

VILLAGE OF GREENHILLS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 6, 2012
MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Council of the Village of Greenhills, Ohio was called to order on March 6, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Fred Murrell. Present were: Mayor Murrell and Messrs. David Adams, Glenn Drees, Jeff Halter, Greg Hermes, Bud Wolterman and Mrs. Maria Walther. Also present were: Municipal Manager Evonne Kovach, Law Director Jeff Forbes, Police Chief Thomas Doyle, Fire Chief Tony Spaeth and Clerk of Council Kathy Lives.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by members of Boy Scout Troop 400.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the February 7, 2012 regular Council meeting and the February 21, 2012 work session were approved as submitted.

RESIDENTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL – (This is the time for citizens to comment on matters before Council or to ask questions of concern to them. When recognized, please come forward to the lectern, give your name and address and then state your comments or questions. Council meetings are tape recorded for ease of transcription. Comments are limited to three minutes.)

Mr. Thad Willard, 27 Damon Road

- Supports passes for the pool and, if possible, the golf course for members of the Greenhills Volunteer Fire Department. A paid or contracted Fire Department operation would cost the village approximately \$500,000 to \$1,000,000.
- Suggested further review of the Village of Greenhills Employee Manual and the International Property Maintenance Code.

REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS

Municipal Manager – Evonne Kovach

Web Site

The new village web site is up and running. Work continues on various sections, however, there is already a great deal of information available to the public. New features include a calendar that can be viewed daily, weekly or monthly and be printed by clicking “agenda”. The front page includes a section for taking polls. There is also an area that indicates the top five pages visitors to the site are viewing. Suggestions are always welcome.

New Financial Reporting

A financial report will now be included with the Municipal Manager’s Council report. The report previously distributed to Council reflects activity through the month of February. A visual breakdown was provided of sources of revenue for the General Fund and expenditures from the General Fund.

Expense/Revenue Comparison

A recent article in the *Cincinnati Enquirer* prompted the preparation of similar data for the Village of Greenhills. A visual breakdown was provided of the sources of revenue for the General Fund and expenditures from the General Fund.

Code Enforcement Report Summary

A report on Code Enforcement activities in 2012 was provided to Council including a summary of an initial sweep through the village that was conducted by NIC. With respect to peeling paint, NIC will not issue violation notices on paint until there can be the reasonable expectation that the weather will allow for exterior painting.

RITA Visit

A representative of the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA) will be in the Village of Greenhills on March 29, 2012 to assist taxpayers with filing income taxes. The filing deadline is April 17, 2012.

Molloy's RFP Process

The proposal deadline for a new operator for the banquet hall was February 29, 2012. The opportunity was advertised in the *Cincinnati Enquirer* and the *Cincinnati Business Courier*. Sixteen packets were distributed; three groups toured the facility and two submitted a proposal. The proposals will be reviewed and an update given to Council at the March 20, 2012 Council work session.

Homebuyer's Workshop

A second Homebuyer's Workshop is scheduled for March 29, 2012. The intent is to highlight programs that are currently available for new homebuyers, namely, the Welcome Home Grant Program, the American Dream Down Payment Initiative, and any other program that may be applicable.

Law Director – Jeff Forbes – No report.

Clerk of Council – Kathryn L. Lives

- February Community Calendar and Resolution No. 2012-04-F were posted as required.
- The Clerk of Council will be on vacation from April 1 through April 15, 2012.

Chief of Police – Thomas Doyle

- A local resident was the victim of a phone scam. A telephone caller stated that he was the victim's grandson and that he had a bad cold (thus the reason why the victim did not recognize the caller's voice), that he has been arrested, and that he needed \$2,400.00 to get out of trouble. The victim was instructed to get the cash out of the bank and take it to

Western Union and wire transfer the money to Peru. The victim told the suspect that they did not know how to send the money using Western Union and the suspect gave them the name and phone number of a person who was impersonating a police officer to contact for instructions. The victim contacted this person, and he explained to the victim what he needed the victim to do and the victim complied thus completing the scam. When questioned by the Greenhills Police about why the money was being sent to Peru, the victim indicated that they were told that by sending the money to Peru, they could get their money back. There are other variations of this scam such as being hurt and in the hospital or being in an accident out of state with the car being totaled. Urged resident that if they receive a call such as this, do not send any money, but first check with the relative in question to determine if he/she is truly in need of assistance.

- Council was provided with the results of the 2011 Citizen Survey results; copies of the survey results can be obtained at the Police Department.
- The Officer Activity Report, Monthly Crime Analysis, and the Personnel Early Warning System Report were provided to Council and are available for public inspection.

Fire Chief – Anthony Spaeth

- Activity for the month of February – 9 fires in the village, zero in the township contract area, 15 mutual aid responses for a total of 24; EMS runs – 31 in the village, one in the township contract area, one mutual aid responses for a total of 33.
- Extended congratulations to two new members, A. J. Coley and Lauren Diesen, who have successfully completed their probationary period. There are nine new probationary members who are in various stages of the probationary process.
- Provided an update on the canine program. A portion of the Turkey Raffle Fund was used to support this program and enabled the purchase of a 2008 Crown Victoria automobile at auction. Expressed thanks to Beechmont Ford and MobileCom for conversion assistance.
- Urged residents to check their smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors on Saturday, March 10, 2012. This is the day clocks should be set one hour ahead.
- Called attention to the recent tornado activity in the area, and stated the Village of Greenhills is prepared for a disaster in conjunction with the Hamilton County EMA. Urged all residents to be prepared for self-survival during a disaster. Preparedness information is available on numerous sites on the Internet.
- The new weather siren will be installed this year; date to be announced.
- There are two new Fire Department fundraising events: one, a craft show on May 4, 2012, 6:00-9:00 p.m., at the Baptist church at corner of Sharon and Winton. Interested parties may contact Fire Department personnel at 589-3583. Second, the Fire Department will be selling greeting cards for \$30.00 a box. Additional information is available on the Fire Department website.

- The water main project is progressing; seven fire hydrants will be replaced as a part of this project.

Mayor – Fred Murrell

- Attended a recent Hamilton County Health District Advisory Council meeting. Explained the makeup of the council and the services the Board of Health provides to its members. The Greenhills' contribution for year 2012 is \$3,529.00; in 2013, the contribution will be decreased in the amount of \$111.00 due to the efficiency of the Board of Health personnel.
- The Hamilton County Municipal League will meet on March 29, 2012 at the Forest Park Senior Center. Two dinners are included with the village's membership.
- The Ohio legislature has repealed the regulations on dog breeds, specifically pit bulls. Placed the village's pit bull regulations on the March 20, 2012 work session.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance & Audit - Drees

- Recognized the government students in attendance from Winton Woods High School.
- The Finance and Audit Committee met on February 23, 2012. One goal of the committee is to have an end-of-the-year fund balance. The committee's intent is to lay the ground work for 2016; this is when heavy debt payments will come due.
- A new report has been finalized which is an accounting of the receipts and expenses for the month for all funds and the General Fund and a comparison with the prior year. As of March 1, 2012, revenues are up compared to last year.
- Fiscal Officer Kim Cox was challenged to assist in ways to cut expenses. One recommendation was to charge the 4% credit card service fee for motor vehicle citations back to the offender. Last year, the credit card processing fee was \$3,270.00; some of this fee will decrease when this recommendation is implemented.
- Provided a brief overview of the \$4.1 million to operate the village for one year. Money is appropriated in 18 various funds, including the General Fund. The appropriation ordinance is the actual legislation that is needed to take the budget from a working plan to spending authorization.

Inter-Governmental Affairs, Laws & Rules - Waltherr

Mrs. Waltherr reported the following:

- On February 10, 2012, spoke with Congressman Steve Chabot and Senator Bill Seitz about budget issues and future elections.

- Attended a recent Sunshine Law work shop; provided a Certificate of Attendance for file.
- Thanked the Fire Chief for his invitation to attend the Valentine's Day breakfast on February 14, 2012.
- On February 14, 2012, attended a business luncheon related to the Winton Woods Global Academy.
- Attended a PTA presentation which emphasized student's to STUDY.
- On February 20, 2012, introduced herself to the Forest Park Council during a meeting of this body.
- Attended the Greenhills work session on February 21, 2012.
- Attended the Recreation Commission meeting on February 22, 2012.
- On February 25, 2012, attended a breakfast with Winton Woods School Superintendent Camille Nasbe.
- On February 27, 2012, the Laws and Rules Committee met; draft minutes are on file awaiting approval at the next meeting; the January meeting minutes were approved and are on file.
- On March 1, 2012, attended a *Greenhills Toppers* meeting, and a meeting with Senator Bill Seitz at which State pension funds and Workmen's Compensation were discussed.
- On March 2, attended an ethics seminar in Columbus; presented a Certificate of Attendance for the file.
- Plans to attend the Hamilton County Municipal League meeting on March 29, 2012.
- The Laws and Rules Committee will meet on March 26, 2012, 9:00 a.m., to discuss vicious dog regulations.
- Plans to attend the Auditor of State Convention to be held on March 7-9, 2012.
- Distributed several emails which may be of interest to Council.

Services & Streets - Adams

- Commended the Police Department for patrolling school areas in an attempt to cut down on speeding in school zones. The Services and Streets Committee will work with the Traffic and Safety Committee relative stating restricted hours on school zone signage. Noted the speed limit in the village is 25 mph except for Winton Road and school zones.
- Reminded residents the spring leaf pickup will take place on April 16-20, 2012; leaves should be raked to the curb.
- Thanked the Fire Department for the Valentine's Day breakfast.

Community Development - Halter

- The Community Development Open House is schedule for March 7, 2012, 3:00-8:00 p.m., at Molloy's. Encouraged all residents to participate by sharing their input. Light refreshment will be served. Additional information is available at www.greehillsohio.org.
Corrected on April 17, 2012 to reflect correct email address as www.greenhillscd.org.

Traffic & Safety - Wolterman

- The Traffic and Safety Committee will meet on March 14, 2012, 3:00 p.m., Municipal Building, to discuss the pit bull regulations and restricted hours signage in school zones.
- Reminded all residents to indicate Greenhills on the form when renewing motor vehicle license plates.

Recreation & Cable Television - Hermes

- The Recreation Commission met on February 22, 2012 and approved the expenditure of \$150.00 to the Greenhills library toward the open reading and art work sessions that will be offered in the summer.
- On March 17, 2012, a St. Patrick's day party and dance will be held at the American Legion to benefit the Pioneer Days event.

NEW BUSINESS

1. ORDINANCE NO. 2012-05-L&F

An Ordinance Amending the Village of Greenhills Codified Ordinance, Chapter 121.01 Rules of Council, by Adding in Rule No. 42 Roberts Rules of Order was read for the first time by title only by Mrs. Waltherr.

2. ORDINANCE NO. 2012-06-L&R

An Ordinance Amending the Village of Greenhills Codified Ordinances, Chapter 121.01 Rules of Council, by Adding in Rule No. 43 General Rules of Decorum, Enforcement was read for the first time by title only by Mrs. Waltherr.

3. ORDINANCE NO. 2012-07-L&R

An Ordinance Amending the Village of Greenhills Codified Ordinances, Chapter 121.01 Rules of Council, by Adding Rule No. 44 Recording Devices was read for the first time by title only by Mrs. Waltherr.

4. ORDINANCE NO. 2012-08-L&R

An Ordinance Amending the Village of Greenhills Codified Ordinances, Chapter 121.01 Rules of Council, by Adding Rule No. 45 Signs and Placards, Banners was read for the first time for by title only by Mrs. Waltherr.

5. ORDINANCE NO. 2012-09-L&R

An Ordinance Adopting a Revised Employee Handbook was read for the first time by title only by Mrs. Waltherr.

6. ORDINANCE NO. 2012-10-L&R

An Ordinance Adopting the International Property Maintenance Code was read for the first time by title only by Mrs. Waltherr.

7. ORDINANCE NO. 2012-11-F

An Ordinance Approving the Annual Permanent Appropriation for 2012 was read in full for the first time by Mr. Drees.

Mr. Drees moved, seconded by Mr. Adams, to suspend the rules requiring reading the ordinance two times on two separate occasions. Motion carried by voice vote.

Mr. Drees moved to adopt, seconded by Mr. Adams.

Drees – Expressed appreciation to the Municipal Manager and Fiscal Officer for their work in preparing this ordinance. This permanent appropriation replaces the temporary ordinance currently in effect. The document reflects the tax budget that was passed in September of 2011. The total appropriation has decreased approximately \$240,000 from last year. The General Fund appropriation is down about \$71,000 from that year. The appropriation does not include any cost of living increases in staff salaries. The overall funding goal is to maintain village services. Supplements throughout the year may be necessary because there are a number of capital expenses that have come up and required funding, such as drainage repairs or the storm water system that runs through the golf course, catch basin repairs, roof repairs, etc.

Voting as follows: “Aye” – Adams, Drees, Halter, Hermes, Waltherr and Wolterman. Ordinance No. 2012-11-F adopted 6-0 by roll call vote.

8. ORDINANCE NO. 2012-12-F

An Ordinance Establishing a Transaction Fee on Payments Made to the Police Department with Credit and Debit Cards

Mr. Drees moved, seconded by Mr. Wolterman, to suspend the rules requiring reading the ordinance two times on two separate occasions and reading the ordinance in its entirety. Motion carried by voice vote.

Mr. Drees moved, seconded by Mr. Wolterman, to insert the emergency clause in this ordinance. Motion carried by voice vote.

Drees – The reason for inserting the emergency clause is to begin collecting immediately the processing fees on credit card payments for motor vehicle violations

Motion carried by voice vote.

Mr. Drees moved to adopt, seconded by Mr. Wolterman.

Drees – Many other municipalities follow this procedure.

Voting as follows: “Aye” – Adams, Drees, Halter, Hermes, Waltherr and Wolterman.
Ordinance No. 2012-12-F adopted 6-0 by roll call vote.

9. ORDINANCE NO. 2012-13-F

An Ordinance Amending Certain Sections of Chapter 191 Income Tax of the Greenhills Codified Ordinances

Mr. Drees moved, seconded by Mr. Wolterman, to suspend the rules requiring reading the ordinance two times on two separate occasions and reading in its entirety. Motion carried by voice vote.

Mr. Drees moved to adopt, seconded by Mr. Wolterman.

Drees - The Regional Income Tax Agency has informed that the village does not require mandatory tax filing. Greenhills is only one of a handful of communities that does not have mandatory filing (the others being for example, Cincinnati, Blue Ash, Norwood). These are larger communities that are not reliant on individual taxpayers as much as the smaller communities. Mandatory filing would enhance the village’s tax collection efforts.

Voting as follows: “Aye” – Adams, Drees, Halter, Hermes, Waltherr and Wolterman.
Ordinance No. 2012-13-F adopted 6-0 by roll call vote.

10. ORDINANCE NO. 2012-14-CD

An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 2011-54-CD Regarding the Distribution of Sale Proceeds from the Sale of 7 Chalmers Lane

Mr. Halter moved, seconded by Mr. Wolterman, to suspend the rules requiring reading the ordinance two times on two separate occasions and reading it in its entirety. Motion carried by voice vote.

Mr. Halter moved, seconded by Mr. Drees, to insert the emergency clause.

Halter – It is necessary for Council to direct the sale proceeds for 7 Chalmers into the non-voted debt account. This legislation will accomplish this. The amount of \$2,000 is being retained in General Fund to cover the costs associated with the survey and recording of new deeds associated with this sale.

Motion carried by majority voice vote.

Mr. Halter moved to adopt, seconded by Mr. Wolterman.

Voting as follows: “Aye” – Adams, Drees, Halter, Hermes, Waltherr and Wolterman.
Ordinance No. 2012-14-CD adopted 6-0 by roll call vote.

11. ORDINANCE NO. 2012-15-S&S

Authorizing the Municipal Manager to Enter Into a Contract with HD Waterworks, Ltd. For the Purchase of Seven Fire Hydrants and Declaring an Emergency was read in full for the first time by Mr. Adams.

Mr. Adams moved, seconded by Mr. Drees, to suspend the rules requiring reading the ordinance two times on two separate occasions. Motion carried by majority voice vote.

Mr. Adams moved, seconded by Mr. Wolterman, to retain the emergency clause.

Adams – The Greater Cincinnati Water Works has recently indicated that the spare hydrants originally approved for the water main project underway in Greenhills cannot be used for this project. Council's approval of this expenditure is necessary because the cost exceeds \$10,000.

In answer to a question asked by Mr. Halter, Ms. Kovach indicated purchases over \$25,000.00 must be let for competitive bid. Said supplier can supply the exact hydrants needed for this project.

Motion carried by voice vote.

Mr. Adams moved to adopt, seconded by Mr. Wolterman.

Voting as follows: "Aye" – Adams, Drees, Halter, Hermes, Walther and Wolterman.
Ordinance No. 2012-15-S&S adopted 6-0 by roll call vote.

CALENDAR

Traffic and Safety Committee meeting, March 14, 2012, 3:00 p.m., Municipal Building

St. Patrick's Day Dance, March 17, 2012, (benefits Pioneer Days event)

Council Work Session, March 20, 2012, 7:00 p.m., Municipal Building

Free tree seedlings available from the Hamilton County Library, including the Greenhills, Library, March 23, 2012

Laws and Rules Committee meeting, March 26, 2012, 9:00 a.m., Municipal Building

Hamilton County Municipal League meeting, March 29, 2012, Forest Park Senior Center

Spring Leaf Pick Up, April 16 through April 20, 2012

Community Night at the Reds Game, April 24, 2012, with Greenhills, Forest Park and Springfield Township in conjunction with the Winton Woods School District. Tickets at reduced cost available from the Winton Woods School District offices.

Village of Greenhills
Regular Council Meeting
March 6, 2012

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With no further business forthcoming, the meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Fred Murrell, MAYOR /s/

Kathryn L. Lives, CLERK OF COUNCIL /s/