MARCH 24, 2026
VILLAGE OF SOMERSET COUNCIL MEETING

Members present: Ryan Green, Keith Neel, Eric Huston, Ty Taylor, Dylan Emmert and Cindy Hayes. Also present were Mayor Emmert, Kelly Beem Chief Ross, and Ike Hynus.

Mayor asked Ike to speak first. He is requesting to have two weeks of vacation carried over from May to July this year. He states he was told by BPA not to take vacations when he did not have anyone to cover for him. In May he get 5 more weeks of vacation. If he cannot carry over the vacation he asked if council would buy out those two weeks. Mayor read the Employee Handbook regarding vacations. He informed Ike that from this point forward, we will follow the handbook 100%. Council and Mayor approved his request to carry over 2 weeks.

GUESTS:

Denny Young: Denny would like a variance from council to put up a yard sign from 11-5 on Saturdays for Artist Co-Op. Council approved his request without going through the variance stage.

Linda Dupler: Linda is here about her neighbors again. They throw trash/cans out of their car in the yard, trash all over the place. Chad Wilkins is here and spoke about the Property Maintenance Code again. He said if we adopt this code, we could address it with the homeowners or tenants.

MAYOR:

1. Mayor stated he, Kelly and TJ met with Mike Lavigne to give us quotes for IT services and HB 96 Cybersecurity that needs in place by June. Mike does IT work for several municipalities.
2. Mayor, Cindy and eric Huston have interviewed for the administrator position. They have it narrowed down to three.
3. Mayor attended an RCAP session regarding Rules of Council. Very Interesting and when another class is scheduled, he would like our council to attend.

CHIEF:

1. Pub Crawl was a success. Went very smooth.
2. The Trailer Park has new owners (Brightstar). They say they are going to clean the place up.
3. Officer Hinkle resigned from the department.
4. Chief received a quote for security cameras of around $5,700.00. We will wait and see what quote Mike Lavigne gives us as well.

FISCAL OFFICER:

1. **Pay Ordinance 4-26:** Eric Huston motioned to approve, seconded by Ty. All voted Aye.
2. **Feb. Financials and Bank Reconciliation:** Eric Huston motioned to approve, seconded by Ty. All voted Aye.
3. **Kelly** shared on overview from CCA for 2025.
4. Kelly asked about having a Lodging Tax in Somerset. More information to follow.
5. **Agreement to Operate Somerset Park:** Our Park agreement with the township expired in December 2025. This is a five year agreement. Dylan motioned to approve seconded by Ryan. All voted Aye. Kelly will give the signed agreement to Annette Moore for the Township to approve and sign.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. **Village Community Clean Up Days:** Kelly was awarded another $5,000 to have dumpsters placed around town. This will begin April 1, till about the 10th. Residents are encouraged to clean up their yards.
B. **EHTICS TRAINING and SUNSHINE LAW TRAINING:** All new council members need to take these two online courses. Kelly provided the portals for each. We will do the Auditor of States Fraud Reporting training at an upcoming council meeting.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES:

1. **Res. 1-26: A Resolution adopting the 2024 edition of the International Property Maintenance Code as the property Maintenance Code of the Village of Somerset, Ohio and declaring an emergency.** Cindy motioned to approve, seconded by Ty. All voted Aye.

2. **Res. 2-26: A resolution supporting the Village of Somerset's application for STAG Community Project Funding to replace the N. Columbus, E. Sheridan and S. Columbus Pump stations.** Ryan motioned to approve, seconded by Eric Huston. All voted Aye.

3. **Res. 3-26: A resolution to amend the annual resources and appropriations and apply for an amended certificate with the County Auditor, and declaring an emergency.** Ryan motioned to approve, seconded by Dylan. All voted Aye.

4. **Ord. 2-26: An ordinance approving, adopting and enacting the American Legal Publisher's Ohio Basic Code 2026 edition, as the code of ordinances for the Village of Somerset, Ohio and declaring an emergency.** Dylan motioned to approve, seconded by Keith. All voted Aye.

Public Comments:

The Park needs more lights in the evenings. Or signs the park is closes at dusk.
The tree at the entrance of the park and St Rt 13 needs removed. It obstructs the view whining pulling out of the park.

No further business was discussed, and council adjourned.

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Ryan Green, Council President Kelly Beem, Fiscal Officer