

**Special Village Council Meeting & Workshop**  
Community Room, Fieldhouse  
Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 7:00

**Call the meeting to order at 7:10pm**

**Roll Call: Penny Fessler, Paul King, Tony Midlam, Russell Landwehr, Teri Stivers, absent Crystal Stoner**

**Others present: Tony Hampton, Kim Landwehr, John Carroll, Nathan Knosterman and child**

**Discussion on Appropriations**

The discussion began with the topic of permanent appropriations. noted the urgency of passing the appropriations ordinance to allow for the payment of outstanding bills. A question was raised about the process for amending appropriations during the fiscal year. clarified that appropriations can be increased or decreased at any time through a resolution. Past examples of such amendments were cited, including adjustments for the sheriff's contract and the purchase of a water Jetter.

reported having conducted a detailed analysis of the budget file to compare actual spending against past and current appropriations. It was noted that while the overall numbers are similar to the previous year, funds are distributed differently, largely to account for upcoming projects such as the work on Williams Street. The ongoing project for the firehouse roof was also mentioned, with clarification that half the work is complete and the second half is scheduled for May.

**Motion:** Made by Teri, seconded by Paul, to **waive the three reading rules for the appropriations ordinance.**

The motion passed.

**Motion:** Made by Teri, seconded by Paul, to **adopt Ordinance 1170 as an emergency.** It was clarified that the ordinance would be adopted as an emergency. The motion passed.

**Executive Session Discussion**

A discussion was held regarding a planned executive session to discuss land purchase. It was determined that the executive session could not proceed because it had not been properly published to the public via Facebook or other official channels, as required. The group agreed that the topic was not urgent and could be addressed at a subsequent, properly noticed meeting. The special council meeting then proceeded to adjournment.

**Motion:** Made by Penny, seconded by Teri, to **adjourn the special meeting.** The motion passed. The special meeting was adjourned at 7:18 PM.

## **Workshop: Tri-City USA Awards Program**

announced the upcoming Tri-City USA awards program luncheon in Forest Park, Ohio, near Cincinnati. The event is scheduled for Thursday, April 23rd, and costs \$25 per person, which will be covered by the council. The RSVP deadline is March 27th. stated they would send out an email with the details.

## **Workshop: Proposed Zoning Code for Annexed Property**

The main workshop topic was a detailed review of proposed zoning code changes, primarily for a new default zoning district for annexed property.

The discussion began with the naming convention for the new, most restrictive zoning district. To avoid public confusion that would result from renumbering all existing zones (e.g., changing R-1 to R-2), the group considered creating a new designation such as R-1-A or R-0. This would preserve the existing R-1, R-2, etc., designations for current properties.

A proposal was made to update notification requirements in sections 1000.09 and 1000.10. The change would mandate digital notifications on village-managed websites or social media platforms in addition to traditional newspaper notices, reflecting modern communication methods. mentioned having recently attended a seminar that provided standardized language for such digital notifications and agreed to share it.

A significant portion of the discussion focused on conditional permitted uses under section 1200.04 for the new district.

- **Daycare Facilities:** There was strong consensus against striking this use from the code. The group favored allowing residential, in-home daycares as a conditional use. This was seen to support families moving into the area without permitting large, commercial "brick-and-mortar" daycare centers in a residential neighborhood. The conditional use permit would allow the village to review applications on a case-by-case basis.
- **Religious and Educational Institutions:** Members were generally agreeable to striking these uses from this specific zone, as they are permitted in other districts like S1. It was clarified that this would not prohibit informal home gatherings or fellowships.
- **Bed & Breakfast Establishments:** The group agreed to maintain the restriction, disallowing this use.

The council then reviewed additional development standards and restrictions.

- **Accessory Structures (1200.13 D):** The proposed size limit of 192 square feet for an accessory structure was deemed too small for the planned half-acre lots. A new proposal was made to permit **one accessory structure to be up to 650 square feet**. This figure was based on a calculation for a standard two-car garage (approximately 24 by 26 feet). The requirement for siding and trim to "match" the primary structure was debated, with suggestions to use more flexible wording like "coordinating" or to allow for a variance process.

- **Recreational and Commercial Vehicles (1200.14):** There was strong opposition to the proposed complete ban on storing recreational vehicles (RVs) and commercial vehicles outdoors. Members argued that this was too restrictive for a working-class community and for families who would likely own such vehicles. The consensus was to remove the outright ban and instead develop reasonable standards for how and where these vehicles could be stored (e.g., on a paved or gravel pad, behind the front façade of the house). The definition of "commercial vehicle" was also discussed, with a desire to permit work trucks while restricting larger vehicles like semi-tractors.
- **Swimming Pools (1200.14 C):** The proposal to require in-ground pools and prohibit above-ground pools was rejected. It was noted that existing village ordinances already address pool safety, including fencing and ladder removal, and that homeowners should have the choice.

The workshop concluded with an agreement that the feedback gathered would be taken back to the zoning committee for revision.

**Motion to adjourn, Paul, seconded by Tony.**

**Paul-yea, Tony-yea, Terri-yea, Penn-yea, Russell-yea**

**Adjournment at 9:32**

**The next meeting date will be March 10th, 2026, at Fieldhouse**