

AUGUST 11, 2020
VILLAGE OF SOMERSET COUNCIL MEETING
Live Stream

Members present were: David Snider, Mechelle Siemer, Mike Lally, Bill Mohler, Doug Fehrman and Eric Emmert. Also present were Mayor Johnson, Kelly Beem and Matt May.

MINUTES: Mechelle motioned to approve the minutes from July 28, 2020, seconded by Doug. All voted Aye, except Eric abstained.

OLD BUSINESS:

Somerset Builders Club: Alex Bandar gave a brief update. The bids for construction have come in and will be opened in the Courthouse next week. The bids will be awarded by the next Council meeting.

Design Review Guidelines: Kelly is working on an ordinance outlining the changes on the design. She shared the changes to date, and asked if there were any more suggestions. The Zoning Committee will be meeting this week to further discuss as well.

Ord. 5-20 Update Historic Preservation (Third reading) This describes the exact area of the Historic district and also includes a Procedure and Fee for a Certificate of Appropriateness. Doug motioned to approve, seconded by Eric. All voted Aye.

Streetscape Design & Fees: Mayor stated that we have not found the funding to pay the Village's portion for Design and Engineering fees.

Courthouse Lighting: No update. Mayor will have Kevin Wood give an update at the next meeting. He will also call Bob Loversedge.

NEW BUSINESS:

Cares Act Funding: Kelly received the \$22,181.00 from the County today. To date, she is utilizing \$7,522.50 to distribute. Mechelle has a list of ideas as well which is to give businesses a portion that have suffered losses due to Covid. Sanitizing stations placed around the Village. Another use would be to purchase 6 laptops for the council so they can access at home for meetings. Also needed is a tabletop microphone and speaker. The laptops are \$433.99 each. Eric motioned to purchase the 6 laptops, seconded by David. Mechelle voted No, David, Doug and Eric voted Aye, while Bill and Mike abstained. Motion passed.

Ohio CDC Technical Assistance: The Village could receive \$1,000.00 for participation in this Technical assistance program. There is a list of assistance that we could apply for. Tom asked Council to review and have suggestions for the next meeting.

Open Carry: Tom stated there is a new law allowing people to purchase and drink alcoholic beverages outside of an establishment. It states it is safer to be outside than inside while drinking. He will get more information for the next meeting.

PARK/POOL UPDATE: Eric stated the Pool will close for the season this Saturday. There was no mechanical issues this year. Bill mentioned that Jerry Love has done a great job keeping the Park looking good.

Tom stated there is a grant for Internet Hotspots up to \$250,000. We could expand WIFI throughout the Village for better connections especially with some classes being online.

Questions were raised about the profits from the Farmers Market. The Village received a Grant from Foundation of Appalachian of \$1685.00 and another \$500.00 from them. Produce and Hand Sanitization stand were purchased with the grant monies. The Farmers Market have control of

the rest of their profit and are opening a bank account. With the Cares Act money, the Farmers Market will be reimbursed the Hand Sanitization costs.

Doug motioned to suspend rules for executive session, seconded by Eric. All voted Aye. Mechelle motioned to go into executive session to discuss employee compensations, seconded by Doug. All voted Aye. Eric motioned to go into executive session, seconded by Bill. All voted Aye. No action taken.

Eric motioned to approve the employee rate deductions from each payroll as provided, and David seconded his motion. All voted Aye. Mechelle will talk to the BPA and Water and Sewer Departments of this.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned.

David Snider, President

Kelly Beem, Fiscal Officer