

**JULY 8, 2025**  
**VILLAGE OF SOMERSET COUNCIL MEETING**

**Members present:** Chris Shonk, Mechelle Siemer, Ryan Green and Cindy Hayes. Also present were Mayor Emmert, Will Flautt, Chief Ross, and Kelly Beem.

Chris motioned to excuse Doug, seconded by Cindy. All voted Aye.

**Minutes:** The minutes from May 27 and July 2, 2025 were reviewed. Chris motioned to approve both, seconded by Mechelle. All voted Aye.

**Mayor Reports:**

Eric called on Kevin Flautt to talk about his property at 128 E. Main St. Kevin and his wife purchased this dilapidated property this spring with anticipation of tearing it down to make better use of the lot. The foundation has suffered years of neglect and the conditions inside are horrific. Roof dame, floors rotten, etc. They are requesting permission from council to tear it down. They plan on building a new structure, but don't have any exact plan yet. Eric wants this to go to the Zoning Board and talk to Bill Mohler. This house is in the Historical District.

Eric said the Fireworks display was awesome this year. Annette Moore and Kelly discussed that we did not donate to them this year. Eric would like a motion from council to donate \$3,000 to the Fourth of July Committee. Mechelle motioned to approve, seconded by Chris. All voted Aye.

Eric informed council that we received \$1,552,500 over the next few years for Systemic Safety Projects from ODOT. This includes the square, and Pigfoot Square.

**Police Reports:**

Chief Ross said the celebration and fireworks went smoothly. He reports 2 accidents that were not on the square.

**Fiscal Officer Reports:**

Kelly presented two pay ordinances. Pay Ordinance 10-2025 and 11-2025. After review of both, Mechelle motioned to approve, seconded by Chris. All voted Aye.

Kelly shared the Bid announcement that was advertised in the Newark Advocate on Monday. This will be advertised for 4 more weeks, then we can open bids and sell the property. Ryan stated she is conflicted on us not keeping the sewer line easement. She thinks we need to re-consider at. Kelly stated the decision came from the Board of Public Affairs and our Engineer. The cost was too overwhelming for the Village. Ryan would like the bid announcement posted on FB as well.

**Unfinished Business:**

**Sign Variance for Holy Trinity Church:** Chad Wilkins, our Zoning Inspector reviewed the sign permit. He denied it and Kelly sent to the Zoning Board. Zoning is sending it to council for a variance. The sign is too large for our zoning standards. Mechelle motioned to deny the variance, Ryan seconded. Cindy and Chris with No votes, Mechelle and Ryan Yes. After more discussion, Ryan rescinds her second motion to deny. There was no other second on the floor. Council would like to have Kessler Sign Co and someone from the Church at the next meeting.

Discussion on reviewing a Property Maintenance Code was held. Some properties are out of control with high grass, weeds, trash, etc. Council members, Cindy, Mechelle and Ryan along with Chief Ross will head this up and look at the International Property code.

**New Business:**

Mechelle is looking into lighting for the Courthouse for the Small Towne Christmas. She is meeting with a company for a quote.

**Res. 10-25: A Resolution declaring it necessary to levy a t tax in excess of the 10 mill, and declaring an emergency.** The resolution was read by title only, and Ryan motioned to approve, seconded by Cindy. All voted Aye.

**Res. 13-2025: A Resolution authorizing a tax lien filed with County Auditor for \$789.82 for 114 Summit St.** Ryan motioned to approve, seconded by Mechelle. All voted Aye.

**Public Comments:**

Kevin Flautt asked if we could install another light close to his house on E. Main St. It is very dark at night. Council will review this request.

No further business was discussed. Mechelle motioned to adjourn, seconded by Cindy. All voted Aye.

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President Ryan Green

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Fiscal Officer Kelly Beem