

**SEPTEMBER 12, 2023**  
**VILLAGE OF SOMERSET COUNCIL MEETING**

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

**MINUTES:** Eric motioned to approve the minutes from Aug. 22, 2023, seconded by Doug. All voted Aye except Mechelle and Ryan abstained.

Thad Cooperider was here to discuss the Noise Ordinance. There are many issues with the ordinance as it stands. It is not enforceable. He would like Council to rescind this and work with him and other businesses on a new ordinance. Eric motioned to rescind Ord. 3-23 and start the process over again. Doug seconded his motion. All voted Aye.

**Street Dept update:** Ryan Yzenski sent an email to Kelly for the update: The High street paving is on the books for next Spring. The Streetscape project is completed. Ryan asked for residents to bag their leaves and put on the curbs for pickup on Mondays and not to make the bags too heavy. And only yard waste is allowed. Kelly will post on Facebook.

**Purchase replacement light bulbs for the street lights:** Ryan received a quote from American Light Co to purchase a bulk of 30 light bulbs for \$584.27. This way, when a light goes out, we will have the stock to replace. This keeps all the bulbs looking the same. Doug motioned to approve, seconded by Mechelle. All voted Aye.

**POLICE UPDATE:** Chief handed out his stats for the period. He would like to order a laptop for his assistant Courtney, not to exceed \$2,000.00. Doug motioned to approve, seconded by Eric. All voted Aye. Chief talked about the Blueline contract and the traffic in school zones. Mayor asked him to review with Will Flautt on the contract and ordinances and present at the next meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Callahan Property:** Mayor received a draft design for the new park from Environmental Design Group. It shows soccer fields, pickleball courts, baseball fields and walking trails. A housing development is also in the design. Also, the design for St. Joe's Lake including parking, trails, and an osprey nest. The Emerald Necklace is also included. More discussion will be held at the next meeting.

**Square Safety:** We have \$50,000 grant from Buckeye Hills for transportation design for the square.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Citizens Notification Alerts:** Kelly presented information on a mobile app notification system for the residents. Knowing that more transparency is needed. This app will allow residents to get notifications on the happenings in Somerset. Road closures, meetings, events, emergencies, etc. The cost for Somerset is \$3,600.00 a year. That is based on our population. Eric would like to have it tied in with 911 and EMA if possible.

**SOPEC Grant Invitation:** Sopec is inviting Somerset to be a team member for Smart Water System Grids. This team will establish Phase I of this planning grant. Mayor will participate.

**ORD. 6-23: Approving County Auditor's Estimated Resources for 2024.** Doug motioned to approve, seconded by Bill. All voted Aye.

**RES. 14-23: To create a part time Administrative Assistant:** Kelly would like to hire an assistant to her and the Mayor. This will allow Kelly to work on Grants more with the Mayor. We have to create this position in order to develop a job description and post the position. This is not an Administrator's position. Doug motioned to approve, seconded by Bill. All voted Aye, except Mechelle with a no vote.

Mechelle left the meeting at 7:15pm.

**RES. 15-23: To extend benefits to regular part-time employees:** Kelly stated we have 2 employees that work every day, but are only part-time. They do not currently get paid holidays, vacation or sick time. She would like to change that. It would be based on their normal work hours, and after they have been employed for a year for vacation and sick time. Council would like to see the costs involved with doing this at the next meeting.

**TRICK OR TREAT NIGHT:** Council agreed to have trick or treat on Thursday, Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7pm. Kelly will post on Facebook.

**PAY ORDINANCE 14-23:** Eric motioned to approve, seconded by Bill. All voted Aye.

**Aug. Bank Rec and Financials:** Doug motioned to approve, seconded by Eric. All voted Aye, except Ryan abstained.

Eric would like Rules of Council Ordinance at the next meeting.

Scare on the Square is Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>.

With no further business to discuss, Doug motioned to adjourn, seconded by Bill. All voted Aye.

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President Eric Emmert

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Fiscal Officer Kelly Beem