

Village of Windham, Ohio

Minutes of Regular Council Meeting

Held on October 23, 2023

At 6:06 pm Mayor Scott Garrett called the Regular Council Meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Lawrence Cunningham – Present Sherri Pennington – Present
 Cheryl Belknap – Present Terrie Altieri – Present
 Marilyn Gage – Present David Belknap – Present

Also present were Village Solicitor Tom Reitz, Village Administrator Ryan Wagner, Housing Inspector Damel Walker, Police Chief Rick Garinger, Sam DeSalvo, Sheila Moore, Debbie Blewitt, and other residents.

Prior requests of Guests to speak to Council

Mayor Scott Garrett opens the floor to Sheila Moore.

Sheila Moore addresses Mayor and Council. When I look at the Council table I see generations of Windham Graduates. I see at least a couple generations of Windham Families and I see people who grew up here knowing that if you lived in Windham you were a Bomber. And you were a Bomber for life. Except for the new person of course, but. Every generation I see at this table, I'm confident that we all have the same thoughts about our neighbors. While we can disagree for a time and even hold grudges on any range of subjects. We never ever thought differently of someone in town because of any ethnic background or whether the other person lived in The Township or The Village. Even today when you describe where someone lives you may say they live in the new homes, or Horn Rd, or Community Dr, or they live by the Post Office. Those are general descriptors but they don't define you. I'm sure all of you have heard about this. What I am about to talk about. At least in generalities, in this day of screen shots and text and chats. When I told Katrina that my topic was about the new Council Person, I'm sure you knew this wasn't going to be a pleasant three (3) minutes. We have a new culture here brewing. When Marilyn Gage was voted in with the tie breaker, I was fine with that based on the things that had happened during application and voting process. I was willing to give her a chance, but not now. Because quote "We don't do that on this side of town. Go do that on your side of town. I'm not going to look at that." That's what she told me at my Wolf Road property four (4) days ago as she came out her front door heading my way with a demeanor in her walk coming my direction that I could tell she had something instore for me. It's disheartening for a sitting member of Council to have that attitude towards any member of the community she claims to represent. If she thinks that way about me and my properties, she thinks that way about the entire community. In sum, she thinks better than you. She also took the matter to Council via text almost immediately for her own selfish reasons. I'm not going to look at that, do I have to look at that? Contacting Council outside of a public meeting regarding the potential Village issue is, my understanding, a violation of Sunshine Laws. She took an oath just two (2) weeks ago to uphold the Constitution of The United States, the Constitution of Ohio, and

the Ordinances of The Village of Windham faithfully, honestly and impartially. And she's already broken all parts of that oath. I'm requesting that the process begin immediately for Marilyn Gage to be removed from Council. In this Country she has the right to rebut, to walk back her statements, or to say that she didn't say it. But after that opportunity she needs to be removed from Council. And I am wondering who would like to start that process."

Mayor Scott Garrett says that he appreciates Sheila Moore's comments. Further explaining that he is not on Facebook so he has no idea what Sheila Moore is talking about. Stating that he will look into it. Mayor Scott Garrett opens the floor to Council if they have anything to say. Council Woman Marilyn Gage says that she would like to speak. Council President Lawrence Cunningham asks Sheila Moore when did this situation happen. Sheila Moore says several days ago, she thinks Friday or Thursday. Sheila Moore says Thursday. Mayor Scott Garrett opens the floor to Marilyn Gage. Marilyn Gage says to address this issue. Ms. Moore decided to put up a rope fence with cones, as a fence to keep people off of her little utility easement property. Which borders Marilyn Gage's property. It also borders the neighbor's property. Marilyn Gage asks Sheila Moore if she was going to remove the cones, asked if she was going to build a fence. And Sheila Moore's response was I'm going to do what I'm going to do and you're going to have to adjust. Sheila Moore says that is not what she said. Marilyn Gage said it is exactly what was said. Sheila Moore says she said it was none of her business. Marilyn Gage and Sheila Moore begin interacting with one another. Clerk of Council Katrina Washington interrupts reminding the ladies that they cannot be interacting with each other. Marilyn Gage says that she proceeded to ask if she was going to build a fence and was told none of your business. Marilyn Gage says that it is her understanding that string tied to survey markers and orange cones is not a proper fence. Stating that the codes says a fence can be made of wood, pvc, that kind of thing. Further stating that it was an eye sore. Marilyn Gage says that she took this issue to the Zoning Inspector and was told that a string fence with cones isn't allowed, that it is not a fence. Further saying that it is an eye sore. That's all Marilyn Gage really has to say about it, she wants it removed. Further stating that she thinks that a candidate for Mayor should not be nasty to their neighbors or citizens. People start talking over top of each other. Mayor Scott Garrett interrupts stating that this sounds like an issue for Zoning and we are not going to spend time on this matter because we have an agenda to follow. This is something that would be discussed during the Committee of The Whole meeting. Explaining that this is a Zoning issue where the Zoning Inspector would have to be brought in. A resident interrupts asking to address Council on the matter. Mayor Scott Garrett says not right now. The resident continues, stating that he has pictures on his phone and it is not an eye sore. Mayor Scott Garrett informs the resident that if they would like to go to the Committee of The Whole Meeting, they can speak all they want, show pictures, whatever. Further explaining that once one person speaks, another will want to speak. And nothing can happen until the situation is looked into further.

Mayor Scott Garrett asks for a motion to approve the September 26, 2023 Regular Council Meeting Minutes.

Terrie Altieri makes a motion to approve the September 26, 2023 Regular Council Meeting Minutes. Sherrie Pennington seconds the motion and it carried by a 5-0 Roll Call Vote with Marilyn Gage abstaining.

Fiscal Officer's Financial Reports by Katrina Washington

Minutes of October 23, 2023 Regular Council Meeting

Page 2 of 12

Income Tax collected Year to date September 30, 2023: \$532,508.86

The Expenditures for the month of September 2023: \$187,492.00 in checks and charges. Check numbers 38639, 38643, 38647, 38659, 38663, 38667 through 38690, 38692 through 38703, 38705, 38706, 38709, 38715 and 38721 were paid from the primary checking account during September 2023 with 5 checks voided during the month. Direct Deposit Vouchers 739-2023 through 755-2023, 757-2023 through 763-2023, 770-2023, 772-2023 through 789-2023, 792-2023, 794-2023 through 799-2023, 801-2023 through 828-2023, 830-2023 through 838-2023, 840-2023 through 848-2023, 851-2023. 856-2023 through 858-2023 and 893-2023 were also paid during the month of September 2023. The all funds balance for September 2023 was \$2,226,881.00.

Mayor Scott Garrett opens the floor to anyone having old business to discuss.

None

Mayor Scott Garrett opens the floor to Council President Lawrence Cunningham for the Council President's Report.

Council President Lawrence Cunningham says that The Dollar Store is looking a lot better. They have more product. Mayor Scott Garrett thanks Police Chief Rick Garinger and Cheryl Belknap for all the work they did with that.

Council President Lawrence Cunningham says shares that there is a house being built on Maple Grove.

Council President Lawrence Cunningham shares that he visited the Senior Home. Everyone is liking it. David Belknap asks if the Senior Home is full. Council President Lawrence Cunningham says yes.

Council President Lawrence Cunningham reminds everyone that Trick or Treat is Sunday 4pm-6pm. The New Hope Church is handing out hot chocolate and hotdogs. The Fire station will also be passing out candy.

Mayor Scott Garrett opens the floor to Terrie Altieri to present the Dispatchers Police, Fire and Rescue Reports for September 2023.

Terrie Altieri makes a motion to accept the Dispatch Police, Fire and Rescue reports for September 2023. David Belknap seconded the motion and it carried by a 6-0 Roll Call Vote.

David Belknap asks Terrie Altieri if she got an answer from. Terrie Altieri says not yet. She is supposed to be calling the prosecutor and looking at the bylaws.

Mayor Scott Garrett opens the floor for Mayor's Communication and Correspondence.

Mayor Scott Garrett thanks Village Administrator Ryan Wagner getting the hot patch.

Mayor Scott Garrett opens the floor to Marilyn Gage for Finance.

Marilyn Gage makes a motion to approve the Fiscal Officer's expenditures for the month of September 2023 as reported. Terrie Altieri seconded the motion and it carried by a 6-0 Roll Call Vote.

Marilyn Gage makes a motion to approve the all Funds Bank Balance for September 2023 as reported. Terrie Altieri seconded the motion and it carried by a 6-0 Roll Call Vote.

Marilyn Gage does a second reading of RESOLUTION NO. 2023 – 11 A **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN OHIO ELECTRIC SUPPLY AGREEMENT - PRICING ATTACHMENT WITH ENERGY HARBOR, LLC.** WHEREAS, the Council of the Village of Windham has received an overture from Energy Harbor, LLC under which Energy Harbor, LLC could provide a projected savings on the cost of electrical utilities to the Village of Windham

Marilyn Gage makes a motion to discuss RESOLUTION NO. 2023-11. David Belknap seconds the motion and it carried by a 6-0 Roll Call Vote.

David Belknap informs Council that he has not received the electric bills. He got ahold of Village Administrator Ryan Wagner to get copies of the electric bills and he never received those. Village Administrator Ryan Wagner told David Belknap that he put in a request to Fiscal Officer Katrina Washington to get those, those were never received. Fiscal Officer Katrina Washington informs David Belknap and Council that Village Administrator Ryan Wagner just asked her for the electric bills today. David Belknap says whatever the case may be. Fiscal Officer Katrina Washington says that she is just letting him know. David Belknap says that he is just stating that he never received those and the second read is supposed to be passed today. Saying that Council discussed in the Committee of The Whole. It has only been two (2) weeks so he's wondering if Council is going to approve that today. Mayor Scott Garrett suggests not to approve it. Further explaining that we need to take a comparison on that website. David Belknap says that he has a call out to a woman with ISG that drives around town. He's just waiting on the electric bills. Mayor Scott Garrett says that we need to figure out what rate is that company offering and find out what our rate is right now under Ohio Edison. David Belknap says that he will have that for Council at the next Committee Meeting.

Marilyn Gage makes a motion to end discussion for RESOLUTION NO. 2023-11. Terrie Altieri seconds the motion and it carried by a 6-0 Roll Call Vote.

Marilyn Gage does a First Read of ORDINANCE 2023-11 **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE INCOME TAX REGULATIONS, CHAPTER 182 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF WINDHAM.** WHEREAS, the income tax regulations for the Village of Windham, Ohio, have been adopted to provide adequate revenue to the Village, and to promote the health, safety and welfare of the Village of Windham

Marilyn Gage makes a motion to discuss ORDINANCE 2023-11. Terrie Altieri seconds the motion and it carried by a 6-0 Roll Call Vote.

Mayor Scott Garrett opens the floor to Village Solicitor Tom Reitz.

Village Solicitor Tom Reitz explains that the State of Ohio has made changes to the municipality tax code that have a trickle-down effect on all municipalities in Ohio. All the changes in the handout are changes in response to the actions that the State Legislature has taken in passing their annual budget for 2024. Village Solicitor Tom Reitz proceeds to summarize for Council. The first thing that it does is make it clear that the changes are effective on January 1, 2024 and your current tax code remains in full force and effect for all the time that predates January 1, 2024. The next section is the result of an ongoing dispute between and among the State of Ohio and many municipalities and companies which operate in different locations. A classic example is a

construction company. They may have a home base in Windham, but they go out and work all over the place. The municipalities where the work is being done says you have people working in our municipality, we are entitled to income tax. The company says but I already have income tax being paid to Windham where the company is based. This situation creates tension. This is a circumstance where Ohio has come in and said here is the way those expenses are going to be allocated. The State of Ohio has changed their mind on how they want it to be done. And that is what the next section is. Village Administrator Tom Reitz says that he is not suggesting that it doesn't merit Council's attention, but there's nothing that they can do about it. Mayor Scott Garrett asks what the change is. Village Administrator Tom Reitz explains that they are locked into a percentage type arrangement. The third change has to do with extensions to file tax returns. Further explaining that the Federal Government allows a six (6) month extension automatically, you just have to ask. It is not an extension to pay the tax, you still have to pay the tax on time. But if you needed an additional six (6) months to work your way through the Federal tax return, you can have it. Most municipalities would automatically grant you the same extension without you asking. All you had to do was attach a copy of the request for the extension that you filed with your Federal return and municipalities would grant you that same extension to file your return. Not all municipalities would automatically grant you that extension. The next change is that all municipalities are mandated that if the tax payer gets an extension on filing their Federal return, the local municipality must also grant that same extension. Village Administrator Tom Reitz explains that there are a few other changes, but those are the big ones. Instructing Council that it is important that this be enacted prior to January 1, 2024. Further explaining that when Legislation is passed with declaring an emergency, the Legislation takes effect immediately. Council is not permitted to do that with tax code changes. If Council does not pass it as an emergency, it takes effect thirty (30) days later. The reason for that is that the thirty (30) days allows your citizens to circulate a petition for a referendum on the action if they have a mind to do so. Stating that this can't be passed as an emergency. Village Solicitor Tom Reitz recommends that Council passes it by suspending their rules at their November meeting and pass it at that time on the second reading.

Marilyn Gage makes a motion to end discussion on ORDINANCE 2023-11. Terrie Altieri seconds the motion and it carried by a 6-0 Roll Call Vote.

Mayor Scott Garrett opens the floor to Terrie Altieri for Safety and Personnel

Terrie Altieri does a third read of **ORDINANCE 2023 - 10 AN ORDINANCE FIXING COMPENSATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF WINDHAM, OHIO AND REPEALING ANY INCONSISTENT ACTIONS.**

Terrie Altieri motions to open discussion on ORDINANCE 2023 – 10. Marilyn Gage seconded the motion and it carried by a 6-0 Roll Call Vote.

Terrie Altieri explains that she will not be voting yes on this because we just laid off an employee for financial reasons and she does not feel like it is in our best interest to increase Council salaries at this time.

With no further discussion at this time Terrie Altieri makes a motion to end discussion on ORDINANCE 2023-10. Sherri Pennington seconded the motion and it carried by a 6-0 Roll Call Vote.

Terrie Altieri makes a motion to approve ORDINANCE 2023-10. Sherri Pennington seconded the motion and it carried by a 4-2 Roll Call Vote with Terrie Altieri and David Belknap voting No.

Terrie Altieri acknowledges that the Motion was passed.

A resident says bravo, they just gave themselves a raise. Village Solicitor Tom Reitz asks to address Council and Residents. Permission granted by Mayor Scott Garrett. Village Solicitor Tom Reitz explains that Council did not just give themselves a raise. The raises take effect at the beginning of the next elected terms. Resident Debbie Blewitt says that Council hasn't had a raise in many years. Terrie Altieri says about thirteen (13) years.

Mayor Scott Garrett opens the floor to David Belknap for Utilities

David Belknap **ORDINANCE NO. 2023 – 12 AN ORDINANCE TO REVISE AND AMEND SECTION 927.04(d) OF THE VILLAGE OF WINDHAM UTILITY CODE TO ADJUST THE DATE OF WATER SHUT OFF FOR LATE OR NON-PAYMENT OF WATER RENT. WHEREAS,** the Windham Village Administrator has identified the need to revise and amend a section of the utility code to provide for additional time for water customers to pay the invoice for water purchased from the municipal water system prior to having service turned off

David Belknap makes motion to discuss ORDINANCE NO. 2023-12. Sherrie Pennington seconds the motion and it carried by a 6-0 Roll Call Vote.

Terrie Altieri asks David Belknap to explain. David Belknap opens the floor to Village Administrator Ryan Wagner. Village Administrator Ryan Wagner explains that this Ordinance is changing the shutoff date for the water from the twenty-eighth (28) to the third (3) of the next month. Further explaining that it cuts down on the amount of shutoffs. We usually have sixty (60) shutoffs. By moving it to the third (3), people get paid on the second (2), third (3) and it cuts our shutoffs down to like ten (10). Stating that we don't really want to shut people off. We are in the business to sell water and bring in revenue. If they need just a few days, he feels that it is better for the community in a whole. David Belknap says that it also saves our water person from having to fill out all the tickets by hand each month just for them to come back in on the third (3) and pay. Terrie Altieri asks if it would still be due on the fifteenth (15) and if they are late there would still be a late fee correct. Mayor Scott Garrett and David Belknap confirm that is correct.

With no further discussion at this time David Belknap makes a motion to end discussion on ORDINANCE NO. 2023-12. Council President Lawrence Cunningham seconded the motion and it carried by a 6-0 Roll Call Vote.

David Belknap makes a motion to suspend the rules. Marilyn Gage seconded the motion and it carried by a 6-0 Roll Call Vote.

David Belknap makes a motion to approve ORDINANCE NO. 2023-12. Terrie Altieri seconded the motion and it carried by a 6-0 Roll Call Vote.

Mayor Scott Garrett opens the floor to Cheryl Belknap for Service Committee

Cheryl Belknap reads **RESOLUTION NO. 2023 -13 A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE PRIOR ACTIONS OF THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR AND AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH HLP HARD LABOR PAVING FOR PATCHWORK REPAIRS TO VARIOUS STREETS IN THE VILLAGE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY** WHEREAS, the Village Administrator of the Village of Windham has determined that various streets in the village should be repaired before the 2023-2024 winter arrives.

Cheryl Belknap makes a motion to discuss RESOLUTION NO. 2023-13. Sherrie Pennington seconds the motion and it carried by a 6-0 Roll Call Vote.

David Belknap asks if this includes the corner of East Center and North and South Main. Or is that the Stat of Ohio one that was just done. Village Administrator Ryan Wagner says yes, that includes that. He did that one as well.

With no further discussion at this time Cheryl Belknap makes a motion to end discussion on RESOLUTION NO. 2023-13. Sherrie Pennington seconded the motion and it carried by a 6-0 Roll Call Vote.

Cheryl Belknap makes a motion to suspend the rules. Terrie Altieri seconded the motion and it carried by a 6-0 Roll Call Vote.

Cheryl Belknap makes a motion to approve RESOLUTION NO. 2023-13. David Belknap seconded the motion and it carried by a 6-0 Roll Call Vote.

Cheryl Belknap reads **Resolution NO. 2023-14 CONSENT LEGISLATION RC 5521.01** The following Resolution is enacted by the Village of Windham of Portage County, Ohio. SECTION I - Project Description WHEREAS, the STATE has identified the need for the described project: Crack sealing a portion of SR 303 in the Village of Windham

Cheryl Belknap makes a motion to discuss RESOLUTION NO. 2023-14. Terrie Altieri seconded the motion and it carried by a 6-0 Roll Call Vote.

Terrie Altieri asks what this is. Mayor Scott Garrett says the state is coming in and we are giving permission to the state to come in and seal the cracks on State Route 303. Village Solicitor Tom Reitz explains that the state will do the maintenance and repairs of the state routes and needs The Village's consent to seal. Further explaining that they are doing it on their own dime. Village Administrator Ryan Wagner asks if there is a date. They wanted it by November thirtieth (30), stating that it might have been in the email. He thinks that there was a deadline that he wanted to three reads by. Village Solicitor Tom Reitz informs Village Administrator Ryan Wagner and Council that he wrote the legislation that Council would suspend the rules and pass it tonight.

Debbie Blewitt asks to address Council. Asking if before The Village pays Hard Labor Paving. Because that is probably the majority of what they are going to do is 303. Shouldn't The Village ask 303 to do their work so we aren't paying Hard Labor Paving to do patching on a road that the state is going to pay for. Village Administrator Ryan Wagner explains that most of the work was not on 303. It was in the Circle, on Wolf, on Wilvern and some on Bright. Debbie Blewitt says that her point was, should The Village be paying for something that the State would have paid for. Village Administrator Ryan

Wagner said that we already paid it. Further explaining that they may or may not have fixed the dip. Debbie Blewitt explains that if that is a tie in to 303, the State of Ohio could have done those jobs.

David Belknap asks if there is anything that The Village asked the State to do that was deemed unnecessary. Village Administrator Ryan Wagner said no. The State actually sent him the contract and asked for Council's approval.

With no further discussion at this time Cheryl Belknap makes a motion to end discussion on RESOLUTION NO. 2023-14. David Belknap seconded the motion and it carried by a 6-0 Roll Call Vote.

Cheryl Belknap makes a motion to suspend the rules. Terrie Altieri seconded the motion and it carried by a 6-0 Roll Call Vote.

Cheryl Belknap makes a motion to approve RESOLUTION NO. 2023-14. Terrie Altieri seconded the motion and it carried by a 6-0 Roll Call Vote.

Mayor Scott Garrett opens the floor to Council President Lawrence Cunningham for Economic Development

Council President Lawrence Cunningham informs Council that he reached out to the people at Sparkle to see what they fixed from the water pipe. He explains that he has not seen any movement in there for a while. Terrie Altieri reminds Council President Lawrence Cunningham that there are signs on the doors that say hazardous materials.

Council President Lawrence Cunningham says that he spoke to Ohio Job and Family Services to see if they would potentially want to come out here to help out.

Sherrie Pennington says that she passed out a packet for everybody pertaining to Fun In The Sun. The first sheet has the activities, second sheet is vendors, third sheet has food vendors. Further explaining that she attached a flyer for the Parade of Lights. Sherrie Pennington asks that everybody takes a look at everything and crosses out or adds things. Then bring them to the Committee of The Whole meeting so she can update everything. She would like to discuss everything every month in order to have everything scheduled when it comes around in July.

Terrie Altieri asks what we need for the Parade. Asking if it is going to have hot chocolate and cookies only. Sherrie Pennington says for Council to tell her. Saying that we still need to get a Santa Clause and Mrs Clause. David Belknap asks if we need Fire Departments contacted. Sherrie Pennington says yes. David Belknap will handle this. Clerk of Council asks Sherrie Pennington for a copy of the handout she gave Council Members because she has been keeping a copy of everything given to Council. Also asking for the updated flyer for Parade of Lights.

Council President Lawrence Cunningham reminds Council that the school was looking for stuff of their kids' program to do. Explaining that Sam DeSalvo has donated some wood for the school kids to make signs for the Community Center. Council thanks Sam.

Mayor Scott Garrett opens the floor for the Planning Commission.

Sharing that they did meet before the Council meeting, but they will be meeting again tomorrow at 5:30 as well.

Mayor Scott Garrett opens the floor to Housing Inspector Damel Walker.

Housing Inspector Damel Walker got an update on the 9515 community. He spoke with the spokesperson and said he was in charge of the community. He texted Housing Inspector Damel Walker some things he wanted to do to the building. But Housing Inspector Damel Walker has not seen anybody there yet. So we are just going to move forward with getting some charges together.

Mayor Scott Garrett opens the floor to Village Administrator Ryan Wagner,

Village Administrator Ryan Wagner does not know when exactly The Village freezes rates for the water and wastewater. Informing Council that by not doing anything, they automatically go up. Mayor Scott Garrett says that it happens every January. The last time Council froze water and allowed sewer to go up. Further explaining that in order to do that we would have to have Legislation by November. Saying that Council can discuss that at The Committee of The Whole Meeting in November. Also explaining that in November Council needs to take a look at the water and sewer funds since they made those switches to see how they have been performing.

Village Administrator Ryan Wagner said that he sat down with Fiscal Officer Katrina Washington and gathered reports that he thinks Council wants.

Village Solicitor Tom Reitz interrupts reminding Council that as of January of this year, the automatic increase in the water rate was repealed. Further explaining that it stays the same unless the Council changes it. Mayor Scott Garrett and David Belknap agrees saying that they now remember Council doing that. Village Solicitor Tom Reitz checked and confirmed that the increase with the sewer rates was also repealed.

Village Administrator Ryan Wagner mentions that they discussed raising the amount that the Village Administrator is permitted to spend in case we have an emergency. Further explaining that Village Solicitor Tom Reitz brought to his attention that before Village Solicitor Tom Reitz the Utility Heads were only permitted to spend up to three thousand dollars (\$3,000). Village Administrator Ryan Wagner explains that if we want to raise it so we don't have to go through a lot of this stuff for The Village Administrator. That would give Village Administrator Ryan Wagner authorization in case of an emergency to spend more than three thousand dollars (\$3,000). Further explaining that is something that would only be done by Council's approval, but we won't have to go through the Legislation like with everything else. Mayor Scott Garrett explains that prices have been going up and up. Village Solicitor Tom Reitz explains that it is worth some discussion at the Committee level about what level do you want to authorize your Village Administrator to enter into contracts. Further explaining that according to the Ohio Revised Code, you can do that up to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000). You have limited it by your policy, in your policy that The Village controls. But since it's only three thousand dollars (\$3,000), you may want to consider whether an adjustment is needed. Mayor Scott Garrett says Council will discuss it at The Committee of The Whole.

Village Administrator Ryan Wagner says that there was a mishap, the furnaces were shut off at the Community Building. They went up there and just had to turn them back on. He knows that before we use to not rent the Community Center after a certain time. Council confirms. Village Administrator Ryan Wagner says that he found one small issue with that. If you shut the heat off on a building, that is the absolute worst thing you can do. He thinks that is a lot of the reason the paint is chipping because of the fluctuation, it gets really cold and then it gets really hot. Regardless of whether we rent it or not, we should keep it around fifty degrees (50*). Recommending to keep the heat

going. Further explaining that if we keep renting it, then it's going to help pay for that. But he does not recommend shutting the heat off in the winter. Terrie Altieri asks about the water, wondering if that would still be shut off in the winter. David Belknap says yes because nobody will be in there to know if a line breaks. Village Administrator Ryan Wagner says that can be shut off downstairs. Since it is below freezing, he thinks it would be ok.

Village Administrator Ryan Wagner mentions possibly having Council Chambers located at the Community Center rather than at the new Police Station or here. Mayor Scott Garrett and Debbie Blewitt say that they have had three (3) meetings there during Covid. Village Administrator Ryan Wagner says that the old library would make a perfect Council Chamber. The bathrooms are right there, get a little bit of paint and it's done. He thinks it would save money.

Mayor Scott Garrett opens the floor to Guest Recognition that did not request to be added to the agenda

Sheila Moore shares some thoughts about when there is a new Council Member. That maybe when the new Council Member hasn't been there before, like ever, maybe they shouldn't go right onto Finance. Even though that was the person slot that they replaced. Further explaining that Finance is a pretty big thing. She also feels the same way about the Planning Commission. Especially when it is someone that hasn't lived here most of their life to just be right on the Planning Commission seems a little bit of jump. Further explaining that while she is currently running for Mayor, if she is not, she would like to throw in her hat to be on the Planning Commission regardless. Mayor Scott Garrett asks Village Solicitor Tom Reitz how many people can be on the Planning Commission. Terrie Altieri says five (5) with David Belknap agreeing. Mayor Scott Garrett explains that when Council has the Committee of The Whole, the Committee Heads do not have same weight that they once did. We actually speak together on all the issues now. Vs how back in the day only the Finance Committee members would be at the table, but now we are all up here speaking together during Committee Meetings.

Ms. Pat requests to address Council. Ms. Pat says God Bless Housing Inspector Damel Walker. Without him, she does not know where they would be because he has been working hard for them.

Mayor Scott Garrett opens floor for last chance for Council to speak on any subject

Joe Claudie informs Council that they have been requesting street lights to get fixed at the end of their road on South Main Street for about six (6) months now. They have sent several emails and is wondering if there is any way that process can get going. It is the last light before the Arsenal gates. Village Administrator Ryan Wagner says that it is Ohio Edison's ball court now.

Terrie Altieri informs Council that her and Cheryl Belknap went around the other day to see what kind of equipment The Village owns. They noticed that the equipment does not look good. Further explaining that the mowers, you can't hardly tell that they are a mower. The Gator, Terrie Altieri couldn't believe the shape it was in. They are all in terrible shape. Terrie Altieri said the dump truck still looks good, the one used for salt looks really good. Sharing that we have new snow plows sitting outside. Explaining that we need to get somewhere to put them. David Belknap asks if Terrie Altieri or Cheryl Belknap contacted anyone to say they were going to go do this. Like the Village Administrator so he could go around with them or the Council President. Terrie Altieri said no they just went to see how it was. David Belknap says shouldn't that be the way to

do things to either contact the Council President and say hey we want to go look at these things or contact the first point of contact over these guys. Because they are down there working and then the two Council persons just show up and hey we want to look at this stuff. We have a Village Administrator that is over these guys. In David Belknap's opinion, this is the way he was told when we had a meeting, that when you want to talk to these guys, that are the workers. You go down there with The Village Administrator, that's why he is there, that's why when Debbie was there. You go down there with The Village Administrator, you show up with them. They can say hey, we are coming down at this time. These guys want to look at this, this is what they are going to do, that's all we are going to do and then you leave. You don't just show up unannounced and do what you want to do as a free for all. Terrie Altieri asks if they have to have permission to go to the water or sewer plant. David Belknap says that it's not really permission, but what if they were in the middle of doing something. Mayor Scott Garrett says that it would be a good idea to get ahold of Village Administrator Ryan Wagner beforehand. Terrie Altieri says that Village Administrator Ryan Wagner is only twenty (20) hours a week. Mayor Scott Garrett agrees, saying just make an appointment. David Belknap says that what he is getting at is the fact that they didn't reach out to our Village Administrator Ryan Wagner as a common courtesy to let him know, hey Cheryl and I are going down to the water and sewer plants and the street garage to go check out this stuff. There is a chain of command. Terrie Altieri asks David Belknap if every time he goes somewhere he asks for permission. David Belknap says that he is on Utilities though. Terrie Altieri asks David Belknap if he goes down to the water and sewer plant. David Belknap says that he usually contacts Village Administrator Ryan Wagner. Terrie Altieri says he doesn't all the time because he wasn't even here. Mayor Scott Garrett says that he thinks he made that comment to David Belknap before and that is the way it should be done in the future.

Fiscal Officer Katrina Washington informs Council that if they need some kind of documentation to do something, like the electric bills David Belknap mentioned before. Council can send her an email directly and she will be able to get that to Council a lot faster. For Village Administrator Ryan Wagner to come to her the day of the meeting, between getting ready for this, there just wasn't enough time to pull the statements.

Fiscal Officer Katrina Washington also asks Council if the reports presented to them are the reports they want in the future. Council say yes. Fiscal Officer Katrina Washington asks if Council wants those at the Committee Meeting or Council. Council says just at Committee. Village Administrator Ryan Wagner explains that the cash flow summary report will always be one month behind. The Appropriation Report is up to date.

David Belknap asks about the salt shed. Village Administrator Ryan Wagner says that four points was going to bring in the resubmittal. They were going to submit it to the building department today and bring us a copy. They had to add three (3) trusses, different brackets, and rebar to the holes. Village Administrator Ryan Wagner said that Stier was bare bone, so he thought a fair solution would be for The Village to purchase the additional trusses and additional rebar. Then he could keep going. Village Solicitor Tom Reitz asks Village Administrator Ryan Wagner if the changes would take the project over fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000). Village Administrator Ryan Wagner says no, it will be. David Belknap interrupts asking if it was seventy-five (75) now. Village Solicitor Tom Reitz said that is for everyone except Villages. State Legislature made a mistake. They say that they are going to correct it, but it has not been corrected yet. Asking what the total cost for the project would be. Village Administrator Ryan Wagner try's to figure out a total. Village Solicitor Tom Reitz asks if it will be under fifty (50).

Village Administrator Ryan Wagner says it will be under fifty (50). Village Solicitor Tom Reitz says to keep the total under fifty (50).

Mayor Scott Garrett opens the floor to Village Solicitor Tom Reitz.

Village Solicitor Tom Reitz has nothing further to add.

David Belknap asks if we need anything for Village Solicitor Tom Reitz's associate when the time comes for that. Village Solicitor Tom Reitz informs Council that he was going to have Chuck Gasior prepare a contract for Council for their consideration in December.

November Calendar

Committee of The Whole Meeting Tuesday November 14, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

Regular Council Meeting Tuesday November 28, 2023 at 6 p.m.

With no further business to discuss David Belknap makes a motion to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting. Sherri Pennington second the motion and it carried by a 6-0 Roll Call Vote.

Regular Council Meeting was adjourned at 7:31 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Attest,

Katrina Washington
Clerk of Council

Scott Garrett
Mayor

NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE A SUMMARY BY DIRECTION OF COUNCIL
All Council and Committee Meetings will be held in Windham Council Chambers,
unless otherwise noted