



Village of Commercial Point
Committee of the Whole Meeting
August 16, 2021

Mr. Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Administrative Assistant Baldwin took roll call with the following members present: Mr. Thompson, Ms. Wolfe, Ms. Geiger, Ms. Joiner and Mr. Mitchem. Mr. Grassel was not present.

Parks & Recreation Committee

Ms. Geiger provided updates of their meeting with M/I Homes. Ms. Joiner presented a PowerPoint presentation to show the updates and vision of the Parks & Recreation Committee. The primary focus will start with walk paths to connect all developments to the village. Ms. Joiner explained what they would like to see in the parks including equipment along the walk path for small workouts and a rental shelter house. They stated that this vision is a 3 to 5 year process.

Police Department

Chief Jordan distributed a packet of information that Council asked him to put together at the previous meeting. The packet contained an evaluation of staff, levels, pay structures and possible re-structuring of the Department to meet Council's expectations. Council had a lengthy discussion about pay ranges and the number of positions needed. Ms. Geiger asked Mayor Goldhardt his thoughts as he is over the Police Department. Mayor Goldhardt said he feels a 10-man fulltime Police Department should be a long-term goal for the Village, not something that we need immediately. He said that the Council was incorrect when it was stated that the RITA Income Tax was started as a way to fund the Police Department. He informed Council that the income tax was started as a secure way to fund the operations of the entire village, not just the Police Department. When started, the Police Department consumed approximately 25% of the monies generated by RITA. Over the past few years, Council decided that they wanted a full-time Police Department with 24 hours a day / 7 days a week coverage. Unfortunately, to fund this type of operation, it has taken around 70 to 80% of the income tax that is collected. He noted that in the Chief's presentation of surrounding wages, some of the wages listed are from Franklin County and other cities, not villages. He also noted that some of the departments listed are unionized. Because of that, their employee wages are higher than ours. However, this is what we are competing against when trying to hire new officers. Mayor Goldhardt was asked to prepare a visual on the new pay structure that Council suggested for the Police Department. Council agreed to add one fulltime position immediately. There will be a Special meeting on Monday August 23rd, 2021 at 7:00 pm. The Solicitor is to prepare legislation for that meeting.


Residential Annexation

Mayor Goldhardt said he would like a definite answer from council on how to respond to the requests the Village has been receiving for residential annexations. He said we are receiving several requests from developers. Mr. Thompson feels everyone should be heard. Ms. Geiger and Ms. Wolfe feel we need to pause it until we catch up and we need to consider the school situation as well. Ms. Joiner said if we are telling them it is first come, first serve and be upfront about what we can support, then there is no harm. Council agreed to listen to the developers, so long as they are aware of the services we can and cannot provide.

New Business

There was no new business brought forward at this time.

A motion was made to adjourn by Mr. Thompson and seconded by Ms. Joiner. All members present were in favor, the motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.


Jason Thompson, President Pro Tempe


Wendy Hastings, Fiscal Officer