

**MARCH 26, 2024**  
**VILLAGE OF SOMERSET COUNCIL MEETING**

**Members present:** Eric Emmert, Mechelle Simer, Doug Fehrman, Chris Shonk and Ryan Green. Also present were Mayor Johnson, Chief Schons, Kelly Beem and Will Flautt.

**SBC UPDATE:** Tom stated the construction plans were approved and permits were issued. So far, we have only received 2 bids. The bids will be opened on April 26<sup>th</sup>. Tech Cred is going well, and they have a call with Intel tomorrow. Kelly presented invoices to submit for payment. Eric motioned to approve the invoices, seconded by Mechelle. All voted Aye.

**POLICE:** Chief Schons introduced Kelly Brown as a new auxiliary officer. Mayor Johnson swore him in. The property room is coming along and non-case related items are ready to be destroyed. Chief will get with Will Flautt on this. He will hire a company to come in and shred what they can. Chief would like approval to purchase 2 gun safes from Home Depot for \$3,599.98. Delivery is free. Doug would like him to check with Underwoods first about ordering from him. Eric motioned to approve up to \$4,000 for 2 gun safes, seconded by Ryan. All voted Aye. Chief reports he now has 5 auxiliary members, 1 part time officer, 2 full time and 1 civilian. Budget will be presented at next meeting. His budget will be over the amount of what the property taxes brings him to cover the patrolling required.

**MINUTES: The minutes from March 12<sup>th</sup> were reviewed.** Doug motioned to approve seconded by Mechelle. All voted Aye.

**CALLAHAN Farm Lease:** Kelly posted the bid with the Tribune for 5 weeks. We should have bids at the last council meeting in April.

**SOPEC:** The last council meeting, they approved the funds to clean, and maintain the Phil Sheridan statue. Kelly will work with Erin Stevens to change the resolution. Chris is looking into purchasing scaffolding or possibly renting.

**ST JOES LAKE:** Tom asked ENG (Environmental Design Group) to scale back their design to just include a kayak launch and some concrete. The launch would be around \$26,000.00. Erik Peterson quoted over \$18,000 to remove evasive species from the lake and to build trails through Rural Action. Tom will talk to Erik and not move forward with that.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Res. 7-2024: Allow Fiscal Officer to permanently transfer \$50,000 from General to Street Fund.** Doug motioned to approve, seconded by Eric. All voted Aye.

**Donations to Village:** Kelly reports she has received \$1800.00 over the last couple years as donations. Council would like her to hang on to it for a special event.

**Waibel Electric:** The quote to replace the old lights in the courthouse is \$2,700.00. Doug motioned to approve, seconded by Mechelle. All voted Aye.

**Property Damage Release:** Kelly received a property damage release form from when an electric pole has hit and power was out. Jess Howard Electric replaced the pole and repaired the electric. Their cost was \$3,480.00. Their owners insurance wants a release of damage form signed before funds will be released to Jess Howard. Eric motioned to approve, seconded by Doug. All voted Aye, except Ryan abstained.

**PAY ORDINANCE 5-2024:** Doug motioned to approve, seconded by Eric. All voted Aye.

**Trash Contract:** We have a 1 year option to extend our contract with WinWaste. Council would like to get their prices for the new contract and see if a Franchise agreement can be included.

**Feb. Bank Reconciliation and Financials:** Kelly reviewed. Ryan motioned to approve, seconded by Doug. All voted Aye.

No further business was discussed.

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President Eric Emmert

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Fiscal Officer Kelly Beem