RESOLUTION NO. 03-2024

ADOPTED: APRIL 3, 2024

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE LICKING COUNTY COMMISSIONERS LOWER THE SPEED LIMIT, IN THE NORTHBOUND LANE OF OUTVILLE ROAD (SR 158) BETWEEN KELLER ROAD AND SOUTH ALLEY STREET, TO MATCH THE SOUTHBOUND LANE SPEED LIMIT (35 MPH) AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, when the 251-acre parcel (Parcel No. 025-080076-00.000) on the east side of Outville Road detached from the Village of Kirkersville, the northbound lane of Outville Road (between Keller Road and South Alley Street) also left the Village; and

WHEREAS, soon after this parcel detached, Harrison Township raised speed limit, in the northbound lane, to 55 m.p.h.; and

WHEREAS, since then, residents and visitors race 55 m.p.h. into the Village, on Outville Road, but maintain a safer and more reasonable (35 m.p.h.) as they drive south and leave the Village; and

WHEREAS, the 55-mph. speed limit in the northbound lane of Outville Road is dangerous for several reasons. There are many homes and driveway cuts along the west side of Outville Road. Children catch the school bus along this road.   Having cars rush by at nearly highway speed is hazardous and unsafe. In addition, Outville Road is old, narrow, and needs repaired. This stretch of blacktop is not fit for anything more than 35 m.p.h. And finally, having the different speed limits in the northbound and southbound lanes is confusing for motorist; and

WHEREAS, ODOT must approve speed zones for roads and streets to have speed limits set lower than the statutory prima-facie speed limits given in the Ohio Revised Code, regardless of jurisdiction. This includes rural state highways, county and township roads, and streets in both cities and villages; and

WHEREAS, the Licking County Engineer recently indicated that if Council for the Village of Kirkersville asks the Licking County Commissioners to lower the speed in the northbound lane of Outville Road to match the southbound lane, the Commissioners will consider it; and

WHEREAS, if the Commissioners agree, they also will adopt legislation and then submit the request to ODOT for review and potential approval.

NOW, **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the Village of Kirkersville, County of Licking, State of Ohio, a majority of the members elected thereto concurring:

SECTION 1:   Council for the Village of Kirkersville hereby requests the Licking County Commissioners lower the speed limit, in the northbound lane of Outville Road (between Keller Road and South Alley Street), to 35 mph and thereby match the speed limit in the southbound lane.

SECTION 2: The Clerk of Council is directed to forward a certified copy of this Resolution to the Office of Licking County Commissioners (Kenneth W. Oswalt) and the Licking County Engineer (Jared Knerr).

SECTION 3: All prior legislation, or any parts thereof, which is/are inconsistent with this Resolution is/are hereby repealed as to the inconsistent parts thereof.

SECTION 4: It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of Council and that all deliberations of the Council and any of the decision-making bodies of the Village of Kirkersville which resulted in such formal actions were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements of the State of Ohio.
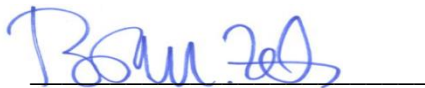
SECTION 5: Council declares this to be an emergency measure immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety of this municipality and the further reason that this speed limit issue has been bantered about for far too long and needs addressed as soon as possible, for the good of all Village residents. Wherefore, provided this Resolution receives the required affirmative votes of Council, it shall take effect and be in full force immediately upon passage by Council.

Passed in Council this 3 day April 2024.

Attest: Shirley A Roskoski
        Fiscal Officer

APPROVED:

Approved as to form this 25th day of March 2024:

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Brian M. Zets
Village Solicitor