







## **Purple Heart Village Dedication**

Special Council Meeting Minutes June 29, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

- 1. Mayor Smith opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.
- 2. ATTENDANCE

Linda Allen – Present Linda Burke – Present Bryan Corcoran – Absent Maryan Harrison – Present Bill Madison – Present Rolin Spicer – Present

- 3. Pastor Kevin Peyton gave an opening prayer.
- 4. Posting of Color was made by the Purple Heart Color Guard.
- 5. Mayor James Smith proclaimed the Village as a Purple Heart City and read aloud the proclamation.
- 6. Purple heart coins were presented to Council and all the Purple Heart recipients.
- 7. National Anthem was sung by Katie Hill.
- 8. Brenda Combs, South Lebanon Historical Society, read the names of the Purple Heart recipients; there are 192 veteran flags placed throughout the Village, 26 are South Lebanon's Purple Heart recipients.

## South Lebanon's Purple Heart recipients are as follows:

Willie Allen David Meininger
Carless Allen Bruce Moore
Ray L. Atkins George Park

Jimmie Brown Larry E. Shepherd – killed in action

James O. Butler Gilbert Smith Jr. - POW Alex Clark John Robert Welling

Willie E. Cockerham Wendell York Bobby Estle – killed in action Farley Baker

Buck Fee Robert lee Sargeant
Forest Gates Larry S. Smith
Jesse Harman Daniel Quintero
Richard Ervin Edward Legullion

Young McIntosh Gene Scholl

9. Mayor Smith shared that South Lebanon, the oldest community in Warren County, has had a presence in the military all the way back to the Revolutionary War; including five revolutionary war soldiers and one general and in honor of these individuals each street in the Riverside subdivision is named after one of the soldiers. He further added that the United States was only 19 years old when South Lebanon became a community.

Mayor Smith commented that the Veteran's memorial will soon be a reality with all the help of community volunteers. He further stated that a rendering of the memorial is available online and that the memorial should be one of the best in the county when its finished.

- 10. Congressman Steve Chabot spoke via video from Washington on the history of the Purple Heart metal, the oldest military metal presented to service members, and what it means for a community to be recognized as a Purple Heart City; further thanking all veterans and tonight's honorees for their service.
- 11. Ohio State Representative, Scott Lipps, thanked all the veterans in attendance; he continued by sharing a story of South Lebanon's Purple Heart recipient, Private First-Class Woody Allen, a soldier who was wounded in battle while serving in Normandy, France and after his recovery served a second tour in Central Europe where he was wounded once again; a story that shows the perseverance that Warren County is built on and the selfness of these men and women.
- 12. Ohio State Senator, Steve Wilson, 4<sup>th</sup> generation Navy, thanked all veterans; those that came home, those that didn't and those that came home wounded. He spoke of the sacrifices of the families of those that serve and asked for a moment of silence for all the families that support our veterans. He acknowledged that there are now five chapters in Warren County; Frankfort, Carlisle, Springboro, Mason and now South Lebanon that have the Purple Heart City distinction and the pride that the community should feel.

- 13. Robin Kiley, a poet and founding member of Stand and Serve, a local community organization that honors defenders of America, the United States Constitution and God; honored those that serve with a poem titled "I know a Hero not far from here."
- 14. Closing ceremony ended with the playing of the taps.
- 15. Mayor Smith asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m. A motion was made by Madison, seconded by Burke, all yeas.

Petrina D. Williams, Fiscal Officer

James D. Smith, Mayor