Village of Custar, Ohio

Minutes from **January 11, 2023**

Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Robert Cavin called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. Council members Renee Hartman, Cheryl Vanscoder, Dawn Berry, Dee Bates, and Brian Cron were all present.

The minutes from the previous meeting (12/14/22) were reviewed by council. Ms. Hartman made a motion to approve them as read, which was seconded by Ms. Berry; all were in favor.

BPA Business

All members were in attendance until 7:35pm.

* They officially hired Sarah Schroeder as the new BPA Clerk, effective 1/1/23.
* Jerry will be the board president this year, and Dave Wensink will act as VP.
* The Christmas décor will probably be up until the middle of February.
* Mr. Clink stated that he and Kevin will start working on clearing out the old electric building soon so that it can be torn down. If the building demo is under $50K, it shouldn’t need to go out to bid. Once the building is gone, the land can be put up for sale.

Fiscal Items:

* Council reviewed the payment register for 12/15/22-1/11/23, which included:

 Regular check #’s 14348-14351, totaling $992.30

 Payroll check #’s 14335-14347, totaling $1,229.86

 9 EFT payments, totaling $25,307.27

Mrs. Vanscoder made a motion for approval, and Ms. Bates seconded; all were in favor.

* The financial reports for December 2022 weren’t ready for review yet; the Fiscal Officer will have these at the next meeting after the 2022 books are closed.
* **Ordinance 2023-1**, establishing a pay increase for the Fiscal Officer, received the 1st reading.
* Emergency **Ordinance 2023-2** was read, to amend the pay for the BPA Clerk’s position. Ms. Bates made a motion to suspend the 2nd and 3rd readings, which was seconded by Mrs. Vanscoder; a roll call vote was taken with all in favor. Mrs. Vanscoder moved for passage, and Ms. Berry seconded. All were in favor; passed.
* Emergency **Ordinance 2023-**3 was read, to retain the services of Solicitor Corey Speweik for 1/1/23 through 12/31/24. Ms. Hartman moved to suspend the 2nd and 3rd readings, and Ms. Bates seconded; a roll call vote was taken with all in favor. Ms. Berry made a motion for passage, which was seconded by Ms. Hartman. All were in favor; passed.

Committee Business

* **Parks & Recreation:**
	+ The order for the new picnic tables & trash can hasn’t been placed yet, but Sarah will get this done ASAP.
	+ We forgot to put the port-a-pot in during 2022, but no one complained that it wasn’t there. Council considered not having it this year, but then figured it would be best to have it for those using the park shelter house. Sarah will call to have them bring it at the beginning of April.
	+ The Mayor asked whose wagon is parked behind the mower building at Louy Park. It is not the Village’s and needs to be removed. Ms. Hartman will get a hold of Shawn to see if she knows whose it is.
* **Streets/Sidewalks:** The Planning Commission is in the process of scheduling the pre=construction meeting for the CDBG project. The Mayor stated that he would like to be there, and will take off work if necessary.
* **Zoning/Planning:** The Zoning Inspector received a copy of Mr. Behrman’s complaint about the Habichts’ shed. At this time, it isn’t known if all of the parties had gotten together yet (Mr. Behrman, the Zoning Inspector, and the Habichts) to discuss a solution. If they have not, we should send the Habichts a letter so that they know the matter is not resolved and they will be contacted in the future.

Ms. Hartman noted that the survey pin that was found was not in line with the alley, so she would like to look into this further once we get a measuring wheel.

It was suggested that we vacate the alley, but we may need it in the future to access the Village-owned High Street property if we decide to do something with it.

Other Business:

* The next newsletter will go out sometime around the end of February. Council briefly discussed items to be included (new BPA info, Methodist Soup Supper, etc).
* Council re-visited the consideration of hourly raises for park and street positions. Currently, park employees receive $12/hour and streets receive $15/hour. All felt that both jobs should receive equal hourly pay, and agreed on $16/hour across the board. Ms. Hartman made a motion to approve the rate change, which Ms. Berry seconded; all were in favor. The Fiscal Officer will see if we need to have an ordinance prepared, and if so, will make sure this is ready for the next meeting.
* One of the clips holding the flag to the pole is broken. The Mayor will send Sarah a pic of what we need so she can order new ones.

No further business was brought before council.

At 7:57pm, Ms. Bates made a motion to adjourn, and Mr. Cron seconded; all were in favor.

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Fiscal Officer Mayor