

# Regular Meeting of Bethesda Village Council

January 10, 2024

Mayor Robert Flanagan called the meeting to order, Bob also led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## Roll Call

Present: Mayor Robert Flanagan, Jay Van Horn, Ruth Saffell, Jordan Castello, Zac Gaston, Colby Rinehart, Fiscal Officer Ricky Burkhead, Administrator Dirk Davis, Solicitor Michael Shaheen

Absent:

## Guest(s)

Stephanie Castello, Jordan Castello, Colby Rinehart, Chuck Little, Jeanette Lucas, Cindy Foose, Rod Miller

## Reports

The Fiscal Officer E-Mailed Fund Status, Cash Summary by Fund, Fund Ledger, Payroll, Receipt Register & YTD Appropriation status reports to Council Members, Administrator, Fire Chief & Mayor. Ruth Saffell made a motion to approve the December meeting minutes, seconded by Zach Gaston, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Jay Van Horn – Yes, Zach Gaston – Yes, Carol Merritt – Yes.

## Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Solicitor Shaheen swore in Mayor Bob Flanagan and councilperson Jordan Castello for their terms beginning 01/01/24 and ending 12/31/27.

Solicitor Shaheen asked for the people interested in a council seat if they would like to speak about themselves to be considered for council. Chuck Little stated that he has been on council before and that he would like to be on council again. Chuck stated that he is always around and retired and would appreciate getting back on. Colby Rinehart stated that he has lived in town for about 8 years and has been involved with the park board on improving the park as well as helping with various events in town and would like to be on council. Colby stated that he worked for ODOT and is very involved with his jobs. Mayor Flanagan stated that it has been 24 year since he was last mayor. Bob thanked Rod and Cindy for that they accomplished on council. Bob also thanked Samantha for being an excellent Mayor.

Jordan Castello made a motion to nominate Chuck Little for the vacant council seat. There were no seconded. Jay Van Horn nominated Colby Rinehart for the vacant council seat, seconded by Ruth Saffell, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Jay Van Horn – Yes, Zach Gaston – Yes, Carol Merritt – Yes, Jordan Castello – No. Mr. Shaheen swore in Colby to his council position beginning 01/01/24 and ending 12/31/27.

Jeanette Lucas asked about the trash heap next to her property. Chief Storm stated that he contacted Cole about the property and is getting information on whom to send a letter to. Chris stated that a letter has been sent to Goodson's. Chris stated that the trailer was removed from Goodson's property but there are still many cars and garbage. Chris will work on the property Jeanette is talking about. Chris stated that if people are making noise at night, they should call the Sheriff's Office.

Administrator Dirk Davis presented his monthly report:

- Dave Green has informed Dirk that he will not be able to continue to pursue a class two sewer license. Dirk stated that Dave has done a great service to the community.
- Dirk has been in contact with a class two operator who went out on his own business and has not heard back yet. Dirk is going to write a letter to the EPA of our situation. Ruth Saffell made a motion to advertise the position again, seconded by Carol Merritt, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Jay Van Horn – Yes, Zach Gaston – Yes, Carol Merritt – Yes, Jordan Castello – Yes, Colby Rinehart - Yes.
- The sewer main on Lake Street again has leaked into the basements. There is also possibly a third house affected that has been vacant since 2016.
- The lift station pump needs rebuilt for \$3,800. The second pump needed a new cable for \$1,000. Another pump needs a new impeller and a brass wear ring for \$1145.
- The grant for the sewer pipe on Lake Street was sent in for 2024 and 2025. This will replace the pipe from Willow to Virginia.
- Dirk asked if council wanted cameras left in the community room. Council said they wanted all cameras out of the city building and the cameras left in the community room.

Ruth Saffell nominated Jay Van Horn for council president, seconded by Zach Gaston, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Jay Van Horn – Yes, Zach Gaston – Yes, Carol Merritt – Yes, Jordan Castello – No, Colby Rinehart - Yes.

## Regular Meeting of Bethesda Village Council (Continued)

January 10, 2024

Fiscal Officer Burkhead presented the 2024 budget and appropriations for council's approval. Ruth Saffell made a motion to approve the budget and appropriations, seconded by Carol Merritt, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Jay Van Horn – Yes, Zach Gaston – Yes, Carol Merritt – Yes, Jordan Castello – Yes, Colby Rinehart - Yes. Rick stated that the year end financials are prepared and available at the city building. Rick stated that we need the police committee and the chief to get together to begin working on a grant for a new cruiser.

Jay Van Horn presented an application for Josh Stamper for Fire and EMT. Ruth Saffell made a motion to approve the application pending a background check, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Carol Merritt – Yes, Jordan Castello – Yes, Colby Rinehart - Yes. Jay presented an application for Eric Wetherell for Fire and EMS. Ruth Saffell made a motion to approve the application pending a background check, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Carol Merritt – Yes, Jordan Castello – Yes, Colby Rinehart – Yes. Jay presented an application for Jacob Rubik for paramedic. Ruth Saffell made a motion to approve the application pending a background check, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Carol Merritt – Yes, Jordan Castello – Yes, Colby Rinehart – Yes.

Solicitor Shaheen presented Resolution 2024-1 which is the approval of a procurement policy for a grant application. Mr. Shaheen stated that frequently people who we apply for grants will ask for such a policy as the case is with the current grant they are working on. Mr. Shaheen stated that this resolution summarizes so that we have guidelines for adhere to federal standards. Jordan Castello made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-1, seconded by Zach Gaston, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Jay Van Horn – Yes, Zach Gaston – Yes, Carol Merritt – Yes, Jordan Castello – Yes, Colby Rinehart - Yes. Mr. Shaheen presented Resolution 2024-2 which hires Samantha Burkhead to maintain the village website for \$50 a month. Ruth Saffell made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-1, seconded by Carol Merritt, Ruth Saffell - Yes, Jay Van Horn – Yes, Zach Gaston – Yes, Carol Merritt – Yes, Jordan Castello – Yes, Colby Rinehart - Yes. Mr. Shaheen stated that the lawsuit he has been working on for the village will be filed tomorrow.

Police Chief Storm stated that there were 15 traffic stops and 11 tickets written last month. Chris stated that there was a fire on Willow and there was garbage completely filling the garage. Chris is giving them a week to clean it up.

Mayor Flanagan stated that he is working through changes in how things are done now. Bob stated that he is welcome to talk to anyone one village business. Bob stated that starting Monday he will have daily hours for people to see him. Bob gave out the mayors cell number for anyone who needed it. Bob read a card that was given to the village by Howard and Cathy Able. Bob stated that he went around town with Dirk and there are a lot of properties that need cleaned up.

Motion to pay bills by Ruth Saffell 2nd by Carol Merritt, with a unanimous vote.

Motion to adjourn by Zach Gaston, 2nd by Jordan Castello, with a unanimous vote.

**The next meeting will be Thursday February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 6:30 P.M.**