Village of Custar, Ohio

Minutes from **March 8, 2023**

Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Robert Cavin called the meeting to order at 7:31pm. Council members Renee Hartman, Cheryl Vanscoder, Dawn Berry, Dee Bates, and Brian Cron were all present.

The minutes from the previous meeting (2/8/23) were reviewed by council. Ms. Hartman made a motion to approve them as read, which was seconded by Ms. Berry; all were in favor.

The BPA was not in attendance; they met last Wednesday, March 1st.

Fiscal Items:

* The PEP insurance renewal was presented and reviewed by council. The price was a little under what we paid last year, including the Faithful Performance coverage (in lieu of bonds). We will also be able to get another $1,000 in PEP+ grant funds. Ms. Berry made a motion to stay with PEP and approve the coverage as presented; Mrs. Vanscoder seconded the motion, and all were in favor.
* Council reviewed the payment register for 2/9/23-3/8/23, which included:

Regular check #’s 14383-14389, totaling $7,822.36

Payroll check #’s 14369-14382, totaling $2,389.74

3 EFT payments, totaling $20,541.00

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

* The financial reports for February 2023 were presented to council for review. Ms. Bates made a motion for approval, Ms. Berry seconded; all were in favor.
* **Ordinance 2023-1**, establishing a pay increase for the Fiscal Officer, received the 3rd reading. Ms. Hartman made a motion for passage and Ms. Bates seconded. All were in favor; passed.
* Emergency **Ordinance 2023-5** was read, to increase the hourly rate for our electric linemen to $40/hour (amending Ordinance 13-07). Ms. Berry moved to suspend the 2nd and 3rd readings, which was seconded by Ms. Hartman; a roll call was taken, with all in favor. Mrs. Vanscoder made a motion for passage, and Ms. Bates seconded. All were in favor; passed.
* Emergency **Ordinance 2023-6** was read, to increase the hourly rate for our electric supervisor (Jerry Clink) to $40/hour (amending Ordinance 14-07). Ms. Hartman moved to suspend the 2nd and 3rd readings, which was seconded by Mrs. Vanscoder; a roll call was taken, with all in favor. Ms. Bates made a motion for passage, and Ms. Berry seconded. All were in favor; passed.
* Three roll-off dumpsters from Behrman’s have been scheduled to be dropped off for the May 13th trash day. The price for each has increased to $475.
* We had a BWC audit on 2/23/23, which went well and actually resulted in a small refund.

Committee Business

* **Parks & Recreation:** 
  + After reviewing the Nature Works grant application (which is due June 1st), Ms. Hartman stated that this seemed like a lot of work and data collection without any guaranteed result. Ms. Berry was willing to take the application home and look over it to see what she thought.
  + Ms. Hartman had also reviewed the First Energy Planting Program information. If we are going to plant trees, we would need to do this within the next 2 months.
  + It was noted that the dirt from the new recycling area got put right over top of the garden. In the future, we need to make sure not to dump things north of the garage.
  + Ms. Berry had looked at adult exercise equipment for us to put in at Louy Park as a possible WCPD grant application idea for this year. Even though what was found was geared towards adults, kids will inevitably play on it, which is not safe. Ms. Hartman suggested that we keep looking to see what else we can find.
* **Streets/Sidewalks:** Ms. Hartman had questions about the curb work to be completed on Custar Road as part of the CDBG project. She noted that the plans showed sections slated for replacement that are in better shape than ones that were excluded. Council had previously decided not to go ahead with the additional (alternate) sections, due to a lack of funding. The Mayor agreed to contact the contractor and see how much extra it would cost to replace an additional 35’ section. It was also suggested that we look at changing the grade of the curbs so that water flows in the right direction.
* **Fire Board:** Rob checked with Milton Fire, and they would not be able to do a training burn on the old electric building.
* **Safety:** Ms. Bates reported one property that will need to be sent a citation notice for junk.

Other Business

It was brought to council’s attention that we may not have approved/adopted the NIMS guidelines (in relation to incident management for natural disasters) back in the early 2000’s. Sarah cannot locate any such ordinance, which means it likely did not get done. If we don’t adopt NIMS (which stands for National

Incident Management System), we would not be eligible to receive any sort of federal funding if a natural disaster were to occur. The Mayor asked that we get this on the agenda for passage at the next meeting. He also noted that he plans to attend an upcoming EMA meeting on Hazard Mitigation grants.

No further business was brought before council.

At 8:26pm, Ms. Hartman made a motion to adjourn, and Mr. Cron seconded; all were in favor.

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Fiscal Officer Mayor