

APRIL 9, 2024
VILLAGE OF SOMERSET COUNCIL MEETING

Members present: Mechelle Siemer, Chris Shonk, Ryan Green, Cindy Hayes and Eric Emmert. Also present were Mayor Johnson, Kelly Beem, Will Flautt and Chief Schons.

GUEST: Jamie Sturgeon Enrollment Assistance Program (EAP). Jamie informed council (EAP) is here to offer free services for those needing healthcare. They have many resources available to overcome barriers preventing people from gaining health coverage.

The Reading Township Trustees were asked to join this meeting. The Trustees and Council both agree the need to create a Cemetery Board to maintain cemeteries in the township and Village. Trustees will put a small levy on the ballot. Trustees asked several years ago if the Village would contribute \$10,000 and they contribute \$10,000 to start the board. Eric motioned to create a Cemetery Board, Contribute \$10,000 matched by the Trustees, and to have Tom and Will draft a joint cemetery agreement. Ryan seconded his motion. All voted Aye.

SBC UPDATE Trace Johnson stated they had a pre-bid construction meeting. The bids are due April 26th at 2 pm. Kelly suggested a Special meeting to open bids. Council agreed to hold a special meeting for bid openings on April 26th at 3pm in the courthouse. The construction budget is 3.1 million dollars. We have 1.9 million left. \$563,000 will come from USDA, and \$250,000 from State Capital Bill. Trace is working on programs such as Robotics this summer, and AI tech courses. For each program, if there are 15 people, the revenue is \$30,000 and SBC will get 20% of that or \$6,000.00. Erik Petersen would like to have a building woodwork course and build a tiny house. We could make money by auctioning it off. Mayor states we need to have a long term lease agreement with the Builders Club including mortgage payments, property taxes, maintenance fund etc. Solicitor Flautt will address legal issue questions regarding Trace and his AI for all business he is getting paid from the grant. Is it a conflict of interest???

MINUTES: The minutes from March 26, 2024 were reviewed. Eric motioned to approve, seconded by Mechelle. All voted Aye.

POLICE UPDATE: Chief Schons introduced Robert Hoover as a new auxiliary. Mayor Johnson swore him in. Chief Schons was not able to copy his presentation and stats from last year due to be calling out to an accident. He will email council, and the mayor his report. They can review and discuss at the next meeting. Council and Mayor would like a report or proposal for lack of coverage in Somerset.

OLD BUSINESS:

Monument Cleaning: SOPEC needs an itemized bill to submit to their council by May 30th. Chris has put together supplies needed, curb repair, granite cleaning etc. Ryan Green said the Horticulture would like to replace or just remove the bushes in the circle. Kelly asks for permission to order what is needed to clean and repair the monument ahead of time if possible. Mechelle motioned to approval up to \$5,000 for cleaning and repairs to the monument and circle, seconded by Ryan. All voted Aye. Kelly will submit the invoice to SOPEC for review. We will reimburse the village when we receive the SOPEC funds.

NEW BUSINESS:

Waibel Electric: Kelly presented a quote to upgrade the lighting in her off. Waibel quoted \$500.00. Eric motioned to approve, seconded by Cindy. All voted Aye.

PAY ORDINANCE 6-2024: Ryan motioned to approve, seconded by Chris. All voted Aye.

Kelly is waiting on WinWaste quotes for the next years trash rates.

March Financials and Bank Reconciliation: Eric motioned to approve, seconded by Ryan. All voted Aye.

Ryan said the loud music from Wannabees was blaring again and would like to have a noise ordinance. More discuss at the next meeting.

No further business was discussed. Mechelle motioned to adjourn, seconded by Chris. All voted Aye.

President Eric Emmert

Fiscal Officer Kelly Beem.