

FEBRUARY 22, 2022
VILLAGE OF SOMERSET COUNCIL MEETING

Members present were: Doug Fehrman, Chris Shonk, Ryan Green, Bill Mohler and Mechelle Siemer. **Mayor Johnson joined by Zoom. Will Flautt and Kelly Beem were also present.**

MINUTES: Doug motioned to approve the minutes of Feb. 8th, 2022, seconded by Chris. All voted Aye.

GUESTS:

Mechelle introduced Melissa and JD Ferrell. Melissa would like to put a Blessing Box on the Courthouse Square in Memory of her mother Cindy. JD would build the box, and either anchor it to the sidewalk or building. The box would have non-perishable items, blankets, etc for those in need. Take what you need, leave what you can kind of thing. Council would like to see a drawing of the box and their ideas as to where to place it. They will come back with their ideas.

Kendra Schenk from Burgess & Niple gave a powerpoint of the Main St. (US22) and Columbus St. (SR 13) Safety Study. ODOT along with Burgess Niple have shared concerns about the town square and are presenting changes to the traffic pattern. There are several options, but to get started a Mid Term Improvement would Paint markings on the pavement for directional yielding was recommended. Council would like to have more discussion before deciding.

OLD BUSINESS:

Safe Routes to School: Chris explained the process again to council. We should start with applying for funding through ODOT to hire a consultant. We have addresses of all the students at Somerset Elementary and still waiting on Holy Trinity. Surveys need to be completed from Parents and Teachers as well.

ARPA Funds: We currently have \$76,206.40 received last year, and another \$75,000 to some early Summer.

Outdoor Seating and DORA: Brett Alphin and Sam Tuten will be meeting with businesses tomorrow in the Courthouse to answer questions, and get approvals from those wishing to participate. Questions raised about Permanent Awnings and parking issues. Tom stated Job and Family Services has a youth employment program for ages up to 24. Maybe they could fund a Valet Parking program with them.

Doug left the meeting at 7:25 before any new Business was discussed.

NEW BUSINESS:

USDA Business Development Grant: Mayor will discuss at the next meeting.

North Valley Bank CD's and Public Funds: Our CD's mature at the end of the month. North Valley presented new rates. Mechelle motioned to approve a 17 mo. 0.25% APY for CD # 453811, and to approve a 25 mo. 0.35% for the others. Bill seconded her motion. All voted Aye.

Commodore Grant for SBC: We received \$15,000 grant to purchase additional equipment such as Dell Touch IPS Glass Monitor, Video equipment, Epson Camera, media editing PCs, etc. Ryan motioned to approve the spending for the equipment only funded by the Commodore Grant, seconded by Bill. All voted Aye.

Jan. Bank Reconciliation and Financials: Bill motioned to approve, seconded by Mechelle. All voted Aye.

Bill motioned to suspend rules, seconded by Mechelle. All voted Aye.

Bill motioned to go into executive session to discuss an employee appointment, seconded by Ryan. All voted Aye. Bill motioned to return to regular session, seconded by Mechelle. All voted Aye. No action taken.

Police Vacancy: Matt sent a proposal to hire a new Police officer to Council. Council would like to wait till Jeff returns.

With no further business to discuss, Ryan motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mechelle. All voted Aye.

Mayor Tom Johnson

Fiscal Officer Kelly Beem