Village of Custar, Ohio

Minutes from **March 13, 2024**

Regular Council Meeting

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

The 2/14/24 meeting minutes were reviewed by council. Ms. Hartman moved to approve them as read, and Ms. Bates seconded; all were in favor.

BPA Business

All members were in attendance until 7:41pm. Mr. Clink reported that he got a new fire extinguisher for the mower shed and two for the Legion Hall while Snow’s was here servicing the others. Additionally, the board chose new patriotic banners for downtown that they will be ordering.

Visitor(s)

**Rob Fawcett** from UIS Insurance was in attendance until 7:59pm to go over a few items with our policy:

* He first addressed the hall rental agreement, as council felt the proposed draft needed to be simplified. When the Legion previously owned and rented out the building, it was all done in good faith without anything in writing. Therefore, council does not want a lengthy contract and the need for a certificate of insurance to deter people from renting. Mr. Fawcett clarified that these items are not *absolute* requirements, although they are strongly recommended. If someone were to sue us, we want to be protected as well as possible. The Fiscal Officer will draft a simplified version of the agreement, which Rob will review, and then it will be brought back to council for approval.
* When council had reviewed the policy at the previous meeting, it was noted that $209K in coverage for the hall seemed like too much, and this is even at ACV (actual cash value). If we were to insure at replacement cost, the coverage would be around $400K and about $400 more per year in premium. Regardless of whether or not the current building is worth $209K or would sell for that much, Rob explained that we would likely need this much to construct another building with a kitchen and bathrooms like we have now. Regardless of whether or not we rebuilt, we would get $209K if the building were a total loss. However, if it were not a total loss, and for instance the roof would need to be replaced, insuring at ACV means that depreciation would be factored in to what the insurance would cover. Council chose to stay with ACV for the time being, but may reconsider at renewal.
* As far as the Protection Class currently listed on our policy (9), Mr. Fawcett had reached out to Milton Township Fire for clarification and had not heard back. Mayor Cavin placed a quick call to the Fire Chief during the meeting, and he was told that the protection class is 05/5Y. As soon as they can get something in writing that says this, he can get PEP to make the update. Any difference in premium would be added to our account as a credit.

Fiscal Items:

* Council reviewed the payment register for 2/15/24-3/13/24, which included:

Regular check #’s 14665-14672, totaling $9,203.43

Payroll check #’s 14652-14664, totaling $3,557.42

5 EFT payments, totaling $21,538.60

This included payment of our insurance in full (as discussed). Ms. Bates moved to approve the payment register, seconded by Mrs. Vanscoder; all were in favor.

* The financial reports for February 2024 were reviewed by council. Ms. Bates made a motion for approval, and Ms. Berry seconded; all were in favor.
* Since Jim is no longer employed, his town credit card will be closed and a new replacement card will be opened in Roger’s name.

Committee Business:

* **Parks & Recreation:**
  + Mayor Cavin reported that they do not make a mower scoop that will fit our current mower. It was also noted that the plastic trailer that attaches to the mower is “junk” and does not work well; we need to get a sturdier wagon (made out of metal) that dumps. Roger will be asked to look for one that can be used for what we need.
  + Roger is waiting for a call back from John Deere in Napoleon to get the mower in for service before mowing season begins. He knows that bearings and a belt will need to be replaced.
  + The trees at the back of Community Park are looking bad and need to be watered. It was decided not to do a hydrant hookup/meter, due to the $1K deposit. Ms. Hartman suggested we look at getting a spigot on the outside of the Legion building with a lock on it. Mr. Bush may consider donating his 50-gallon rain barrel to the Village.
  + Ms. Hartman stated that she would like for us to again consider adult exercise equipment for Louy Park as our WCPD grant project. Sarah will look into kid-friendly options and bring some info to the next meeting.
  + The stone isn’t down yet for the gazebo, but Ms. Berry will contact Mr. Clink in the next week.
* **Streets/Sidewalks:**
  + The Fiscal Officer reported on the CDIS pre-CDBG meeting that she attended this evening at the courthouse. They estimated that there will be about the same amount of funding available as they had in the last round ($328K), and they will fund 4 projects. There were 4 entities in attendance, so we have an excellent chance of receiving a grant. Council would like to use Kleinfelder instead of Feller Finch this time, since Dave Kuhn will soon be retiring. Sarah will get in contact with them, and will also see if they can clarify questions raised about which homes are included in the income survey. We are looking to apply for the south end of High Street, Perry Street, and/or two alleys on the NE side of 281 and Custar Road.
  + It was noted that one of the Snow Emergency Route signs on the south end of Custar Road is completely faded and will need to be replaced.
* **Safety:** On February 14th, a junk notice was sent to 8949 Custar Road, but it still is not in compliance. The next step is to call the Health Department.
* **Recycling**: Sarah was asked to order a magnet for each bin that says not to put in plastic bags.
* **Water/Sewer:** The Custar Road ditch was recently cleaned, which we should receive a bill for from Wood Co Soil & Water Conservation. However, Mr. Cron reported that it’s packed full of debris again.

Other Business:

* Council reviewed a draft of the Winter/Spring Newsletter. Garage Sales were set for May 10-12 to go along with Weston’s nearby. Trash drop off can then be scheduled for the following Saturday, May 18th. It was agreed to only do 2 roll-off dumpsters this year, and be finished when they’re full.
* Ms. Hartman suggested that we be on the lookout for a seasonal employee for when Roger would need a second person to help with things such as street sweeping. In the meantime, Mayor Rob will help him when it’s necessary.
* RSVPs were taken for the March 26th NOMMA meeting/dinner in Pemberville. Ms. Hartman, Ms. Bates, Mr. Cron, Mr. Bush, Ms. Berry, Mayor Cavin, and Mrs. Schroeder will be attending.

No further business was brought before council.

At 8:56pm, Ms. Hartman made a motion to adjourn, and Ms. Bates seconded; all were in favor.

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Fiscal Officer Mayor