

**JULY 11, 2023**  
**VILLAGE OF SOMERSET COUNCIL MEETING**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Eric Emmert, Chris Shonk, Bill Mohler and Mechelle Siemer. Also present were Mayor Johnson, Kelly Beem, Will Flautt and Chief Schons. BPA members Greg Litzinger and Jim Wilson also attended.

**MINUTES:** Eric motioned to approve the minutes from June 13, 2023, seconded by Mechelle. All voted Aye.

Cathy Ankrum is here on behalf of The Small-Town Christmas committee. Previously the Village has donated \$500.00 per year. Since there are 22 more light poles they would like to decorate. Eric motioned to increase this year's donation to \$1,000, seconded by Chris. All voted Aye.

**SBC UPDATE:** Trace Johnson will be at the next council meeting. In the meantime, Kelly and Tom are working on disbursements for the Appalachian Community Grant, and the Capital Bill Grant. The Joint Use Agreement is completed to start requesting \$250,000 for construction. Eric motioned to approve the Agreement, seconded by Mechelle. All voted Aye.

**POLICE UPDATE:** Chief Schons gave his update to council. The Fourth of July went very well. Officer Chris Cline worked the event too. He is the one wanting the Chief to hire him for 1 day, so he can obtain benefits from his previous employer. Bill motioned to hire Chris Cline for 1 day, seconded by Eric. All voted Aye. Council members addressed the traffic concerns in the Village, and would like to see more enforcement. Especially from the Chief. A pedestrian was hit in the square last week. Mayor would like to re-visit the square safety at the next meeting.

Joy Stewart is here to see about leasing a room for her barbershop. Council, Mayor and Chief looked at all the available rooms. No decision was made. Mayor would like a report from the Chief as to the cost to move the evidence room.

Bill motioned to suspend rules for executive session, seconded by Eric. All voted Aye. Chris motioned to go into executive session for personnel, seconded by Bill. All voted Aye. Mayor invited Greg Litzinger and Jim Wilson. Bill motioned to return to regular session, seconded by Mechelle. All voted Aye.

Mayor asked for a motion to give Lane Mulford a \$3.57 raise. No motion. Mechelle motioned to give Lane his raise after he passes his Operators License test, seconded by Bill. Mechelle, Chris and Bill voted Yes, Eric No. Motioned passed.

Greg and Jim walked out of the meeting.

No old Business was discussed.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Res. 10-23: Story Book Trail:** There is a grant for up to \$10,000 for 25 signs for the walking trails at the park. Eric motioned to approve, seconded by Chris. All voted Aye.

**Troy Balderson will be here on August 2<sup>nd</sup>, and Mayor would like all available Council Members attend. 9-am. Mr. Balderson will also meet with the Fire Department at 10:30.**

**Ord. 5-23 Third and Final Reading for the Natural Gas Aggregation:** If approved tonight, Kelly will file with the Board of Elections. Bill motioned to approve, seconded by Eric. All voted Aye.

**New Zoning Ordinance:** Kelly gave all council members a copy of the new ordinance. Bill asked for everyone to review and comment, so they can finish the revision.

**Employee Medical Insurance share:** To discuss next meeting.

**Golf Cart:** Kelly advertised in the Tribune the sale of the golf cart. She will also post it on Gov Deals.

Legion speaker system for Memorial Day. Mayor authorized the payment of \$400.00 for our share.

**PAY ORDINANCES 9-23 AND 10-23:** Bill motioned to approve both, seconded by Eric. All voted Aye.

Eric reports that Ryan Green is stabilized after her accident, and that she will be going to an inpatient rehab facility soon.

No other business to discuss. Mechelle motioned to adjourn, and all with a yes vote.

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President Eric Emmert

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Fiscal Officer Kelly Beem