

JULY 27, 2021
VILLAGE OF SOMERSET COUNCIL MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT WERE: David Snider, Doug Fehrman, Mike Lally, Bill Mohler and Eric Emmert. Also present were Mayor Johnson.

MINUTES: Bill motioned to approve the minutes from June 29th, 2021, and Mike seconded. All voted Aye, except Eric abstaining.

OLD BUSINESS:

Community Reinvestment Area (Ord 1-21) Since the second reading did not have a motion, we need to start over with a first reading. Michelle Robinson gave an update on the protentional tax abatement for rehabilitation for properties in the Historic district. She gave an update on her hotel stating she had a new feasibility study since the last one was a few years ago. She has a committed investor for at least \$600,000, and increasing the rooms to 15 with a wine and coffee bar. Properties are being purchased for reinvestments including the extension office. The Household Realter office has been purchased, and Cas Maxwell is working with an architect and engineer for the Little Phils restaurant to make it a pizza place. Council has concenrs about the wording on the ordinance. They don't want Landmarks used as guidelines, but would rather have actual addresses. A new version is needed. Possibly expanding it to all Somerset. If changes are made, council would consider this. This ordinance was tabled for a year in order to make requested changes, and have an Attorney read over it.

DORA: Sam Tuten joined by phone. We have submitted an application and it will be published in the Perry Tribune. There needs to be a Public Hearing held possibly before a council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Medical Insurance: Kevin Howell introduced Jeff Cashman from Wichert Insurance. Jeff explained he called Kelly while she was on vacation today around 3:00. We were originally looking at a 7.8% increase, but due to Medical Mutual losing grounds to Anthem, which was close in the comparison rates, they reduced our monthly premiums by 6.2% effective August 1st. Doug motioned to accept, seconded by Eric. All voted Aye. Jeff was asked by Kelly, to search Vision and Dental coverages for the employees. This would be a benefit to all eligible employees. Eric motioned to approve, seconded by David. All voted Aye.

Tom mentioned the new Pop Up Competition and Kevin Howell has agreed to sponsor it again this year.

Somerset Builders Club: Alex Bandar joined by phone with an update. He has carpet samples that need to be chosen. Currently there is \$24,000 remaining in the construction fund. David Snider brought up the need to repair the roof as there are many visible leaks. Eric motioned to use the remaining funds for the roof, seconded by Mike. All voted Aye.

Upstairs Bathrooms: Kelly received a quote from Ridenour Plumbing to replace the 4 stalls upstairs. The bid was for \$1,152 for regular toilets, or \$1380.00 for High Rise toilets. Eric motioned to approve the High Rise toilets, seconded by Doug All voted Aye.

Res. 21-11 Amend Park Appropriations: Eric explained the added costs this year on repairs, thus the need to increase appropriations. Doug motioned to approve, seconded by Bill. All voted Aye.

Res. 21-12: Authorization to change dates on Police Levy: Tom stated this resolution is authorizing the change in Election dates that were previously submitted to the board of elections. Doug motioned to approve, seconded by Mike. All voted Aye.

Golf Cart Ordinance: Sgt. May informed council of the increase in golf carts and atv like vehicles on the streets. He witnessed several very young girls driving a golf cart down 13 to the Park. He obtained a copy of an ordinance from Thornville. More discussion to follow.

Matt also asked if he could scrap an old Taurus that was kept for parts. The value would be under \$500.00. He will check with Ours to see if they are interested in it. He also has a Dodge Charger he would like to sell through the County Engineers Office. David motioned to approve both, seconded by Doug. All voted Aye.

BPA Pay Increases: The Board of Public Affairs recommended pay increases for Ike and Paul. Council stated that raises are given at the beginning of each year and declined the recommendation.

Eric brought up a list of items that need completed.

1. W Sheridan and N. Columbus Alleys
2. S. Columbus with Columbia Gas
3. Curb drainage at W Sheridan and 13
4. Hospital fence between Park and Hospital
5. Reclaim land by Hospital

David said Jay Russell is lined up to do the drainage work, and Tom will contact the property owners on S. Columbus. Doug mentioned having Ryan brush hog the field by the hospital. More discussion to follow.

PAY ORDINANCE 12-21: Doug motioned to approve, seconded by Eric. All voted Aye.

June Financials: Bill motioned to approve, seconded by Eric. All voted Aye.

Doug motioned to adjourn, seconded by Eric. All voted Aye.

President David Snider

Mayor Tom Johson