



TIMBERLAKE TIMES

73rd Year || 305th Issue || February 2020

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The *Timberlake Times* is a monthly publication staffed by volunteer villagers and sponsored by the Village of Timberlake. Please contact the editor with article submissions (*electronic submissions are preferable*).

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www.facebook.com/TimberlakeVillageClub

Follow the Village Club on Facebook to stay informed of current Village Club events, photos, and videos! We actively update it with announcements and reminders!

Announcements

DATE	EVENT	TIME (LOCATION)
TUES, FEB 11	Village Club Meeting	7:00pm (Village Hall)
FRI, FEB 14	Valentine's Day	
MON, FEB 17	President's Day	
TUES, FEB 18	Timberlake Council Meeting	7:30pm (Village Hall)
MON, FEB 24	Deadline for Times submission	5pm

Village Directory

The Village Club is in the final stages of assembling a directory. If you gave us your contact info on Election Day, thank you!! If you did not and are interested in participating, please provide us with: name(s), emails, address, phone number(s). If you would like to opt out of the directory, please let us know.

Are you a resident who is interested in advertising your business? If so, please contact Krista: kristakanuch76@gmail.com. Prices are as follows: \$100 - full page ad, \$50 - half page, \$25 - quarter page, \$20 - business card.

Information can be emailed to kristakanuch76@gmail.com. Deadline to submit your advertisement is February 15!

Garden Club

Do you have a green thumb (or an interest to help out) and wish to volunteer your time to beautify the village? We are looking to gauge interest in re-starting the Timberlake Garden Club with the hopes of recruiting volunteers to plant and maintain the beds at the Village Hall and any other areas within the Village that the club would like to take on.

Interested? Please reach out to Jody at 330-208-7370.

Recycling Dates

2/14, 2/28, 3/13, 3/27, 4/10, 4/24

**Village of Timberlake
2020
Contact Information**

**John Marra
Mayor**

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440-253-9480

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**Joanne Clapp
Fiscal Officer**

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**Stephen Tryon
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stryontpd@gmail.com
440-497-0772

Members of Council

Vince Cronin - Council President

(Street, Service and Trees)
Vcronin@villageoftimberlake.com
440-497-0199

Sherri Falkenberg

(Village Hall)
Sherrifalkenbergoftimberlake@gmail.com
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Nancy Marra

(Safety)
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Ritu Sharma

(Grants)
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Shannon Sharma

(Sanitary/Storm Sewers)
shannonsharmaoftimberlake@gmail.com
216-526-3976

Vacant

(Finance, Public Records, Record Retention)

Timberlake Village Club

2020 EVENTS CALENDAR

March 14: 6-8pm

Paint & Wine Night

April 11: 10am

Easter Egg Hunt

April 25: 9:30am

Beach Clean-up

June 6: 5:45am

Sunrise Yoga

June 12: 7pm

Beach Bonfire

July 17: 6:30pm

Beach Night

July 18: 9:30am

Beach Clean-up

August 2: 1pm

Family Day Picnic

Sept. 12: 9:30am

Beach Clean-up

Sept. 27: Noon

**Browns Tailgate/
Chilli cookoff**

October 10: 2pm

Fall Fest

Nov. 3: 7am-6pm

Election Day Bake Sale

Nov 28: 10am

Decorate the Village

Dec. 5: 6pm

Christmas Party

THE VILLAGE OF TIMBERLAKE: NOV/DEC 2019 & JANUARY 2020 MINUTES

Mike Stanton, Mayor

JoAnne Clapp, Fiscal Officer

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Linda Murphy **Vince Cronin**

Jodie Marsh-Coleman

Elizabeth Laub **Ritu Sharma**

Shannon Sharma

TIMBERLAKE COUNCIL MEETING

November 19th, 2019

The Mayor opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance followed by the public portion at 7:30 PM. He asked for roll call of the officers. All council members were present, except for Dr. Sharma, who was excused. The Fiscal Officer, JoAnne Clapp, and the Solicitor, Mr. Richards, were present, as well.

Ms. Laub made a motion to proceed to executive session to discuss financial changes and employment for the upcoming year at 7:33 PM. Ms. Sharma seconded this motion.

Motion: Laub

Seconded: S. Sharma

All were in favor; Motion approved.

Ms. Laub made a motion to proceed to regular council at 8:02 PM. Ms. Sharma seconded this motion.

Motion: Laub

Seconded: S. Sharma

All were in favor; Motion approved.

The Mayor congratulated all of the newly elected officials. He stated that the renewals all passed, and the new levy did not. This will be a financial challenge, but the Council will work accordingly with the new budgetary restraints. The Mayor met with auditors and spent hours going through the financial books from 2017-2018. They saw nothing that showed malicious or illegal intent during the audit. The auditor found \$139,000 that was not posted into the system, showcasing less money than

what was actually there. 2017 is completed and 2018 will be completed. Residents can request copies of this. The Mayor states this experience was eye-opening. There were 25-30 checks made to the Village that was uncashed and will be accounted for now. The Village Club will have the Annual Christmas Party on December 7th. It will be at the Village Hall. The ticket covers the catered meal and the entertainment. He encourages anyone interested to get tickets through the Village Club.

The Mayor asked for a motion to approve October 15th Council Minutes.

Motion to approve: Laub

Seconded: Murphy

Ayes: Murphy, Cronin, Marsh-Coleman, Laub, and S. Sharma

Nays: None

Motion carried; Minutes approved.

PUBLIC PORTION

Please refer to the comments below:

- Dear Chief, in regard to March 19th meeting discussion of the traffic hazards in Timberlake: This topic has been presented multiple times in the past years and it is obviously still a problem. It has been suggested that the speed limit be dropped to 15mph, but the PD previously said we can't do that. It was also suggested that we have stop signs in the East Shore Blvd intersection to slow down traffic and we were told that they can't do that. The police have responded saying the average speed is 23mph; our concern is those people who are doing much more than 23mph for the safety of the Village. Do you have any solutions? The county engineers review the signs; it is not something the police department can install without approval. They can also not change the speed limit as it state-mandated.
- What is the interpretation of the ruling in term of using beaches and waters of Timberlake? Is it open to all residents? A copy of the ruling will be posted on the

website and Timberlake Times. The residents can interpret it accordingly.

- What is going on with the Ciro's payment? The Mayor is drafting the letter and in the process of recouping the funds.
- Why are we not interviewing for maintenance inspector?
- What is the last day of leaf pickup? The day after Thanksgiving.
- What is going on to recoup the money for police child support? There is a conference call tomorrow with the representative from Cuyahoga County and both parties that are involved are aware they must pay this back.
- Since the Village is interviewing employees for service, why are we not interviewing for the A resident said that December 11th or 12th will be for leaf pick-up. The Mayor will follow up and add something on the new website and will try to get it into the Timberlake Times.

TREES & RECREATION

Ms. Clapp asked for a motion to approve payment for the street sweeper at \$1900.

Motion: Laub

Seconded: Murphy

All were in favor; Motion approved.

SAFETY

The Chief presented the police report for last month. There were 40 calls for service. There were 15 traffic stops, 6 traffic citations, and 2 parking citations. There were 22 house checks and 25 park/beach checks. There was a total of 112 total logged activities. The Chief gave a special thank you to Lieutenant Santangelo, Patrolman Tromboli, and Patrolman Ricci for volunteering their time during trick or treat on Halloween and assisting the police department in patrolling the Village and passing out treats

VILLAGE HALL

Ms. Murphy stated a new service member for the hall will be hired. There have been three applicants that were reviewed. The Hall continues to fill up and we have dates extending into later this year.

Ms. Murphy asked about the interviewing process. The Mayor stated that until one is officially sworn in, they cannot have a background check. This will need to be reviewed.

SEWERS

Ms. Sharma said thank you to Ms. Laub for her help with cleaning the sewers. Lake County did clean the sewers but are not able to jet; this will need to be done next year. A representative from Lake County will come and review the sanitation in the Village. There have been no complaints about winter sewer issues this month. A representative will be coming to repair the catch basin on Shawondasse; quotes for repair are currently being reviewed. In regard to the Ciro's letter, the Mayor is still working on it.

Ms. Clapp reminded council that before they enter into contract, they must review Findings of Recovery under the state auditor's website to see if the business is on there.

SERVICE

Ms. Laub said that the Service Department has been diligently working to fix different facets of the department. They purchased a leaf catcher and waiting for the leaves to be dry, so they can be picked up. It has been working well. Budget wise, the leaf catcher takes 1/4th the time, so the Village will save on labor. The dump truck is ready, thanks to Bob Smith and ran beautifully. The guardrail on Lakeshore has been repaired. The salt shed is being serviced and the hole in the roof is being fixed. The interior walls have been replaced, as well. Ms. Laub did notice there was a water leak through the roof, which will need to be reviewed. Service assisted Lake County with the cleaning of catch basins, which totaled \$110 compared to the \$10,000 from Ciro's. This will be continuous through Lake County and must be scheduled in March. One service person did leave recently for a full-time job; a candidate has been identified to replace him. The Mayor clarified that all employees and interviewees must have a background check. Service will work with Village Club to set up the luminaries; this will

occur on December 21st at 10 AM. Service will make sand available for residents, as well.

Ms. Laub presented Mr. Kenneth Raftery as the tentative hire for service department pending the background check.

Motion: Laub

Seconded: S. Sharma

All were in favor; Motion approved.

FINANCE

Ms. Clapp presented Resolution 2019-55, approving and directing payment of recurring bills by the Village and declaring an emergency.

Motion to suspend the rules: S. Sharma

Seconded: Laub

Motion to approve Resolution 2019-55: S. Sharma

Seconded: Murphy

All were in favor of the Resolution; Motion approved.

Ms. Clapp presented Resolution 2019-56, authorizing the Fiscal Officer to transfer seventy thousand dollars and ninety five cents from the general fund to the sanitary sewer debt service fund fourteen thousand one hundred seventy three dollars and ninety cents; paving improvement debt fund forty eight thousand, nine hundred seventy seven dollars and twenty nine cents; police cruiser debt fund six thousand eight hundred forty nine dollars and seventy six cents for year 2019 and declaring an emergency. In setting up the UAN system, there was a special fund for debt that was created so it can be followed by council and by residents. By moving money from one fund to the debt fund, it will allow Ms. Clapp to pay the debt. The year-end report will have the debt figures, as well.

Motion to suspend the rules: S. Sharma

Seconded: Cronin

Motion to approve Resolution 2019-56: S. Sharma

Seconded: Laub

All were in favor of the Resolution; Motion approved.

Ms. Clapp presented Resolution 2019-57 and placed on first reading, authorizing the Fiscal Officer to transfer seventy thousand dollars and ninety five cents from the general fund to the sanitary sewer debt service fund fourteen thousand one hundred seventy three dollars and ninety cents; paving improvement debt fund forty eight thousand, nine hundred seventy seven dollars and twenty nine cents; police cruiser debt fund six thousand eight hundred forty nine dollars and seventy six cents for year 2020 and declaring an emergency. This is for the next meeting.

Ms. Clapp presented Resolution 2019-58, amending the permanent appropriations funds for the Village of Timberlake for the year 2019 and declaring an emergency.

Motion to suspend the rules: Laub

Seconded: Murphy

Motion to approve Resolution 2019-58: S. Sharma

Seconded: Cronin

All were in favor of the Resolution; Motion approved.

Ms. Clapp presented Resolution 2019-59 and placed on first reading, approving the permanent appropriations funds for the Village of Timberlake for the year 2020 and declaring an emergency.

Ms. Clapp presented Resolution 2019-60, authorizing the chief Fiscal Officer to amend the certificate of estimated resources for the year 2019 and declaring an emergency. This is being amended as the County has not received the amended certificate; this also tells us the unencumbered balance at the end of 2018. The General Fund, per the government system, was \$144,542.07. The street construction repair was negative at that time, -\$14,775.29. The number is now positive. The State

Highway was \$20,665.86. The enforcement and education fund were \$6425.74. The sanitary sewer was \$3802.50. The capital road project fund was at -\$21,342.17. The Village Hall fund was \$12.94. The street opening fund was \$456. The total money for the start of the year was \$139,777.65. The estimated revenue was \$474,763.55

Motion to suspend the rules: Laub

Seconded: Cronin

Motion to approve Resolution 2019-60: S. Sharma

Seconded: Murphy

All were in favor of the Resolution; Motion approved.

Ms. Clapp presented Ordinance 2019-20 and placed on first reading, authorizing and approving the appointment of the Council's choice as Street Commissioner of the Village of Timberlake pursuant to the provisions of section 735.31 of the Ohio Revised Code and declaring an emergency. There is a 6-month probationary period. This is due to the fact that the Village does not have a Village administrator. The Chief can complete this role, as well. Any council members can, as well. The elected person does not need to be a resident per the Solicitor. They will be overseeing the Service Department's work. The Council can choose the compensation for the role. This has to be in place on January 1st.

Mr. Cronin proposed a \$1 compensation to the council member who heads the Service Department to complete this role. This was seconded by Ms. Marsh-Coleman.

Ms. Clapp presented Ordinance 2019-21, dissolving the board of public affairs for the Village of Timberlake because the Village does not set the rate for their utilities and declaring an emergency.

Motion to suspend the rules: Laub

Seconded: Cronin

Motion to approve Ordinance 2019-21: S. Sharma

Seconded: Laub

All were in favor of the Ordinance; Motion approved.

Ms. Murphy presented Resolution 2019-61 on first reading, authorizing and approving the continued employment of Joanne Clapp as Fiscal Officer for the Village of Timberlake and declaring an emergency.

Ms. Clapp presented Resolution 2019-62 on first reading, a resolution that all newly hired Village employees must be appointed and approved by the Council after they have successfully completed the background check for employment with the Village of Timberlake and declaring an emergency.

The Solicitor's contact is up this year and the Village will need to hire another company; they are currently reviewing options. The Mayor is working with the future Mayor to find the best representative.

The council discussed a 20% pay cut for next year along with the Mayor. One of the reasons this was proposed is

The Mayor asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 PM.

Motion to adjourn: Marsh-Coleman

Seconded: Laub

All were in favor.

TIMBERLAKE COUNCIL MEETING December 17th, 2019

The Mayor opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance followed by the public portion at 7:33 PM. He asked for roll call of the officers. All council members were present, except for Ms. Marsh-Coleman, along with the Fiscal Officer, JoAnne Clapp. The Solicitor, Mr. Richards, was not present. The Mayor stated that the Village Club

needs help with the Christmas milk jugs. Please contact Ron Mona and Liz Laub if you'd like to volunteer. Please be vigilant in the community of porch pirates who try to steal packages. He also stated that he reviewed the documentation on the beach law; it is important to abide by the law. If a resident has a question, they should contact the Judge's office and obtain a copy of the law. The Village will not put themselves in liability for interpreting the law. If an individual sees the law differently, they must do it at their own peril. If someone does not like the law, the onus is on them to change it.

The Mayor asked for a motion to table the November Council Minutes as due to a technical issue the public portion was not recorded. The Mayor is trying to gather the public portion comments to provide to the secretary for publication. This will be posted on the website and approved in January.

Motion to table: S. Sharma

Seconded: Laub

Ayes: Murphy, Cronin, R. Sharma, Laub, and S. Sharma

Nays: None

Motion carried; Minutes approved.

PUBLIC PORTION

Please refer to the comments below:

- Please explain why voters should vote yes, when the 2020 budget and state audit is incomplete. Last month, the fiscal officer found \$200,000 and she doesn't know where the budget stands. How does the Village know if it needs more money? The Mayor stated the money was not found, but receipts were found that were not accounted for. The state has the audit information and will be providing that to the Village. More money is needed because we are paying out more for basic operation.
- Instead of purchasing an economic police vehicle, the Village purchased a SUV. Why? Mr. Cronin stated that the cars were purchased through the state bid and the prices only varied by a few thousand dollars; the SUV was a more reliable and sturdier vehicle as it was an all-wheel drive.
- The Village proposed to purchase a \$35,000 service truck. Why? This was just a proposal that Ms. Laub presented as an option; it was not a certainty it would be bought.
- \$10,000 was spent again this year for Ciro's Sewer which could have been done for free. Why? The Village has eliminated using Ciro's and are working on recouping the money.
- \$4000 was paid to Ciro's twice and the previous Fiscal Officer had to ask them to return the money? The money was recouped because it was paid by the other fiscal officer in error.
- \$9000 was withdrawn from Village bank accounts for child support payments to wives of police officers who are no longer working here. How is that being recouped? The officers said they are willing to pay it back and are working on a payment schedule. The Village is pending that.
- A state audit is outstanding and could cost the Village between \$4000-\$15000? This was necessary to do, the standard price of the audit was paid, the extra was for reconciliation but was a necessity for the Village. It was approximated to spend \$10,000.
- A \$500-month penalty is being paid because of unemployment? The Mayor states that is not true.
- Trees have been cut down without an arborist and without the tree commission approval? These trees were cut down as they were infected or damaged. A commission meeting is pending. The resident recommended reaching out to Mary, who managed the tree commission in the past, for guidance.
- How can the Village be good stewards of the Village's money? How can the council/mayor ask residents for more money before they prove they can manage the current budget and show where and why

more funds are needed? Per the resident, the council should operate on a shoestring budget and not waste the residents' money.

FINANCE

Ms. Clapp presented Resolution 2019-63, approving and directing payment of recurring bills by the Village and declaring an emergency.

Motion to suspend the rules: R. Sharma

Seconded: S. Sharma

Motion to approve Resolution 2019-63: R. Sharma

Seconded: S. Sharma

All were in favor of the Resolution; Motion approved.

Ms. Clapp presented Resolution 2019-57, authorizing the Fiscal Officer to transfer seventy thousand dollars and ninety five cents from the general fund to the sanitary sewer debt service fund fourteen thousand one hundred seventy three dollars and ninety cents; paving improvement debt fund forty eight thousand, nine hundred seventy seven dollars and twenty nine cents; police cruiser debt fund six thousand eight hundred forty nine dollars and seventy six cents for year 2020 and declaring an emergency.

Motion to suspend the rules: R. Sharma

Seconded: Laub

Motion to approve Resolution 2019-57: R. Sharma

Seconded: S. Sharma

All were in favor of the Resolution; Motion approved.

Ms. Clapp presented Resolution 2019-59, approving the permanent appropriations funds for the Village of Timberlake for the year 2020 and declaring an emergency. Ms. Clapp worked with the upcoming Mayor on this. The budget was cut by \$20,000 for next year. This is to prevent deficit spending. This is the goal of this resolution. An example of cutting the budget is employee wages. The Service Department is paid significantly more than Police Department. In fact, the police department is paid \$9/hr while service members are

paid upwards of \$11. It is important to review if the property manager has licenses for electrical and plumbing reviews. This can cause a court case if the property manager is not certified. Ms. Murphy asked if our employees have those licenses; Ms. Clapp said it is important for those employees to provide the licensure.

Motion to suspend the rules: S. Sharma

Seconded: R. Sharma

Motion to approve Resolution 2019-59: Murphy

Seconded: R. Sharma

All were in favor of the Resolution; Motion approved.

Ms. Clapp presented Ordinance 2019-20 and placed on second reading, authorizing and approving the appointment of the Council's choice as Street Commissioner of the Village of Timberlake pursuant to the provisions of section 735.31 of the Ohio Revised Code and declaring an emergency. There is a 6-month probationary period. This is due to the fact that the Village does not have a Village administrator. The Chief can complete this role, as well. Any council members can, as well. The elected person does not need to be a resident per the Solicitor. They will be overseeing the Service Department's work. The Council can choose the compensation for the role. This has to be in place in January.

Ms. Murphy presented Resolution 2019-61 on second reading, authorizing and approving the continued employment of Joanne Clapp as Fiscal Officer for the Village of Timberlake and declaring an emergency.

Ms. Clapp presented Resolution 2019-62 on second reading, a resolution that all newly hired Village employees must be appointed and approved by the Council after they have successfully completed the background check for employment with the Village of Timberlake and declaring an emergency. Ms. Murphy states this is not thought-through. It takes 2-3 months for a hire. If someone needs to clean the hall or clean the streets, this is too much time to wait. It takes approximately 6 weeks per Ms. Laub.

The Chief said BCI is now caught up and now it takes on average up to 30 days, but usually by 8-10 days. Elected officials do not need a BCI done. If the entire council needs to vote on an employee, a public meeting must be done. The Mayor said that all other cities do it this way. Ms. Laub states the background check is necessary, however, having the entire council vote on this, it would cause a longer wait time. She suggests that the subcommittees and the supervisor are enough to vote on this. The topic will be tabled for now and amended accordingly.

Ms. Clapp presented Resolution 2019-64, requesting the County Auditor to make advance payments of taxes for the year 2020. This is for property tax advancements from state auditors. The County Auditor has changed the advancements to only be received if the resolution is passed; otherwise, the money will be dispersed in March/April.

Motion to suspend the rules: R. Sharma

Seconded: Murphy

Abstain: Laub

Motion to approve Resolution 2019-64: Murphy
Seconded: Laub

All were in favor of the Resolution; Motion approved.

Ms. Clapp presented Ordinance 2019-22, ordinance subject to an election pursuant of Orc 718.04 to amend section 880.01, section 880.03, and any other related sections of the code of ordinances of the Village in order to increase the income tax rate from 1% to 2% beginning July 1, 2020 and continuing thereafter for the purpose of providing police, fire, and emergency medical services. Tomorrow is the deadline to put this on the ballot. The levy that failed cannot be placed on the March ballot until this is passed. Otherwise, the levy can be placed on the November ballot. This is based on the dollar amount. Ms. Laub said her concern is the levy failed and nothing has been changed. Ms. Clapp said this is not applicable to seniors. The Mayor suggested amending the ordinance. This is necessary to generate the additional revenue to

maintain police and fire services. This increase would cover the bill we pay to Eastlake for their services. Surrounding communities have an income tax that ranges between 2-3%. This is just a voting to put it on the ballot.

Motion to suspend the rules: Cronin

Seconded: S. Sharma

Motion to approve Ordinance 2019-22: S. Sharma with a 3 year time limit

Seconded: R. Sharma

Abstain: Laub, Murphy

The ordinance cannot be approved.

Ms. Clapp presented Resolution 2019-65, declaring the necessity of an election on the question of approving the passage of an ordinance to amend Section 880.01, Section 880.03 and any other related sections of the code of ordinances of the Village in order to increase the income tax rate from 1% to 2% beginning July 1, 2020 and continuing thereafter for the purpose of providing police, fire, and emergency medical services. This was tabled as the ordinance was not passed.

FISCAL OFFICER REPORT

The new Mayor will be sworn in on New Year's Eve. There will be a meeting on January 2nd, an origination meeting, where the Mayor can break down his vision, obtain working ideas, and create committees. This is a necessity per Ms. Clapp. The meeting will be at 7 PM. The Fiscal Officer presented her new email address, which is fiscalofficeroftimberlake@gmail.com

Ms. Clapp presented a credit card bill for \$128.62 for APA and international transfer fee on 11/9/19. There is no receipt for this. The bill cannot be paid without a recent. It was charged to Linda Murphy. This was for Lunar Pages. Christine Jansz did this bill and will need to contact them for the receipt. Ms. Murphy said she wasn't told about this charge; that is fraudulent behavior. Ms. Laub stated that there was a one-day deadline last year to pay for the website and it must have renewed on her credit card as a reoccurring charge.

The Council Rules along with purchasing procedures were emailed by Ms. Clapp to all council members. She recommends reviewing them and making changes accordingly and presenting it at the next meeting. In the beginning of January, there will be a high expense for the printer ink for the UAN printer, which should last for most of the next year. In reference to the tress, Ms. Clapp states Tree City USA is something to consider. The Mayor said the Village has not qualified for it.

SAFETY

Mr. Cronin does not have any updates.

The Chief presented the police report for last month. There were 26 calls for service. There were 10 traffic stops, 4 traffic citations, 3 traffic enforcement details, and 1 non-injury accident. There were 42 house checks and 42 park/beach checks. There was a total of 129 total logged activities. The Mayor asked about seeing state patrol cars around the Village. The State Patrol increased their ranks and have extra funding for patrolling Lakeshore and Som Center. They are enforcing OVIs through the Freedom Funds.

TREES & RECREATION

Ms. Marsh-Coleman was not present and had no updates.

VILLAGE HALL

Ms. Murphy does not have any updates on the Hall. She thanked the Villagers for allowing her to be a member on council and helping with the Village Hall. She thanked the council members along with the Service Department for the upkeep of the Hall. She states that when she first took this position, she only knew a few Villagers and she considers everyone family. Please reach out to her if the residents need help with anything.

SEWERS

Ms. Sharma said she has no updates and no calls. Ms. Sharma will follow up on Ciro's and follow with the Mayor on this.

SERVICE

Ms. Laub stated all the equipment is operational; the salt shed has been refurbished and the roof has been fixed. The leak in the garage has been sealed. The rotted exhaust pipe has been replaced. Service is staffed with an employee for plowing and salting. The leaf catcher was a huge success and reduced labor hours as compared to last year. The summer equipment has been winterized and stored. The dump truck only has 43000 miles on it. The rust is minimal; an option is to repair the dump truck, S&M quoted to repair it for a fraction of the cost due to low mileage. Ms. Laub is transitioning the service department in as good a condition as it has been.

The Mayor thanked the Village for their participation. He said that the job was very gratifying, and although at times frustrating, he did the best he could in hearing everyone's comments. He never considered himself to be the Mayor; he considered himself as the mailman who was the Mayor of the night. Having John come in who can devote daytime hours would be a huge asset for the Village. This job was humbling; it was hard at times, but everyone has the same interest and the same goal. He hopes that people out there will give the new administration every opportunity to succeed. It is easy to sit on the sidelines and critique; it takes a strong person to come up and help. There were some challenges, but we have a strong Fiscal Officer in JoAnne who will keep the money accounted for. The experience of the current council will help the new members, as well. He hopes the residents can give support and assistance as needed; the Village made its mark on volunteering and community. That should be the focus of the Village. The first thing he will be doing in January is getting rid of the landline. He hopes to continue to participate in the Village; he is happy to serve as an advisor but supports the new Mayor in running the Village in his way. He wants to thank everyone on Council, Service, Police, various Fiscal Officers, and residents for their help. This is a glorified volunteer position; he spent half his check on buying supplies for the Village. He hopes to continue giving back to the Village. He thanks

everyone for their patience with him. He tried to break it down to build it back up.

The residents thanked the three members for their civic duty and their willingness to do the best job possible.

The Mayor asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 PM.

Motion to adjourn: S. Sharma

Seconded: R. Sharma

All were in favor.

John Marra, Mayor

JoAnne Clapp, Fiscal Officer

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Sherri Falkenberg Vince Cronin

Nancy Marra

Ritu Sharma Shannon Sharma

TIMBERLAKE COUNCIL MEETING

January 21st, 2020

The Mayor opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance followed by the prayer at 7:30 PM. He asked for roll call of the officers. All council members were present along with the Fiscal Officer, JoAnne Clapp. The Solicitor, Jeremy Iosue, was also present.

Officer Alecia Arlene Nagy and Nick Dolbin were sworn into the positions of special patrolman. Brian Thunberg from RITA came to talk to residents about the electronic filing associated with RITA. He provided residents with information about RITA's recent exponential growth and compared it to the services of CCA. RITA provides the city a government liaison to ensure all questions are being answered about taxation. In 2020, they have 8 municipalities joining them and about 20 more projected to join. RITA is the largest taxing authority in Ohio and service nearby cities, including Eastlake and Lakeline. Returns are automatically filed, and information is sent to the IRS electronically. CCA does not provide any legal services while RITA has a collections' department

to handle litigation and collections. This is done for a flat rate through the service. They also have a compliance program available for residents along with a post-judgement payment plan. RITA is known for its customer service, 24/7 system, and direct access to reports for administrators. Several communities have switched to RITA, as well. Collections is through Small Claims' Courts with an additional fee of 18%. The industry average is about 33%.

The Mayor presented his letter of intent: I would like to thank all the Timberlake residents who came out on November 5th to vote. According to Lake County statistics, we had the highest percentage of voter turnout in Lake County. I congratulate you for this. Our renewal levies passed by a disappointing 60% approval, however our new safety levy lost by only 17 votes. Many of you are understandably concerned about keeping our taxes where they are. You clearly voted for the renewals and voted down the levy. We are also predicting a decrease in revenue for the upcoming years making it more difficult to operate, and we need to trim costs.

I would like to assure you that I will still improve the sewers, persist in the improvement of the appearance of the Village, and maintain a sound and fiscal council; however, we will have a very tight budget. If there are emergencies or acts of God, I will be calling on Villagers with their many talents and knowledge that my wife and I discovered while campaigning and come up with the solution. We then can report these ideas and findings to council for approval and hopefully, with the best of the Village in common, make it happen.

I am still going to improve the steps going down to the beach. As I said at candidate's night, I had to be low bidder on jobs in order to get the construction projects. Therefore, I had to work with a tight budget and yet still make it profitable. With that being said, I will be further researching the budget as I did before and since the election and looking for ways to maintain and create funds for emergencies that may occur and still improve and secure our beach.

In closing, my promise is to work diligently and impartially with counsel to prove that I only

have my best intentions for all residents. I pray to earn your trust as I serve as Mayor for all. Thank you and May God Bless You All.

The Mayor spoke to the owner of Ciro's. They explained that they cleaned the sewers with jetting followed by vacuuming. The county will be doing it next year, which will save money, but they do not flush the lines out. Pete Formica reviewed the sewer maps with the Mayor and are brainstorming on how to update the sewers. There is some grant money that the Village may be able to get for the sewers; he met with the county commissioners 2 weeks ago to discuss this. He would also like to look into funds to fix the stairs by the beach. He also wants to install a sidewalk on Lakeshore Blvd in order to further connect those villagers with the village. He is also working on the website; he is looking into best ways to update the website while also not charging the Village \$1000/year. He has a quote for \$400/year at the moment.

The Mayor asked for a motion to approve the Minutes for December 17th, 2019, January 2nd, 2020, and November 19th, 2019.

Motion to approve: Falkenberg

Seconded: Marra

All were in favor.

Motion carried; Minutes approved.

PUBLIC PORTION

Please refer to the comments below:

- A Villager recommended RITA is very aggressive. The Village needs to review the way they collect income taxes.
- A Villager stated that not one time did the Ciro's jet the sewers and they also did not clean all of the catch basins.
- Why do we need new stop signs? They are missing and need to be replaced per state law.
- Does council have 30 days to replace the council member? Yes
- Where is the phonebook? The Village Club is working on this.
- Will the phone numbers be in Timberlake Times? Yes.

- Why didn't we have stop signs there before? It was not realized that they were needed there; however, anywhere there is an intersection a stop sign is needed.
- Would a yield sign work? All signs must match, and yield signs tend to be more expensive than stop signs.
- We should have a meeting with the tree commission about the trees. Information for this will be placed in the Timberlake Times.
- Is it possible to add bike paths to Lakeshore? The Mayor is hoping to have a walkway not attached to the road as that would be safer. The Village will look into grants for this.

FINANCE

Ms. Clapp presented Ordinance 2019-20 and placed on third reading, authorizing and approving the appointment of Village Council member in charge of the Service Department as Street Commissioner of the Village of Timberlake, Ohio, pursuant to the provisions of section 735.31 of the Ohio Revised Code and declaring an emergency.

Motion to place on 3rd reading: S. Sharma

Seconded: Falkenberg

All were in favor of the Resolution; Motion approved.

Ms. Clapp presented Resolution 2019-62 on third reading, a resolution that all newly hired Village employees must be appointed and approved by the Council after they have successfully completed the background check for employment with the Village of Timberlake and declaring an emergency.

Motion to place on 3rd reading: Marra

Seconded: Falkenberg

All were in favor of the Resolution; Motion approved.

Ms. Clapp presented Ordinance 2020-01, authorizing and directing the Mayor to accept the Lake County Road Improvement and Economic Development Grant from the Lake County Board of Commissioners for road infrastructure

improvements and declaring an emergency. This is just to approve the grant for the Village.

The Council will review the change to RITA Income tax and are pending a decision on this for the upcoming year. The local government conference is in mid-April and Ms. Clapp recommends administrators to sign up for the training; it is approximately \$500 for the hotel and the training, but it is a benefit for the Village. The total for late penalties is \$12,381.46. The State Auditor will go after prior fiscal officers for the late fees they owe. The audit costed the village over \$7000. Ms. Clapp paid the fee for \$153.16 for her late penalties and provided the check to the Mayor.

Fiscal Officer

The Mayor met with Pete Formica for grants that the Village can apply for. Dr. Sharma has reached out to the Senator's office to see what grants are federally available, as well. She hopes that residents will also send her an email with any grant opportunities they are aware of.

Street, Service and Trees

Mr. Cronin the department for plowing the streets in the morning. This is a safety issue and it is vital the Village stays on top of plowing the snow off the roads. Service is looking into the trees; Mr. Cronin has a list of the tree complaints. He will try to prioritize them and resolve the issues as soon as possible. He did get an estimate from a landscaping company for about \$4800 for the guardrail on Lakeshore. The Police Department received the insurance information from the person who hit the guardrail. State Farm will reach out to the landscaping company and pay for the repair. Mr. Cronin wants to place an order for the additional stop signs, posts, and protective equipment per guidelines for Service Department for the Village. The equipment would include traffic vests, protective eyewear, and 2 signs for "men working". The quote for this is \$1010.40. The signposts will be buried by the Mayor and Mr. Cronin.

The Chief presented the police report for last month. There were 35 calls for service. There were

16 traffic stops, 9 traffic citations, 13 traffic enforcement details, and 1 non-injury accident. There were 81 house checks and 59 park/beach checks. There was a total of 224 total logged activities.

Village Hall

The Village Hall does have bookings for this year and will be busy. She apologized for putting a 7 PM start time and thanked the Villagers for their attention to this.

Sewers

Ms. Sharma planned a street cleaning and sewer cleaning a few days apart from each other. This way all of the cleaning can occur near the same time, around April to May depending on the weather.

Ms. Clapp asked for a motion to approve the December 2019 financial reports.

Motion: Falkenberg

Seconded: R. Sharma

All were in favor; Motion approved.

Ms. Clapp asked for a motion to approve the purchase order for Axon police body camera at \$2497.

Motion: Marra

Seconded: S. Sharma

All were in favor; Motion approved.

The Village received a resignation letter from Jodie Marsh Coleman. There is a position open now for council. If anyone is interested, please email fiscalofficeroftimberlake@gmail.com.

Motion to approve resignation: Marra

Seconded: R. Sharma

All were in favor; Motion approved.

The Mayor asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 PM.

Motion to adjourn: S. Sharma

Seconded: R. Sharma

All were in favor.