

**DECEMBER 15, 2015**

**COUNCIL FOR VILLAGE OF SOMERSET MET IN REGULAR SESSION WITH MAYOR TOM JOHNSON, DAVID SNIDER, ERIC HUSTON, DOUG FEHRMAN, ERIC EMMERT, AND BILL MOHLER PRESENT. MIKE LALLY WAS ABSENT.**

**EMPLOYEES KELLY BEEM, JANE FOULK, AND CHIEF VANDERMARK WERE ALSO PRESENT, ALONG WITH THE MEMBERS OF BOARD OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS.**

**GUESTS WERE DOUG WILLIAMS WITH PRECISION GEOPHYSICAL AND CASEY SARGEL FROM THE TRIBUNE.**

**MAYOR OPENED THE MEETING AND LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLIGIANCE.**

**MINUTES:** Mayor Johnson asked if anyone had any changes of the minutes from Dec. 1, 2015 that were emailed. No changes to make. Eric Emmert motioned to approve the minutes and Doug seconded. All voted Aye.

Mayor asked to go into executive session with the BPA and Fiscal Officer to discuss personnel evaluations. Dave motioned to suspend the rules, seconded by Eric Huston. All voted Aye. A motion by Dave to go into executive session to discuss personnel evaluations with the BPA was seconded by Eric H. All voted Aye. They entered session at 7:35pm.

Council returned at 7:45pm. A motion to return to regular session was made by Bill and Eric H. seconded his motion. All voted Aye. No action taken.

**GUEST DOUG WILLIAM FROM PRECISION GEOPHYSICAL** addressed the council regarding seismic surveys they want to perform for **Artex**. He wants permission to go on Market Street and High Street to lay receiver lines going East and West. They are conducting seismic surveys in search of possible reserves of petroleum and/or natural gas. Doug conducted surveys in Roseville and Crooksville three years ago. With discussion held, the Mayor asked if Artex could come at the next January meeting to discuss in more detail.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**CDBG INCOME SURVEY:** Kelly reports that Buckeye Hills reviewed the surveys and it looks like it's at 51% lmi. Melissa will add additional surveys to see if we reach a higher number to qualify for a different CDBG Grant.

**STREETSCAPE UPDATE:** The lights will be installed in January. The corner light fixtures are here at Sewer plant. They still need specs of weight limits before installing. Residents still do not want parking meters.

**EMERALD NECKLACE III:** We received the Grant agreement. All documents are here, and possible closing in 30 days.

**EMERALD NECKLACE IV:** Dave and Jane are to finalize documents to close St. Joe's Lake.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**CAPITAL BILL REQUEST:** There are 3 projects available for this, but Streetscape is not. Projects need to partner with State Entity to qualify.

**BROWNSFIELD CLEAN UP:** EPA is coming to Somerset on Thursday to look at environmental cleanups around the Village. Perry County has received a grant of \$400,000.00 to complete assessments on eligible properties throughout the county.

**ORDINANCE 15-06:** Greg Litzinger of The BPA explained to Council the need to increase water and sewer rates in 2016. They have a five year plan. For 2016, the rates will go up 5% and the next 4 years will see a 3% increase each year if needed. Bill motioned to approve the new rates, seconded by Dave. All voted Aye.

**ORDINANCE 15-07:** Kelly handed out the Temporary Appropriations for 2016 and reviewed the council. They will have to approve permanent appropriations by March 1, 2016. Bill motioned to approve the Temporary Appropriations for 2016, seconded by Doug. All voted Aye.

**ETHICS TRAINING:** Kelly handed out training information being held in March 2016 in New Lexington. All Council and BPA members are required to have this training. They can either do online webinars, or a class. Tom suggests to Council that they make a motion to take a course in this by March 20, 2016. Eric E. motioned for Council to take an Ethics training course either by class or online by March 30, 2016. Dave seconded. All voted Aye.

**NEW COMPUTER:** Tom explains that Jane has been using her personal laptop for work. Her laptop has crashed and she is paying to have it repaired herself. He would like to purchase a new laptop for the office from Somerset PC., for \$973.00. That includes the software as well. Dave motioned to purchase the laptop, seconded by Eric E. All voted Aye.

**CLEAN POWER PLAN LETTER:** Tom shared a sign on letter to John Kasich, Keith Farber, and Cliff Rosenberger. This addresses significant energy issues that will define our economy for years to come: the federal regulations, also known as the Clean Power Plan, and the freeze on Ohio's renewable and energy efficiency standards. There were some controversial conversations held on this. Dave asked everyone to do their homework on this before signing the Village of Somerset's name on this letter. They will discuss more details at the next meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Tom states that an anonymous donor donated \$3,000.00 to The Somerset Endowment Fund. He would like to get information out to the public about donating to this fund. He asked for members to come up with some fundraising ideas.

Tom also invited Council, BPA and employees to a Christmas Luncheon on Monday Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> at noon. Lunch will be provided by the Mayor.

**PAY ORDINANCE 15-30:** Council reviewed the payables totaling \$84,216.61. A motion by Doug, seconded by Eric H. was made to approve the Pay Ordinance. All voted Aye.

With nothing further to discuss, Doug motioned to adjourn at 8:35pm. This was seconded by Dave. All voted Aye.

---

Mayor Tom Johnson

---

President Dave Snider

---

Fiscal Officer Kelly Beem