

**GRANVILLE VILLAGE COUNCIL**  
**AGENDA**  
**March 20, 2024**  
**7:30 P.M.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Hartfield called the Wednesday, March 20, 2024 Council meeting to order at 7:30pm.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. ROLL CALL**

Clerk Klein conducted roll call. Those present were Councilmember Demarest, Councilmember Keethler Ball, Councilmember Leithauser, Councilmember Mickelson, Councilmember Olbur, Vice Mayor Johnson, Mayor Hartfield, Manager Koehler and Law Director Mattes

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion by Councilmember Mickelson to approve the agenda, second by Councilmember Keethler Ball**

**Motion passed by a vote of 7-0**

**5. CITIZENS COMMENTS -7:31pm**

**Jim Prentice, 211 Wicklow Dr.,** provided Council with some historical statics on the women's track and field team.

**Jason Collins, 758 New Burg St,** stated that he was in support of the extension for the multi-use path from the high school to the intermediate school. He and his neighbors are very passionate about this project. I am happy with the work that our Township Trustees have done and very grateful for the support of Village Council.

**Bryn Bird, 326 W. Maple St,** stated that Jason Collins has worked very hard with his neighbors gaining the easements that will allow for the connector path. The Township has granted easements along the green space, and Denison's new development has granted easements. She asked if the Village would help the process with the easements by partnering with them using V3, the Village's engineering firm to help determine where the easements are.

**Steve Matheny, Executive Director of Granville Area Chamber of Commerce,** spoke in favor of the Community Improvement Corporation. There has been a lot of thought and energy gone into the exploration of this idea over a two-year period. The creation of a CIC was the recommendation of Jim Lenner whom we all hired to do a study on this very question. We are proposing a pilot program to make sure that it works and to make sure that it does what we want it to do for us. There are over five hundred CICs in the state of Ohio.

**Councilmember Keethler Ball** asked Bryn Bird if her ask of the Village was to use our engineering firm for the connector pathway project.

**Bryn Bird** confirmed that was what she was asking and that the Village Manager has already done discussed it with them.

**Manager Koehler** stated that idea for the pathway had been on the Village's pedestrian improvement spend plan since 2017 at least, the difficulty has been property owner easements. We think that there are some funding opportunities out there that warrant a deeper study.

There were no more comments from citizens, Mayor Hartfield closed citizens comments. 7:46pm.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. **RESOLUTION NO. 2024-32** A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE MANAGER TO EXECUTE A STATE-LOCAL PROJECT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF GRANVILLE AND OHIO DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (ODNR), FOR AWARDED H.B. 687 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT COMMUNITY RECREATION PROJECT (BRYN DU BARN RENOVATION)

Vice Mayor Johnson recused himself.

**Councilmember Olbur introduced and made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-32, second by Councilmember Mickelson**

**Motion passed by a vote of 6-0-1 (Vice Mayor Johnson recused)**

- B. **RESOLUTION NO. 2024-33** A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE VILLAGE MANAGER TO SIGN A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF GRANVILLE, OHIO, THE GRANVILLE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, THE BOARD OF TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES OF GRANVILLE TOWNSHIP, LICKING COUNTY, OHIO, AND THE GRANVILLE, OHIO

EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT TO FACILITATE THE CREATION OF A COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT CORPORATION

**Councilmember Mickelson introduced and made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-33, second by Councilmember Olbur**

**Mayor Hartfield** stated that she appreciated the presentation that staff and the Chamber did at the retreat. I like the idea of starting out as a pilot.

**Councilmember Mickelson** stated that it was a win, win. There is no money to put down and we will find some knowledgeable people to serve on the board. There has been a lot of research that has gone into the idea.

**Councilmember Olbur** stated that he thinks it is an incredibly important thing for the community. Economic development is crucial to what we are doing.

**Manager Koehler** stated that the school board signed it Monday, the Chamber signed it today and it goes in front of the Township Trustees next Wednesday at their meeting.

**Councilmember Demarest** asked what the actual formation and process timeline was.

**Manager Koehler** stated that we are going to do a joint four way roll out to solicit for volunteers. There are some preferred qualifications that applicants would need to meet. Each individual organization will work on their selection.

**Courtney Ruppert** stated that in the second quarter they are trying to recruit and interview then in the third quarter draft by laws and get rolling.

**Law Director Mattes** asked who was responsible for drafting the 501(c)3.

**Courtney Ruppert** stated that David Ball would be.

**Councilmember Demarest** asked if the governing document would come back to Council.

**Law Director Mattes** stated that the governing document would go back to each of the four organizations for their approval.

**Motion passed by a vote of 7-0**

- C. **ORDINANCE NO. 06-2024 AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE PRELIMINARY AND FINAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS FOR DENISON FACULTY & STAFF HOUSING PROJECT, FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 340 NEW BURG STREET GRANVILLE, OHIO**

**Councilmember Keethler Ball introduced Ordinance No. 06-2024 and set the public hearing for April 3<sup>rd</sup>, second by Councilmember Demarest**

**Councilmember Mickelson** asked if Denison had done the tree survey yet for the Village Arborist.

**David English** stated that they had and upon acceptance they started doing some tree clearing.

**7. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes from the Village Council Meeting of March 6, 2024

**Motion by Councilmember Mickelson to approve the minutes, second by Vice Mayor Johnson**

**Motion passed by a vote of 7-0**

**8. MAYOR'S COURT REPORT**

**Motion by Vice Mayor Johnson to approve the Mayor's Court report, second by Councilmember Mickelson**

**Motion passed by a vote of 7-0**

**9. MANAGER'S REPORT**

**Motion by Councilmember Mickelson to approve the Manager's report, second by Councilmember Olbur**

**Motion passed by a vote of 7-0**

**10. COMMITTEE / COMMISSION / BOARD REPORTS**

**Granville Community Foundation (Olbur)** stated that they have started early conversations about the July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration and some new things like a raffle for the community.

**Granville Recreation District (Johnson)** stated that they are finalizing their Concerts on the Green schedule. Spring sports are ramping up, and they have a board meeting tomorrow.

**Planning Commission (Mickelson)** stated that they had a work session, there was a business owner in the Community Service District that came in and talked to the commission about an addition that he wants to do to his realty office that would

provide self-storage, it is not something that is listed in the Service District as a use or a conditional use. Planning Commission felt it was worth while to pursue it.

In the work session they discussed the preliminary and final development plans. One of the comments the commissioners had was that if you were a small business, it would be pretty expensive and tedious to go through the preliminary plan process. They are going to think about whether all of the requirements need to be in there.

They also discussed a small site plan, that would be an acre or less, what would that size of the plot that we would determine would be a small plot not to have to go through this process.

They also discussed Issue 2 but there is still a lot undecided at the state level so it seemed too early to discuss it to them. They would like some more guidance from Council in terms of recreational use versus medical use, and what if somebody wanted to have a home business.

**Mayor Hartfield** stated that she received the resolution from the Village of Hebron that they passed that she would share with her.

**Councilmember Mickelson** stated that if there was anything Council wanted the Planning Commission to consider related to that just share it with her and she'd pass it along.

**Granville Arts Commission (Keethler Ball)** stated that they did a grant for \$1,000 for Concerts on the Green and a small grant for Music as Muse for \$250 which was an Irish music event on Sunday. The Irish event that they held before St. Patrick's Day over one hundred people came, it was funded by the GAC and held at the UCG, it was a success.

**Bryn Du Commission (Demarest)** thanked Council for their continued support of the Bryn Du barn restoration project. The art show continues until the 23<sup>rd</sup> of the month.

**Open Space Committee (Johnson)** stated that they were supposed to have a meeting tomorrow night but they have moved that until next Wednesday, same night as the Trustee meeting.

**Tree & Landscape Commission (Leithauser)** stated that there was a nice presentation by Susan King about the pollinators that they planted in front of the Kinetic building and they want to do more of that. They are going to start at the Aladdin and put some pollinators in there and work towards Thornwood Crossing. They don't know how much it is going to cost yet but Susan is putting a plan together and ask for funding of that project. They are also work on the removal of the invasive species, Bradford Pear trees. Jeremy King found a register of where they were

planted by the Village. There are too many to take care of at once so they are going to do it incrementally. They are going to put yellow tags on them.

Don Hostetter asked that he read this recognition into the minutes of Richard Mortensen:

Tree and Landscape Commission recognizes and appreciates Richard Mortensen for twelve years of service to the Village of Granville. His knowledge of the community, insightful comments and suggestions contributed significantly to our mission. As a colleague he provided interesting approaches to the tasks and decisions of our group and his presence will be missed.

**Union Cemetery (Demarest)** stated that they will be meeting in April and he will have a report for Council.

**Environmental Sustainability Committee (Mickelson)** stated that they had Jay Sell at their meeting, he does the electric aggregation for the Village and Township. The committee is interested in the next for renewal having it be all green energy and have people opt out if you wanted to save a little bit of money, it is only about \$3.00 more a month. There are only two people in the Village doing that because it is such a tedious process to sign up. You can't do it on line, you can't do it through the mail, you have to call in. The website is coming along and we are getting a Denison student to be an intern and once the citizens who are working on that committee gather the information, they will hand it over to the intern to create a Google website. We have two applications open to anyone interested in being on the committee.

## 11. OTHER COUNCIL MATTERS

**Councilmember Mickelson** stated that poisonous hemlock has been spotted down at Wildwood Park

**Councilmember Olbur** asked what the next steps were for the Munson Springs property. I missed the retreat and I am going to meet with Courtney to discuss but just wonder what the next steps are.

**Manager Koehler** stated that the direction that staff believes they got from Council at the retreat was that the work that the Munson Springs Commission did was very good and informative and helped shaped a direction and we are going to take that information and pulse the community one more time to make sure we have it right. We are looking at a couple of different ways to outreach that to get additional community input to bring back to Council then hopefully get direction on one of the courses of action.

**Vice Mayor Johnson** asked if it would be helpful to have a subcommittee of Council join that effort. At some point Council is the one that is going to have to decide what to do with the property even if that is nothing. You don't have to answer now, just think about it and whether that would be helpful to staff.

**Councilmember Demarest** stated that given the recent tornado warning in our area, I had a couple of residents downtown tell me that once the fire station moved to South Main Street, they took the siren with them so in our most decently populated area in the Village there isn't a real good proximity of a tornado siren. He was just mentioned that to see if there was any interest in putting it closer to our more densely populated areas.

**Manager Koehler** stated that they didn't actually take the siren but they took the relay equipment. In that process EMA and our Police Chief did make sure that the coverage was still adequate and comparable.

**Courtney Ruppert** stated that there were two storms back-to-back and during the first storm the siren in town was not working but it has been fixed since then.

**Councilmember Demarest** stated that he believes that was the storm that prompted the call.

**Councilmember Keethler Ball** stated that she recommends people keep a cell phone nearby that notification was a very effective warning.

**Mayor Hartfield** stated that she participated in helping with meals and wheels, it is a really great program. The Licking County Aging Program do this, it is a really well-organized process. She encouraged others to support those programs.

**Councilmember Keethler Ball** stated that she spoke to the postmaster and he shared with her his concerns about how his employees are being treated by some of the Village residents. The negative treatment has also gone to social media. One of the biggest conflicts between residents and the employees was with the passport process. He told her that he was going to try to get more involved with the community to help improve their relationship with the community.

**Mayor Hartfield** stated that he had shared with her also the same concerns and that she was embarrassed for Granville by the way people were behaving and the things people were saying on social media about others.

## 12. OTHER STAFF MATTERS

**Manager Koehler** stated that we will be going through our email transition next week, Keytel our IT provider has stumbled on a glitch with Microsoft, the manner in which

they will be transferring our Gmail accounts into Microsoft accounts. There will probably be a period of time next week that our email system will be interrupted, we won't be able to see them immediately. We will keep you posted if your email will be interrupted longer than an hour.

I had a meeting this week with two property owners that abut to Petunia Park, we included in our paving contract this year Petunia Park as an alternative. The cost of it is fairly reasonable in the big scheme of things, \$65,000, we will pay a portion of that and we hope to work with the property owners to each pay their fair share.

13. **EXECUTIVE SESSION-** Pursuant to O.R.C. 121.22(G) (3) Conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action.

**Motion by Councilmember Mickelson to enter into executive session, second by Vice Mayor Johnson**

**Mayor Hartfield called for a roll call vote. Councilmember Demarest (yes), Councilmember Keethler Ball (yes), Councilmember Leithauser (yes), Councilmember Mickelson (yes), Councilmember Olbur (yes), Vice Mayor Johnson (yes), Mayor Hartfield (yes)**

**Motion passed by a vote of 7-0- 8:24pm**

**Motion by Councilmember Demarest to leave the executive session, second by Vice Mayor Johnson**

Mayor Hartfield called for a roll call vote. Councilmember Keethler Ball (yes), Councilmember Leithauser (yes), Councilmember Mickelson (yes), Councilmember Olbur (yes), Councilmember Demarest (yes), Vice Mayor Johnson (yes), Mayor Hartfield (yes)

**Motion passed by a vote of 7-0 8:45pm**

Pursuant to O.R.C. 121.22(G) (1) To consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee or official, or the investigation of charges or complaints against a public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual, unless the public employee, official, licensee, or regulated individual requests a public hearing. [This executive session is for the approved purpose of considering compensation of public employees]

**Motion by Vice Mayor Johnson to enter into executive session, second by Councilmember Mickelson**



Mayor Hartfield called for a roll call vote. Councilmember Leithouser (yes), Councilmember Mickelson (yes), Councilmember Olbur, Councilmember Demarest (yes), Councilmember Keethler Ball (yes), Vice Mayor Johnson (yes), Mayor Hartfield (yes)

**Motion passed by a vote of 7-0 8:46pm**

**Motion by Councilmember Demarest to leave executive session, second by Vice Mayor Johnson**

Mayor Hartfield called for a roll call vote. Councilmember Mickelson (yes), Councilmember Olbur (yes), Councilmember Demarest (yes), Councilmember Keethler Ball (yes), Vice Mayor Johnson (yes), Mayor Hartfield (yes)

**Motion passed by a vote of 7-0 9:33pm**

**14. ADJOURNMENT-9:33pm**

**Motion by Councilmember Demarest to adjourn, second by Vice Mayor Johnson**

**Motion passed by a vote of 7-0**



Autumn Klein, Clerk of Council



Melissa Hartfield, Mayor