

**AUGUST 10, 2021**  
**VILLAGE OF SOMERSET COUNCIL MEETING**

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

We had Jacob Castor here with his mother Lisa. Jacob is with Boy Scout Troop 257, sitting in the meeting for his citizenship badge.

**MINUTES:** Eric motioned to approve the minutes from July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021, seconded by Doug. All voted Aye.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**DORA:** Brett Allphin and Sam Tuten for a Public Hearing before council regarding the Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area. They provided FAQ's for Kelly to have in the office and also requested she post those and the Application on the website.

**OUTDOOR SEATING:** Brett said the feasibility study is complete. There really aren't any major concerns for parking and safety. We could establish this as seasonal or annual and follow the Design Guidelines. Mayor asked Brett to focus on Strong & Co. and Clay Haus.

Mayor Tom informed council that we received our first payment from American rescue Plan act (ARPA) for \$76,000.00. Suggestions were made to possibly offer small business grants again with Rural Action, Infrastructure, Sewer Lines, New Police Cruiser. Kelly will check with Ohio Budget and Management are exactly what the funds can be used for. Tom will get a complete report from last year grants from Ohio Rural Action.

The Village has a to do list action plan. Eric will work with Ryan on these projects.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**BPA Pay recommendations:** Greg Litzinger is here to discuss pay raises for a couple of the water and sewer guys. David motioned to suspend rules, seconded by Bill. All voted Aye. David motioned to go into executive session to discuss personnel, seconded by Bill. All voted Aye. Mayor invited Greg, Kelly and Solicitor to join. Doug motioned to return to regular session, seconded by Bill. All voted Aye. No action taken. Greg proposed to increase Ike Hynus \$1.02 per hour and Paul Weiner .50 per hour with possible perform raises in January. David motioned to approve Greg's request, starting with this pay period, seconded by Eric. All voted Aye.

Andrea Cullinan is here to discuss a Halloween Event on the Square. The date and time have not been set yet, and are looking for ideas to name the event( Scare in the Square). They are brainstorming activities. She will follow up with council when more information is complete.

**SEOPC:** Ordinance 3-21 authorizing all actions necessary to formally accept a Southeast Ohio Public Energy Council grant issued to the Village for \$1,707.04. This is from the Electric Aggregation the Village participates in. Eric motioned to approve, seconded by Mechelle. All voted Aye. Mayor will ask SEOPC for updated rates.

**POP UP COMPETITION:** Mayor has obtained \$4,000 in sponsorship again for this year. The competition will begin in September.

**OPWC Application:** IBI is filing an application for OPWC funding. Doug motioned to approve, seconded by Mike. All voted Aye.

**The Columbus Symphony** is coming back to Somerset on August 22. Mayor has 6 sponsors for \$500.00 each and so far, 5 table sponsors for \$500.00 each. Mechelle will work on getting another 5 table sponsors. Eric rented a tent from Main Events again. The funds raised

will cover the cost of the tent, chairs, and banners. The Fire Department will help with parking. The Sheridan HS Marching Band will perform at 1:30 and the concert begins at 2.

Sgt. May would like to have council approval to hire Josh Dixon as a part time officer to replace Isaac Wiseman. He would like to start Josh at \$14.00 an hour for around 30 hours per week. Doug motioned to approve, seconded by David. All voted Aye.

Matt also stated Dave Ours offered \$400.00 for the old scrap Taurus. Council approved.

**PAY ORDINANCE 13-21 AND 14-21:** Doug motioned to approve both ordinances, seconded by Mechelle. All voted Aye.

No other business was discussed.

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

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President David Snider

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Fiscal Officer Kelly Beem