



RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the Silverton Village Council Meeting
Held Thursday, February 2, 2023

The Council of the Village of Silverton convened in regular session in Council Chambers at 6943 Montgomery Road at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 2, 2023. Mayor Smith called the meeting to order.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Smith led a moment of prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Elected Officials:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| • John Smith, Mayor | Present |
| • Britt Born, Council | Present |
| • Shirley Hackett-Austin, Council | Present |
| • Mark Quarry, Council | Present |
| • Idella Thompson, Council | Absent |
| • Dottie Williams, Council | Present |
| • Franklin Wilson, Council | Present |

Mr. Wilson motioned to excuse Mrs. Thompson. Mr. Quarry seconded the motion. Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Also present:

- Jack Cameron, Village Manager
- Meredith George, Village Clerk
- Bryan Pacheco, Village Solicitor

PUBLIC HEARING – DORA APPLICATION

Mr. Cameron reviewed the DORA application and the approval process, which includes a public hearing.

At 7:02 p.m., Mr. Quarry motioned to open the public hearing. Mr. Wilson seconded the motion. Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Eric Weinberg – 4220 South Avenue

Mr. Weinberg asked if the DORA areas are common and asked if there are increased safety risks in the DORA districts.

Silverton Resident (name not given)

The resident stated she is a health care professional and voiced concerns about an increase in sexual assaults in DORA districts. The resident advocated for violence protection measures and a safety plan to prevent sexual assault instances.

Brittany – Women Helping Women representative

Brittany stated Women Helping Women offers resources for women to help prevent violence against women, as well as services for women who are victims of violence. These resources are available by contacting Women Helping Women at 513-381-5610.

Nolan Jason – 6300 Elwynne Drive

Mr. Jason asked if there would be extra police patrol during DORA hours.

Kathy Butts – Italianette Pizza & The Big Dipper

Mrs. Butts asked what the boundaries of the proposed DORA are.

Megan – Section Road resident

Megan stated she has seen DORA districts have great success in other communities and thinks this is a great opportunity for Silverton.

At 7:10 p.m., Mr. Quarry motioned to close the public hearing and was seconded by Ms. Born.

Mr. Cameron addressed Council and the audience explaining the DORA application is available on the Village website. The public hearing is part of the state approval process.

Mr. Cameron reviewed the boundaries, explaining they will encompass the Plainfield Road corridor and the downtown business area. Signage will be in place indicating if you are entering or exiting the DORA.

To participate, vendors must purchase cups from the Village. There is no requirement to participate. The cups are generally disposable.

The Village has been working with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office to discuss any safety concerns.

The Village will install additional trash receptacles and the Public Works department will maintain them.

The purpose of the DORA is to draw more activity to our downtown and increase business in the area. The Village will monitor the DORA and modify it as it develops, if changes are needed. The goal, which was established by the comprehensive plan, is to enhance street level activity on Plainfield Road.

Legislation to approve the DORA will be up for Council's consideration on the March 2 agenda.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS AND GUESTS:

Mayor Smith told everyone to save the date for the annual Mayor's Community Brunch, which will be held at Benken's Florist on Saturday, March 25 at 10:00 a.m. RSVP's will be required. Make your reservation by calling Ms. George at 513-792-6561.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL:

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Adam Doan – 4200 South Avenue

Mr. Doan reiterated his position on the benefits of allowing residents to have backyard chickens in Silverton. Mr. Doan cited the proposed regulations and feels they are a good compromise for Village residents.

Kay Briggs – 3917 Cedarwood Place

Ms. Briggs stated she is not in favor of residents being allowed to have chickens, as they are noisy, require a lot of work to care for, unkempt, and attract predators.

Tim Hale – Silverton resident

Mr. Hale stated he was in favor of allowing residents to have backyard chickens.

Rob Goeller – 4206 Sibley Avenue

Mr. Goeller voiced his support in the zoning change that would allow backyard chickens.

Silverton resident – North Avenue

A resident from North Avenue spoke in favor of allowing residents to have chickens as pets. The resident stated chickens are no different than dogs or cats, and often times residents do not clean up after them. The resident stated that chickens can be as much a part of a person's life as a cat or dog.

Laura Walsh – 4300 Sibley

Ms. Walsh voiced her support of the zoning change that would allow residents to have chickens.

Eric Weinberg – 4220 South

Mr. Weinberg voiced his support in the zoning change that would allow backyard chickens.

Ben Everingham – 4140 Sibley

Mr. Everingham voiced his support in the zoning change that would allow backyard chickens.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mr. Wilson motioned to approve the minutes from the January 19, 2023 Council Meeting. Ms. Born seconded the motion. Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

COUNCIL COMMENTS AND REPORTS:

1. **COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- a. Lt. Naber reported District 4 is hosting a drug take-back day on Saturday, February 25 in conjunction with the Ohio Attorney General's Office. The event will be held at Silverton Town Hall from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- b. Mr. Quarry reported he recently attended at working session for the Hamilton County Storm Water district.
- c. Ms. Born reported the Fire District recently purchased a new truck, replacing the one that was in disrepair. The next board meeting is

on Tuesday, February 21 at 4:30 p.m. A new board will be elected at the meeting.

Ms. Born reported the next Block Watch meeting is February 13 at 7:00 p.m. at the Fireman's Lodge.

The Color Fun Run, in conjunction with Silverton Elementary, will be held on Saturday, May 20.

2. VILLAGE MANAGER REPORT:

- a. The Mayor's Community Brunch is scheduled for Saturday, March 25 at 10:00 a.m. The event will be held at Benken's Florist and will be catered by Raffel's Catering. RSVP's will be required.
- b. The Color Fun Run is scheduled for May 20 from 12 – 4 p.m. The Taste of Silverton is set for June 10. We are hoping to move the event more into the street to create more of a street fest atmosphere. The Fall Fun Fest is set for Saturday, October 7.
- c. The New Model Group will meet with Silverton on January 27 to review the progress of the project. More discussion with Council will take place at a future meeting.
- d. The plans for AG47 Phase II are in process.
- e. The BMW Store is still in the process of their due diligence for buying the adjacent property at 5965 Stewart Road.
- f. There is no new information on the Metro Access Site project.
- g. We are still waiting on plans from GCWW for the Plainfield Road project. Neighboring communities are having the same issue.
- h. The electric aggregation rate will change in May, and will be higher than the current rate. The rate will change from 5 cents/kWh to approximately 8 cents/kWh. Energy Harbor will continue to be the provider, as they are offering the best rate. The aggregation rate is still cheaper than the Duke Energy rate which is about 10 cents/kWh. Opt-out letters will be sent to all residents.

READING OF NEW AND OR PENDING LEGISLATION:

Mr. Quarry motioned to take from the table Ordinance 23-3700 Ordinance Establishing §153.309 Supplementing the Silverton Zoning Code to Allow Chickens for Personal or Household Use in the R-1 Single Family Home and R-2 Multi-Family Home Residential Districts. Ms. Born seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mrs. Hackett-Austin – nay, Mr. Wilson – nay, Mr. Quarry – aye, Mrs. Williams – aye, Ms. Born – aye. Motion carried 3-2.

Ms. George gave the second reading of Ordinance 23-3700 Ordinance Establishing §153.309 Supplementing the Silverton Zoning Code to Allow Chickens for Personal or Household Use in the R-1 Single Family Home and R-2 Multi-Family Home Residential Districts. Mr. Quarry motioned for passage. Ms. Born seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mrs. Hackett-Austin – nay, Mr. Wilson – nay, Mr. Quarry – aye, Mrs. Williams – aye, Ms. Born – aye. Motion carried 3-2.

Ms. George gave the reading of Resolution 23-870 Resolution Designating Huntington National Bank as Depository for Public Funds as Defined in Section 135.31 of the Ohio Revised Code for the Village of Silverton. Mrs. Williams motioned for passage and was seconded by Mr. Quarry. A roll call vote was taken. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

SILVERTON TOWN COMMONS DISCUSSION:

Mr. Cameron reviewed the Silverton Town Commons project and the two grants the Village has received for the project. The \$90,000 grant was awarded from a fund that is used for arts and education. The Village requested the grant money be moved so that it may be used for parks and recreation. This request has been denied by the State. Therefore, the project must include an art or education element.

Mr. Cameron presented council with the project layout in its current form, and a very rough sketch of a revised layout, eliminating the ping pong table and cornhole boards, and adding a small stage. Mr. Cameron added he thinks the number of plantings needs to be reduced and fencing added. Additionally, there is no lighting included and Mr. Cameron feels that lighting is a necessary. The original design included part hard surface and part turf. Mr. Cameron feels the entire area should have the turf. Mr. Cameron asked for feedback from Council on the change in direction for the project. Ms. Born added she would like to see more seating other than a few benches. Mr. Quarry asked about vegetation on the revised drawing. Mr. Cameron stated the new drawing includes some trees along the perimeter, but that is up for discussion. Mrs. Hackett-Austin stated she would

like the space to be kid-friendly. Mr. Cameron added the turf helps accomplish that goal.

In summary, Council was in agreement with revising the project so that it meets the standards for both grants. More information will be presented to Council as the project proceeds.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mrs. Williams moved for adjournment and was seconded by Mr. Quarry. Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Meredith L. George
Clerk of Council

John A. Smith
Mayor