

OCTOBER 26, 2021
VILLAGE OF SOMERSET COUNCIL MEETING

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

GUESTS:

Cassie Seum addressed council about the parking at the school. With the way the curbs are painted now, there is no place to drop kids off. She has to go a half hour early to find a place to park to get her daughter. Mayor talked to the Principal, and this is the way she wants it for now. The Superintendent and Mayor spoke about alternative ways to drop off students. The Council and School will work on a Safe Route to School to encourage students to walk or bike, and for better crosswalks. David Snider said there are CDBG Emergency funds available that may be able to help with the solution. Cassie would like the yellow curbs on the school side only. More discussion on a solution will be held.

MINUTES: Eric motioned to approve the minutes from Oct. 12, 2021, seconded by Doug. All voted Aye.

OLD BUSINESS:

136 W. Main St. Mayor spoke with Mike Flautt about the progress in removing the trailer. Mike has arranged to get wheels delivered so they can haul the trailer. Mike had to remove the porch and steps. Mike also doesn't feel the Council has the right to condemn his property. Solicitor Will Flautt agreed that we do not have the right to condemn. This has to go through the Common Pleas Court in which an adjourning neighbor can file, or the Village can file. This process could take a year or so. Dick Pettit is here asking that when the trailer is removed, what does council plan on doing about the open cistern on the property. He states the soil samples need to be taken for contamination from the sink inside the trailer, running straight to the ground. It will need filled in. Dick also said Mike Flautt is taking his time and the original 30 days is up. He also stated the odor from that trailer is very bad, and that sewer has been draining on the land. Tom will speak with Mike to initiate an environmental assessment of the property and to initiate filing of nuisance property with Common Pleas Court. He will also talk with the Health Department. Eric as well will talk with Carey Bowers.

Pop Up Competition: Tom stated the competition classes are off to a good start with 12 participants. Last week Gov. Dewine was in Somerset, and they discussed:

1. Community Foundation for Perry County.
2. Broadband
3. Pop Up Competition

We have businesses that donated \$4,000. And \$2500 from Sunny Creek. We are still short \$2500.00 to cover the costs of Todd Christensen services, so Tom would like to see if ARPA funds can be used for this. If Ohio Budget and Management approves using ARPA Funds, Doug motioned to approve to allocate \$2500. From ARPA, seconded by David. All voted Aye.

NEW BUSINESS:

Safety Study on the Square: ODOT will be at the next meeting for a presentation.

Ord. 5-21 Water/Sewer rates, third reading: Mechelle motioned to approve, seconded by Doug. All voted Aye.

Charge Port Application: AEP has a new grant for Fast Charging Stations up to \$100,000.00. We currently have a slow charger, and we will keep that. The new station would have to be on a paved lot, and currently the Library would be the best location. Mayor needs approval to file an application with a Letter of Intent. Mechelle motioned to approve, seconded by David. All voted Aye.

Somerset Tree Grant resolution 21-15: To apply for a Urban Canopy Restoration Grant which would be used for purchasing, planting, maintaining and protecting trees. The Grant is for

\$5,000.00. Tom stated he received a grant of \$15,000 from Commodores Grant to purchase media equipment for the Builders Club. He has \$1,225 left from the Symphony Sponsors in which he was planning on using for the equipment, until we received this new grant. He would like to allocate the \$1,225 for the Tree Grant as well. Doug motioned to approve applying for the Tree Grant, seconded by Eric. All voted Aye. David motioned to allocate the \$1225.00 for the Tree Project, seconded by Mike. All voted Aye, except Mechelle with a no vote.

Income Surveys: We currently are at 51%, but we still need to collect 97 more surveys. Kelly, Mayor and Rochelle from IBI Group will go door to door on Wednesday.

EPA has agreed to extend our deadline till the end of the month, so we have time to find out if we are approved for the Capital grant to extend water lines, and purchase radio read meters. If we do not, EPA could award 50% Grant with 50% Loan.

Sgt. Aaron May introduced Chasity Smith as a new Auxiliary Police Officer. Mayor administered the Oath to her. Chasity currently works for The Genesis Police Dept.

PAY ORDINANCE 19-21: Doug motioned to approve, seconded by Mechelle. All voted Aye, except Mike abstaining from the payment to O’Lallys Mobile Wash.

With no further business to discuss, Mike motioned to adjourn, seconded by Doug. All voted Aye.

David Snider President

Kelly Beem Fiscal Officer