

GRANVILLE VILLAGE COUNCIL

Minutes

April 3, 2024

7:30 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hartfield called the Wednesday, April 3, 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 Demarest

Motion passed by a vote of 7-0

5. CITIZENS COMMENTS

There were no comments from citizens.

6. PUBLIC HEARING

- A. **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**

Mayor Hartfield opened the public hearing at 7:31pm

Jennifer Graham, 111 Chapin Place, stated that her property is directly adjacent to and probably the most exposed to the property where Denison is building the faculty housing. The south side of her property is along the parcel where the proposed pedestrian path is going where the trees have been removed. Her first concern was about the flooding of her property. She asked about Denison's stormwater plan for the development. Her other concern was

regarding the utilities and that the water and sewer lines from the development will connect to the Village's system by way of the lines that are on Chapin Place. She was concerned about that because she had been told that those lines are very old and some of the worst in the Village. She understands that it is very expensive to replace them and that there may not be a plan to do that.

Manager Koehler stated that she was correct those utility lines are some of the Village's oldest infrastructure in terms of water. There have been three water main breaks in your area and because of that we identified some pressure issues so we had that line assessed and it will cost about six million dollars to completely replace all of the lines. There is a plan to do that but it will be done in three phases, and we are seeking funding. We are looking to start phase I this year. Phase I would impact your neighborhood and the school district which would be ahead of any completion of the Denison housing project.

There is a stormwater management plan that was submitted as part of their development package. The retention pond will provide a capability that has never been up there previously.

Jennifer Graham stated that the retention pond is not in line with the substantial flow of the water.

David English, representing Denison, stated that storm retention ponds will be at the north end of the property, and they will be handling a lot of the water. A lot of the water that is flowing down the middle will be hardscaped so we will have to divert that into the retention pond. As we are regrading, we can look to regrade so that water flowing down the site from the south is directed north into the retention pond. I have heard from the engineers that water retention off of the site will be much better than it is.

There were no further comments, Mayor Hartfield closed public comment section 7:48pm

7. OLD BUSINESS

- A. **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 Demarest introduced and made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 06-2024, second by Councilmember Olbur

Mayor Hartfield asked how things were going with the school as far as adjustments being made for the traffic.

Manager Koehler stated that the school has done everything that they are going to do ahead of the roundabout. The idea is to see how the roundabout handles the traffic going into the next school year and then make whatever decision needs to be made on further horizontal construction on the campus. They have gone for about twenty-three minutes of congestion time to under fifteen with the changes that they have made.

Councilmember Keethler Ball stated that neighborhood expectations of communication and the Denison communication didn't match up, I think that it was a missed opportunity. The tree cutting was probably the most difficult for the neighbors to stomach. The neighborhood is losing something while Denison is focused on the project going forward. It is a loss for the neighborhood, and it is a bit of a shock. The tree cutting started at 8:00am and went on for three or four days. The neighborhood went into this pretty supportive of the project, there's no reason why we can't be good neighbors and communication would go a long way.

David English stated that Denison erred in not sending something out when the tree construction was going to start but you should have gotten several more notices since then.

Councilmember Keethler Ball stated that they have not received anything, we get a follow up after but a notice ahead of time would go a long way with the neighbors.

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. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **RESOLUTION NO. 2024-34 A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH THE ANNUAL COMPENSATION ADJUSTMENT FOR NON- BARGAINING EMPLOYEES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024**

Vice Mayor Johnson introduced and made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-34, second by Councilmember Mickelson

Motion passed by a vote of 7-0

- B. **RESOLUTION NO. 2024-35** A RESOLUTION TO APPOINT A MEMBER TO THE GRANVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION

Councilmember Mickelson introduced and made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2024-35, seconded by Vice Mayor Johnson

Cody Swartz introduced himself to Council and thanked them for the opportunity to serve.

Motion passed by a vote of 7-0

- C. **ORDINANCE NO. 07-2024** AN ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT CERTAIN INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE DENISON ADMINISTRATION BUILDING SANITARY SEWER EXTENSION FOR PUBLIC MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION BY THE VILLAGE OF GRANVILLE

Councilmember Keethler Ball introduced Ordinance No. 07-2024 and set the public hearing for April 17, 2024, second by Councilmember Mickelson

9. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the Village Council Meeting of March 20, 2024

Councilmember Mickelson made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Councilmember Olbur

Motion passed by a vote of 7-0

10. COMMITTEE / COMMISSION / BOARD REPORTS

Granville Community Foundation (Olbur) – No Report

Granville Recreation District (Johnson) stated that they are halfway through spring sports and are getting ready to start baseball soon.

Planning Commission (Mickelson) stated that the car wash on Main Street has been getting some updates and the sign was just approved. There were some minor amendments to the Mill District. They are adding a fifth tenant, so they had to get a variance for the extra signage. It doesn't change the footprint, but it does require an extra door on each side.

There was an approval for a one-story addition on North Pearl Street that also received a variance that reduced the setback from ten feet to five feet.

The GCA site improvement was approved conditioned on BZBA approval for conditional use of it to go in there on April 11th. The traffic study still needs to be completed and there was a lot of discussion about the driveway spacing, how the vehicles are going to be stacked and how the buses are going to flow in there.

Granville Arts Commission (Keethler Ball) – No Report

Bryn Du Commission (Demarest) – No Report

Open Space Committee (Johnson) – No Report

Tree & Landscape Commission (Leithauser) stated that they are meeting next Tuesday

Union Cemetery (Demarest) stated that they are trying to find a new individual to head up their headstone restoration work. There was a discussion out there about making water more accessible on volunteer days. They are working to host a group from Westerville that wanted to visit the Old Colony because they are working on restoration of a burial grounds in Westerville. June 8th will be the next volunteer day.

Environmental Sustainability Committee (Mickelson) stated that they are meeting next Tuesday, April 9th at 3:15pm in Council Chambers. We have received five applications for two open positions. One of the Kennedy's working on the website is working with Denison to get an internship to help with their part of the website which will eventually be attached to the Village's website. We have twelve applications from Denison students. It is a great partnership there.

Granville Education Foundation (Leithauser) stated that they added it to their bylaws to include a Councilmember as a member.

Councilmember Keethler Ball asked if he was a voting member.

Councilmember Leithauser stated that he wasn't and that the school board member wasn't either.

Councilmember Keethler Ball asked how that worked that some members of Council are voting members on the boards and commissions they serve, and others aren't.

Mayor Hartfield stated that it all depended on how the governing body had it set up, how they wanted that seat to be a representative on that board or commission.

11. OTHER COUNCIL MATTERS

Mayor Hartfield stated that they are working on designing a working group for Munson Springs. We have a lot of data and need to push it over the finish line. The Law Director is going to help us with the ideas that we have to get a decision from Council.

Councilmember Demarest stated that he remembers four or five years ago that Council used to see all of the applications for appointments that come to Council for approval. He has no doubt that Mr. Swartz is qualified for tonight's appointment to the Planning Commission but more broadly was the procedure ever something that was reduced to writing? And is it the intent moving forward that Council will just get a recommendation from staff versus seeing all the applicants?

Manager Koehler stated that he was pretty sure that it had not been memorialized procedurally but staff certainly can make any modification that Council would want if there is a desire to. In this case we had five applicants, and all were interviewed.

Councilmember Demarest stated that it was helpful to know that there was a vetting process. I was just comparing it to what I previously saw.

Mayor Hartfield stated that this process is helpful because there are a lot of layers and interviews to the process. Council previously looked at the applicants on paper and the first time that we saw the appointee was here at Council. What you brought up is a good point also, I appreciate all the work that goes into this.

12. OTHER STAFF MATTERS

Manager Koehler stated that we are going through an email struggle right now. What we are experiencing is impacted all seven Councilmembers emails. We put on the website, social media and an email to the list of subscribers that Council's emails are not accessible at this time and we will route emails to our clerk and she can disperse it as it comes in. This can hopefully be taken care of within the next two or three days. Your emails will be there it is just a matter of getting you access to them.

Next Wednesday from 11:00am-12:00pm is the ethics training.

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.

Councilmember Demarest made a motion to enter into executive session, second by Councilmember Mickelson

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 8:13pm

Councilmember Demarest made a motion to leave executive session, second by Councilmember Mickelson

Mayor Hartfield called for a roll call vote. Councilmember Leithauser (yes), 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 8:56pm

14. ADJOURNMENT-8:57pm

Councilmember Demarest made a motion to adjourn, second by Vice Mayor Johnson

Motion passed by a vote of 7-0



Autumn Klein, Clerk of Council



Melissa Hartfield, Mayor