

**JANUARY 17, 2017**  
**VILLAGE OF SOMERSET COUNCIL MEETING**

**MEMBERS PRESENT WERE:** Eric Huston, Eric Emmert, Doug Fehrman and Bill Mohler. Also present were Mayor Johnson, Kelly Beem, Chief Pressdee, Stacey Hicks and Solicitor Will Flautt.

**Guests:** Judge Dean Wilson, Mitch Altier, Casey Fulk with Tribune, and Kevin Snider and David Love from Somerset UM Church

Mayor Johnson opened the meeting by leading The Pledge of Allegiance.

**Minutes:** The minutes from January 3, 2017 were mailed out. No changes needed, so Eric E motioned to approve, seconded by Doug. With Eric H. abstaining his vote since he was not at that meeting, the minutes will have to be approved at next council meeting.

Kevin Snider and David Love addressed Council with the need for a double variance concerning the Somerset United Methodist church property. They want to sell the house next to them on Gay St, but divide the property. Part of the property will stay with church for additional parking, and the other lot will stay with the house. Questions were raised from this, so Solicitor

Mitch Altier presented several pay requests:

**Sewer Project:** There is a Final completion by Downing construction for \$9,098.12 and \$2500.00 for Waugh Construction who has not yet completed their cleanup, but CDBG wants to close it out by end of month, so they will send The Village their final payment and we will hold it until the work is complete. A motion to approve the pay requests were made by Bill and seconded by Eric H. All voted Aye. The original budget for this project was \$955,954.00 and we closed at \$867,086.54.

**Water Project:** Larry Lang excavating final request for their completion is \$13,555.97. Doll Layman request #6 for \$130,771.30. A motion to approve both pay requests were made by Bill, and seconded by Doug. All voted Aye.

Tom asked Mitch and Kelly for a complete report of our outstanding debt amortization for next meeting.

Judge Wilson gave an insightful presentation on The New Direction Drug Court. The mission of this new court is to improve offender's behavior, reduce recidivism, diminish substance abuse dependency, and improve the overall quality of life for both offender and family. This will provide access to a range of alcohol and drug treatment counseling services as well as mental health counselling.

Judge Wilson also complimented Chief Pressdee and Officer May for a wonderful job.

He spoke of community service here in Somerset, and his office will coordinate service workers with our Chief,

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**STREETSCAPE:** Mayor presented ideas for the Interpretive Sign Program for the next project. He shared location of signs, and different styles to choose from. Doug checked and matched the light poles with AEP pole numbers and all matched up.

**ST JOE'S LAKE:** Kelly reports that she just received the Appraisal review tonight, and will submit it on to OPWC. Closing should happen by end of month.

**SOMERSET INNOVATION GATEWAY:** Tom went to Washington DC last week and networked with other Cities, Towns, and Villages with similar projects. He mentioned to have a Tool Library that people can rent was a good idea. (Log Splitters, drills, etc.)

**SOMERSET MOBILE HOME PARK:** Andy Knicely is to do a survey of the land joining the trailer Park. Discussion was held on easements through the park for easy access to the land. Deadline to apply for funding is Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>.

A motion to suspend rules to attend executive session was made by Bill, seconded by Doug. All voted Aye. A motion to go into executive session to discuss Employees pay was made by Doug, and seconded by Eric E. All voted Aye. Executive session began at 8:50pm. A motion to return from executive session and return to regular session was made by Bill, seconded by Doug. All voted Aye. They returned at 9:20 with no action taken.

Chief Pressdee gave a brief update. They are writing traffic violations: 3 driving under suspension, and 7 speeding. Chief asked council if they would hire Aaron May as a part-time officer working up to 20 hours a week on Monday and Tuesdays. He would be given the rank of Sergeant. Eric E. motioned to hire Aaron May at \$13.00 per hour for up to 20 hours a week, seconded by Doug. All voted Aye.

A motion to give Commissioner Padgett a raise of \$1.25 was made by Eric H. and seconded by Bill. All voted Aye. A motion to give Chris Aliff a raise of \$1.00 was made by Doug, and seconded by Eric E. All voted Aye.

A motion to renew Solicitor Flautt's contract for 2 years at \$8,000.00 per year was made by Bill, and seconded by Eric H. All voted Aye.

Bill mention that at the last Zoning Meeting, Rick Strohl attended.

Tom is meeting with ODOT on Pedestrian Safety

**PAY ORDINANCE 17-02:** After reviewing the Pay ordinance, Eric e motioned to approve, and seconded by Eric H. All voted Aye.

With no further business to discuss, meeting adjourned at 9:30pm with a motion from Doug, seconded by Eric H. All voted Aye.

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Mayor Johnson

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Kelly Beem, Fiscal Officer