

AUGUST 22, 2023
VILLAGE OF SOMERSET COUNCIL MEETING

Members present: Eric Emmert, Doug Fehrman, Chris Shonk and Bill Mohler. Also present were Mayor Johnson, Kelly Beem and Chief Schons.

MINUTES: The minutes from August 8, 2023 were reviewed. Doug motioned to approve, seconded by Eric. All voted Aye.

GUESTS:

Chris Hermann from MKSK. Chris is here to discuss Downtown Revitalization projects. He has been assigned to Somerset from Ohio Dept of Development to develop our downtown improvements. Tom has 20 businesses that may be interested in structure designs, roof and gutters, façade improvements, foundation repairs to name a few. There is \$500 million dollar from State Appalachian Community Grant Program to be awarded. The project costs would be broken down as 35% ACPG Grant Funding for each business and 65% each for match. These funds should be awarded in the Spring of 2024 and needs to be spent by Oct. 2026.

SOPEC was unable to attend this meeting but will be here the next. They have incentives for alternative energy with about 40% credit, if solar power is used. More on this at the next meeting.

Trace Johnson with SBC Update: Trace had 30 kids in the summer camps that built robots and had a battle of the bots competition. His next project is senior technology classes. The issue with the roof still exists. There are 2 options at this time. The first is to replace the back half of the building, for about \$70,000 and the rest of the roof can be completed after the structure is stabilized and construction is finished. Or the 2nd option is to patch what needs patched for \$15,000-\$17,000., but that would be a temporary fix. Eric motioned to fix the back half of the roof, seconded by Doug. All voted Aye. This will have to go out for bids. Tom has a design meeting next Tuesday with Schooley Caldwell.

POLICE REPORT:

Chief Schons shared his report and stats with council. Discussion was held regarding the noise ordinance enforcement. Don Ferguson said he had complained about the noise from Wanna Bees but nothing is ever done. Chief will discuss further with Mr. Ferguson and contact Wanna Bees. Chief Schons said the traffic study by the schools have been done, and is awaiting the results. He should have them back in September.

OLD BUSINESS:

Square Safety Study: Mayor would like to have ODOT at our next meeting to discuss the Square safety study.

NEW BUSINESS:

Somerset Elementary Parking: Tom received an email asking for more parking spots painted for dropping and picking up kids. This will be reviewed.

PAY ORDINANCE 13-23: Bill motioned to approve, seconded by Eric. All voted Aye.

No further business was discussed. Doug motioned to adjourn, seconded by Eric. All voted Aye.

Eric Emmert, President

Kelly Beem, Fiscal Officer