis to approve the minutes, from the August 7, 2023 Council meeting, and Mr. Shimborske seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. In the future, all citizen comments are to be summarized.

Citizens Comments

Larry Nameche reminded everyone of his letter submitted at the last meeting. He would like to remind people the Village is not going to get much bigger than 5,400 residents. There is now less traffic with our roads being opened. Ms. McHugh stated the Village population is closer to 4,500 and will remain a Village if the population is below 5,000.

Finance & Future Planning – Mr. Lewis

Mr. Lewis stated the August income tax was \$1,000 under projection but continues to be 5% over projection year to date. The Finance Committee met and discussed future financial projections. The Committee is recommending the Council move forward with the tennis court reconstruction next year. The Committee decided it would be best to slow down the major road projects in 2025 and delay the White Field remediation. The goal of this is to defer the need to go on the ballot for a few years. There was also discussion about the tax department and the Committee is firm on recommending RITA for the collection of municipal income tax. A motion was made by Mr. Lewis to solicit bids for tennis court reconstruction, and Mr. Shimborske seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Human Resources – Mrs. Dunbar

None

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Safety – Mrs. Phillips

Mrs. Phillips stated the Walk and Roll Day is October 4th and the school, police and parents will help children cross streets. The Streets and Safety Committee is working with Fishbeck Engineering on the Bancroft Corridor Study. OHPD submitted safety tips in the Stroll magazine for pedestrians and drivers. She stated there are around 10-31 children crossing around the Bancroft and Evergreen area, some cross by the bridge and apartments, each day around 5 cross at Evergreen.

Services & Environment – Mrs. O’Connell

Mrs. O’Connell stated the committee met with the The Nature Conservancy, they received the 60% plan of the sled hill restoration. Mrs. Decker did a great job summarizing input she had received from residents. The timing is now if you would like to share any additional input with The Nature Conservancy. The Committee will be scheduling a meeting to discuss potential composting. Village trees are scheduled to be planted in November, if you have any input about the placement, please reach out to the Committee or Mr. Wenzlick.

Streets & Bridges – Mr. Thompson

Mr. Thompson stated that the 2023 Street projects have numerous areas for reconstruction and resurfacing. The projects are progressing, with some areas being finished today, and some areas will be started soon.

Utilities, Equipment, Buildings & Grounds – Mr. Shimborske

Mr. Shimborske stated the Committee met and Coach Hardman was a guest. Coach Hardman discussed the tennis courts and White Field, while offering some ideas about fundraising. There was a game court request from the residents at 3842 Sulphur Spring. They are making some improvements to their backyard and the Committee approved a court in their backyard. Mrs. O’Connell stated we need to address, with the Zoning Commission, the rules and regulations regarding impervious surface.

Solicitor’s Report

Ms. McHugh stated the closing on Avis is tomorrow, September 12th. The Avis lease expires May 2024 and Mr. Wenzlick will discuss a lease extension with the point person at Avis. Ms. McHugh and Mr. Wenzlick welcome any feedback on how long the lease should be extended for. Closing should go smoothly, and Mayor Gilmore stated it will be nice to get that corner cleaned up. She stated the Columbia Gas lease for their equipment on our property has expired. In the past, we had a 10-year lease, and we would like to extend the lease for a shorter period. Mrs. Dunbar stated the shorter lease would give us more flexibility.

Administrator’s Report

None

Mayor’s Report

Mayor Gilmore offered congratulations to those running in the upcoming elections for Mayor and Council. He thanked Mrs. O’Connell for her years of dedication.

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Old Business

Mrs. Dunbar asked Mr. Wenzlick about submitting applications for the Ohio Budget for 2024. He stated the timeframe for submittal is October or November and Mrs. Dunbar stated we can submit numerous projects. Mr. Wenzlick stated we can discuss this at the next Finance Committee meeting. Mr. Shimborske asked about the cameras that were installed, which are now missing. Mr. Wenzlick stated the cameras were supposed to be located on Village lamp poles, he stopped the company when they started putting them on their poles. They need to be relocated to the Village lamp poles.

New Business

None

Ordinances & Resolutions

Mayor Gilmore read Ordinance 2023-7

Ordinance 2023-7

Making appropriations and deductions from previous appropriations, amending Ordinances 2022-10, 2023-3, 2023-4, and declaring an emergency.

Motion to waive three readings:

Motion – Mr. Lewis
Second – Mr. Thompson
Unanimous Approval

Motion to declare an emergency:

Motion – Mr. Lewis
Second – Mr. Thompson
Unanimous Approval

Motion to adopt legislation:

Motion – Mr. Lewis
Second – Mr. Thompson
Yeas (6) – Mrs. Dunbar, Mr. Thompson,
Mrs. Phillips, Mr. Shimborske,
Mr. Lewis, Mrs. O’Connell
Nays (0) –

Mayor Gilmore read Ordinance 2023-8

Ordinance 2023-8

An ordinance authorizing the Village Administrator to enter into a Regional Council of Governments (RCOG) agreement with the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA) for the collection of municipal income tax for the Village of Ottawa Hills, Ohio, and declaring an emergency.

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Motion to waive three readings:	Motion –	Mr. Lewis
	Second –	Mrs. O’Connell
	Unanimous Approval	

Motion to declare an emergency:	Motion –	Mr. Lewis
	Second –	Mrs. O’Connell
	Unanimous Approval	

Motion to adopt legislation:	Motion –	Mr. Lewis
	Second –	Mrs. O’Connell
	Yeas (6) –	Mrs. Dunbar, Mr. Thompson, Mrs. Phillips, Mr. Shimborske, Mr. Lewis, Mrs. O’Connell
	Nays (0) –	

Mayor Gilmore read Resolution 2023-17

Resolution 2023-17	Authorizing the transfer of \$650,500 from the General Fund of the Village of Ottawa Hills, with \$650,500 to the Capital Projects Fund, and declaring an emergency.
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Motion to waive three readings:	Motion –	Mr. Lewis
	Second –	Mrs. O’Connell
	Unanimous Approval	

Motion to declare an emergency:	Motion –	Mr. Lewis
	Second –	Mrs. O’Connell
	Unanimous Approval	

Motion to adopt legislation:	Motion –	Mr. Lewis
	Second –	Mrs. O’Connell
	Yeas (6) –	Mrs. Dunbar, Mr. Thompson, Mrs. Phillips, Mr. Shimborske, Mr. Lewis, Mrs. O’Connell
	Nays (0) –	

Mayor Gilmore read Resolution 2023-18

Resolution 2023-18	Authorizing the Mayor to submit one or more applications for funding through the Ohio Public Works Commission, and authorizing the Mayor to
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Motion to waive three readings:

Motion –	Mr. Lewis
Second –	Mr. Shimborske
Unanimous Approval	

Motion to declare an emergency: Motion – Mr. Lewis
Second – Mr. Shimborske
Unanimous Approval

Motion to adopt legislation:

Motion –	Mr. Lewis
Second –	Mr. Shimborske
Yeas (6) –	Mrs. Dunbar, Mr. Thompson, Mrs. Phillips, Mr. Shimborske, Mr. Lewis, Mrs. O’Connell
Nays (0) –	

Resolution 2023-19 Accepting the amounts and rates determined by the Budget Commission and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the County Auditor, and declaring an emergency.

Motion to waive three readings: Motion – Mr. Lewis
Second – Mrs. O’Connell
Unanimous Approval

Motion to declare an emergency: Motion – Mr. Lewis
Second – Mrs. O’Connell
Unanimous Approval

Motion to adopt legislation:

Motion –	Mr. Lewis
Second –	Mrs. O’Connell
Yeas (6) –	Mrs. Dunbar, Mr. Thompson, Mrs. Phillips, Mr. Shimborske, Mr. Lewis, Mrs. O’Connell
Nays (0) –	

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Resolution 2023-20	Authorizing the Clerk Treasurer to draw on the County Treasury for advances against tax settlement, and declaring an emergency.
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Motion to waive three readings:	Motion – Mr. Lewis
	Second – Mr. Shimborske
	Unanimous Approval

Motion to declare an emergency:	Motion – Mr. Lewis
	Second – Mr. Shimborske
	Unanimous Approval

Motion to adopt legislation:	Motion – Mr. Lewis
	Second – Mr. Shimborske
	Yeas (6) – Mrs. Dunbar, Mr. Thompson, Mrs. Phillips, Mr. Shimborske, Mr. Lewis, Mrs. O’Connell
	Nays (0) –

A motion was made by Mrs. Dunbar to amend Resolution 2023-21, and Mr. Lewis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Gilmore read Resolution 2023-21

Resolution 2023-21	Resolution declaring the official intent and reasonable expectation of the Village of Ottawa Hills on behalf of the State of Ohio to reimburse its Capital Grant Fund and/or Road Levy Fund for the Bexford and Indian Alley reconstruction, OPWC Project No. CL36AA, with the proceeds of tax-exempt debt from the State of Ohio.
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Motion to waive three readings:	Motion – Mr. Lewis
	Second – Mrs. Phillips
	Unanimous Approval

Motion to adopt legislation:	Motion – Mr. Lewis
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Second – Mrs. Phillips
Yeas (6) – Mrs. Dunbar, Mr. Thompson,
Mrs. Phillips, Mr. Shimborske,
Mr. Lewis, Mrs. O’Connell
Nays (0) –

A motion was made by Mrs. Dunbar to amend Resolution 2023-22, and Mr. Lewis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Gilmore read Resolution 2023-22

Resolution 2023-22	Resolution declaring the official intent and reasonable expectation of the Village of Ottawa Hills on behalf of the State of Ohio to reimburse its Capital Grant Fund and/or Road Levy Fund for the Hasty Hills Phase One project, OPWC Project No. CL42AA, with the proceeds of tax-exempt debt from the State of Ohio.
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Motion to waive three readings:	Motion – Mr. Lewis Second – Mrs. Phillips Unanimous Approval
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Motion to adopt legislation:	Motion – Mr. Lewis Second – Mrs. Phillips Yeas (6) – Mrs. Dunbar, Mr. Thompson, Mrs. Phillips, Mr. Shimborske, Mr. Lewis, Mrs. O’Connell Nays (0) –
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Executive Session

At 7:33 pm Mr. Shimborske made a motion to move into executive session for the purpose of discussion of pending litigation. Mrs. Dunbar seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Next Meeting Date

October 2, 2023 7:00 PM

Adjournment

7:54 PM

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kai M. Johnson", is positioned above a horizontal line. The signature is written in a cursive style.

Mayor