

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL
Monday, July 6, 2020 – Immediately Following Caucus (7:00 p.m.)
Videoconferenced in Main Conference Room-Mayfield Village Civic Center
6622 Wilson Mills Road, Mayfield Village, Ohio

This Special Council Meeting was held in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 specific to recent amendments made in light of the current COVID-19 declared emergency (House Bill 197). Under the orders of Governor DeWine and the Director of Health of Ohio, and pursuant to Ordinance 2020-20, adopted March 16, 2020, Council met remotely, via electronic means. No one was in Council Chambers or able to access that space during the meeting. The public was invited to access the meeting through a link posted on the Mayfield Village website.

The public was encouraged to view the agenda and offer any comments or questions prior to the meeting to be read into the record and addressed at the meeting. Comments and questions were accepted until 5:15 p.m. on Monday, July 6, 2020 by sending an e-mail to Mary Betsa, Council Clerk, at mbetsa@mayfieldvillage.com.

Mayfield Village conducted these proceedings in compliance with all applicable State Laws and regulations.

The meeting commenced at 7:30 p.m. immediately following Caucus. This meeting can be accessed by going to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wv5E6r9nlrI>

ROLL CALL: Present: Mrs. Jurchisek, Mr. Marquardt, Mr. Meyers,
Mrs. Mills, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Schutt and Mr. Williams

Also Present: Mayor Bodnar, Mr. Coyne, Mr. Wynne,
and Mr. Metzung

Mrs. Betsa stated, all other Department Heads are viewing this meeting virtually.

Council President Schutt stated, please remain seated as I recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council President Schutt recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

- **Open Portion**

Council President Schutt stated, the public was invited to send their comments to Clerk of Council Mrs. Betsa. From the time of the last Council meeting up until 5:15 p.m. this evening were there any comments sent to you to be read into the record?

Mrs. Betsa replied, yes Council President. The following e-mail was received during the last Council meeting of June 16th:

Valentina Gulyayeva

1414 SOM Center Road, #722
Mayfield Heights, Ohio

Please remove extremely dangerous fencing from the forest across new tennis courts. Please, don't shave grass too short and too often. Let people enjoy some green not yellow grass, not bald spots, and flowers. Please ask movers not to ruin the soil. Please make a middle line on the all-purpose trail. Please force to use muzzles for big and dangerous breeds of dogs. Please, no speedy bikes on all purpose trail. Thanks a lot! Sincerely

Council President Schutt stated, it is my understanding that Mr. Metzung is going to respond to this.

In response, Mr. Metzung stated, yes, thank you, Council President. Valentina is a frequent caller to my department, recreation department and administration. She is a frequent user of our Greenway Trail. She calls repeatedly just to let us know her thoughts on it. She is very impassioned about how she feels. The issue with the fence in the woods is probably older than I am. I am guessing it goes back to the Schultz farm days. We did cut a section of the fence out that was semi near the Greenway Trail but the rest of it is well into the woods leading back towards the freeway area. The other areas that she talks about, I know that the line in the middle of the trail and things of that nature are not something at this moment we are looking to get involved in. She is a frequent caller and like I said she's very impassioned when she does call. We enjoy her coming to use our trail. If there are any questions, I can certainly answer those.

Council President Schutt stated, thank you, Mr. Metzung.

Mrs. Betsa continued, the following e-mails were received after the Council meeting of June 16th:

Patty Gaeta

Realtor, Howard Hanna
6501 Wilson Mills Road

Mrs. Betsa stated, in response to a *nextdoor.com* post requesting that residents voice their comments to me relative to Ordinance 2020-12, Ms. Gaeta e-mailed:

“I would like to voice my opinion on the below matter. I couldn't disagree more and feel that our Mayor is worth a double in salary and more. Please let me know if there's anything I can do to help support this.”

Ms. Gaeta also wrote in a separate e-mail:

Please allow me to present my thoughts as I am an informed citizen and base my “opinions” on facts.

1. It is of importance to attract and retain qualified individuals to lead our community. Although a copy of the proposed ordinance was provided here what is missing is a thorough 16-page supportive document with a detailed description of exactly what our Mayor’s responsibilities include. (Apparently this was a memo from the Mayor to the city council members) which I accessed on our City website and will provide a link for your convenience here
https://www.mayfieldvillage.com/includes/uploads/pages/Agendas/2020Agendas/Council2020/Council_615/Ord2020-12rev2.pdf
(Angela Sebesy and Jennifer Newton-Smith might also find it very informative)
2. If you review the information on the link there is also a comparison study from the law director to counsel which I found very informative.
3. The last item is the proposed legislation. Bottom line is I do not need to be told how I should think about pending legislation by anyone else. I think an argument can be made that this proposed legislation is absolutely necessary. The Mayor’s current salary should be an embarrassment to the community. Any claims that the Village is being less than fiscally responsible are also highly questionable considering the City fund balance at the end of last year was in excess of \$24 million dollars. I would like to thank the Mayor, Council, Department Heads and staff who all work together to make our community successful.

Derek McDowell
6543 Highland Rd

I would hope that you do not pass the proposed ordinance numbered 2020-12.

Firstly, moving this forward at this time would be insensitive as the country is facing depression level unemployment.

Furthermore, there is an argument that can be made that if workers are no longer working in a municipality that they should not be required to pay municipal income tax. Given that Progressive will be "work from home" until, at the earliest, September, and there are rumors circulating that indicate work from home will continue until a vaccine is available, what fiscal state would Mayfield be in should a repeal to the municipal tax-withholding provision occur and Mayfield can no longer collect those income tax revenues?

In addition, if the Mayor were a full-time position, it would be logical for a salary increase of this size as well as benefits, however, our Mayor is not full time.

I'd also request more information on the salary comparison used to determine appropriate salary. Conveniently missing from the Mayors spreadsheet were other small sized communities -- Hunting Valley, Bentleyville, South Russell, These smaller communities are three out of nine communities under 7000 residents in the 2015 article, I'm not sure it's fair to compare salaries of other regional Mayors by excluding just shy of one fifth of other small municipalities if you include the smaller municipalities from the updated spreadsheet. From the 2015 article referenced, all of the mayors in these municipalities had salaries less than Mayfield Villages' mayoral salary. Why were these communities excluded from the updated spreadsheet used when comparing regional, similarly sized municipalities?

Also omitted, what would be the cost of benefits? What would be the total cost of benefits including salary? How can we consider a measure to move forward with incomplete information?

Finally, and my opinion, if the Mayor were not happy with the salary and benefits in her last term, she should not have willingly sought reelection.

Thank you for your consideration,

Vetus Syracuse

6798 Bramblewood Lane

I am in favor of the ordinance which would increase the salary for the Mayor and Council Members, and add health insurance to the Mayor's package.

Sandra Skoda

6756 Bonnieview

The Mayor deserves every and anything she asks for. She works hard, saves us money and should have benefits.

Sandy Koren

Owner, Mans Hair Etc

6571 Wilson Mills Road

It has come to my attention that the total compensation package for the position of Mayfield Village Mayor is inadequate compared to the job responsibilities and to the compensation of other Mayors in our area.

As a long-time Mayfield Village business owner and a Village resident, I ask that you give the voters in the Village an opportunity to correct this inequity.

It is in the best interest of the businesses in the Village and the residents to have a well-qualified Mayor making sure all goes smoothly here.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to seeing this matter on the November ballot.

Jean Triner

Triner Associates, Inc.

829 Hanover Road

As a resident and business owner in Mayfield Village, it is vitally important to me to have a highly competent mayor at the helm.

In order to attract and retain the caliber of individual needed, we must offer a reasonable compensation package. My understanding is the current pay structure for the position of Mayfield Village's Mayor is very inequitable relative to mayors of neighboring municipalities. When you factor in the size of Mayfield Village's budget that the Mayor manages, that makes the inequity even more dramatic.

Also, I understand the Mayor currently is not eligible for benefits. When you look at the job description for the position, correction of the total compensation package for the Mayfield Village Mayor is long overdue.

Another indicator of the Mayoral compensation inequity is the comparison to the compensation of the Village's directors. Although I do not know the actual numbers, my guess is some of the directors currently receive about five times the compensation of the Mayor who has managerial responsibility for them.

Finally, I understand that the Village's Mayor may serve in the Safety Director's role, as is the case currently. In other municipalities, the Mayors who have this dual responsibility receive additional compensation.

Thus, as a 30-year resident and an almost 20-year business owner, I'd urge the Council to provide the electorate with the opportunity to vote on this matter so this situation can at last be corrected.

Thank you for your consideration.

Dona Kless

6660 Thornapple Drive

Lorry Nadeau

678 Robley Lane

During meetings of the Charter Review Committee, we became aware that during the last 20 years when the Village experienced so much growth of income, infrastructure and management responsibilities, the compensation for our mayor and council were not adjusted to fairly compensate for the added time and knowledge required to meet their responsibilities. The 2015 Charter Review Committee recommended, altered the charter language, and submitted to Council and the residents an increase in the compensation for mayor and council. This change and increase were accepted by the voters in 2015. While the 2020 Charter Review Committee was discussing this particular charter amendment, Article III, Section 6, we reviewed the charter language of over 50 surrounding municipalities and discovered none of them spelled out specific monetary compensation for mayor and council. Also, our Mayfield Village Charter, Article III, Section 6, states: *‘The Council shall have the power to fix all compensation paid by the Municipality and the salary of its own members except as otherwise provided in this Charter’*; and of course, subject to the approval of the voters. Our Committee determined that the 2015 revision including detailed monetary compensation needed a revision more in line with the original intention of our charter and the surrounding municipality charters.

An assessment of compensation in comparable surrounding communities revealed that our public servants are significantly lower paid than their peers. This is especially true when considering the knowledge and experience required to maintain the character of our small village while meeting the needs of a diverse and large business environment.

Passage of Ordinance No. 2020-12 is an important step in correcting this issue. As members of the 2020 Charter Review Committee, we fully support its passage.

- **Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2020-12**, entitled, “An ordinance amending the compensation of the Mayor, President of Council and Members of Council.” Introduced by Council President Schutt, Council President Pro Tem Meyers, Councilman Williams, Councilwoman Jurcisek and Councilman Murphy. (Administration) (First Reading – June 15, 2020)

Council President Schutt asked, are there any questions?

There were none.

Council President Schutt stated, Ordinance No. 2020-12 will move to Third Read for the Regular Meeting of Council on July 20th.

- **Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2020-13**, entitled, “An ordinance proposing an amendment to Article III, Section 6, relative to the compensation of the Mayor and Members of Council.” Introduced by Mayor Bodnar. (Administration) (First Reading – June 15, 2020)

Council President Schutt asked, are there any questions?

There were none.

Council President Schutt stated, Ordinance No. 2020-13 will move to Third Read for the Regular Meeting of Council on July 20th.

- **Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2020-14**, entitled, “An ordinance proposing an amendment to Article V, Section 6(E), of the Charter of Mayfield Village to allow competition for the appointment to the position of Chief within the Police and Fire Departments and Assistant Chief of Fire within the Fire Department to include individuals outside of the department should there be two or less qualified interested individuals from the supervisory lower ranks.” Introduced by Mayor Bodnar. (Administration) (First Reading – June 15, 2020)

Council President Schutt asked, are there any questions?

There were none.

Council President Schutt stated, Ordinance No. 2020-14 will move to Third Read for the Regular Meeting of Council on July 20th.

- **Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2020-15**, entitled, “An ordinance proposing an amendment to Article V, Section 12, to substitute the term “Board of Zoning Appeals” for “Board of Appeals”, “Board” and “BZA” in this section and throughout the Charter where applicable.” Introduced by Mayor Bodnar. (Administration) (First Reading – June 15, 2020)

Council President Schutt asked, are there any questions?

There were none.

Council President Schutt stated, Ordinance No. 2020-15 will move to Third Read for the Regular Meeting of Council on July 20th.

- **Second Reading of Ordinance No. 2020-16**, entitled, “An ordinance proposing an amendment to Article IV, Section 4 and Article V, Section 5, of the Charter of Mayfield Village, so as to provide gender neutral language.” Introduced by Mayor Bodnar. (Administration) (First Reading – June 15, 2020)

Council President Schutt asked, are there any questions?

There were none.

Council President Schutt stated, Ordinance No. 2020-16 will move to Third Read for the Regular Meeting of Council on July 20th.

Council President Schutt asked, are there any other questions? The next meeting of Council is scheduled for Monday, July 20th. At this time, we are unsure whether the meeting will be live or videoconferenced. Stay tuned for more information from Governor DeWine. The website will be updated as soon as a determination has been made.

- **Adjournment**

Mrs. Mills, seconded by Mr. Marquardt, made a motion to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m. The next Council meeting is scheduled for Monday July 20, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

STEPHEN SCHUTT, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

BRENDA T. BODNAR, MAYOR

MARY E. BETSA, CLERK OF COUNCIL