Village of Custar, Ohio

Minutes from **May 12, 2021**

Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Robert Cavin called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

Council members Renee Hartman, Dee Bates, Cheryl Vanscoder, Chad Dauster, Dawn Berry and Jeffrey Dauster were all present.

The minutes from the previous meeting (4/14/21), as well as the two 4/21/21 special meetings, were reviewed by council. Mr. C Dauster noted one minor spelling correction on the second set of 4/21/21 minutes, and then made a motion for approval of all. Ms. Bates seconded the motion; all were in favor.

All members of the BPA were present until 7:36pm.

* Jerry reported that they’ve started to fix/replace the lights up town. They’re having Fletcher Machine do retro-fittings. They’ve gotten 2 completed so far.
* They hauled 1 full truck load at brush pick-up (3 cubic yards of mulch).
* They talked about painting the new storage container white to match the building. It was noted that the teenage group led by Shawn Allport is interested in painting a mural on the side of it (at no cost). Since no one would really be able to see the mural where this is at, it was agreed to leave it a solid color so it just blends in.

Employee **Jim Beaupre** was in attendance until 7:42pm. He feels that we need to take some sort of action about the cat problem in town. He also stated that he should have the stone on High Street completed by the end of this week.

Council then talked about additional alleys that need filled in. We still have some grindings from Custar Road that can be used; but if we don’t find a more permanent fix, the paved alleys will just get torn up again. Jim plans to stone some of the other alleys here soon.

Fiscal Items:

* Council reviewed the payment register for 4/15/21-5/12/21, which included:

Regular check #’s 13901-13913, totaling $6,879.53

Payroll check #’s 13884-13864, totaling $3,247.91

7 EFT payments, totaling $18,288.77

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

* Council reviewed the April 2021 financial reports. Ms. Hartman made a motion for approval, seconded by Mrs. Vanscoder; all were in favor.
* We should have the 2019/2020 audit wrapped up by our next meeting.
* ARPA / Fiscal Recovery Act funding was discussed. According to what we’ve seen so far, Custar should be eligible for around $40,000. These funds would only be allowed to be used for certain things, many of which would not apply to our village; however, there is still the possibility that the restrictions could change before the regulations are finalized. As of now, it looks like we could use monies to improve our storm sewer system, but not roads, sidewalks, parks, etc.
* Council was informed that the 2020 Census bumped our population from 179 to 185.

Committee Business

* **Parks & Rec**-
  + After researching trees to replace the one cut down on 281, Ms. Hartman believes the best fit would be a Prairie Rose Flowering Crab tree or a Prairie Fire tree. The Mayor will be over near North Branch Nursery soon, and will look at both types.
  + This year’s Wood Co Park District Grant was discussed. The application deadline is Oct 22nd. Ms. Hartman estimated the concrete slab at Louy Park to be about 10.5’ x 24’, and thought square picnic tables would go well in this spot (ones that are not cemented into the ground) instead of rectangular. Mr. C Dauster would like to eventually put in a shelter house and grill at this park like we will have at the other.
  + Ms. Hartman made mention of Nature Works grant funding. This is believed to be an every-other year program, which requires a minimum project match of 25%.
  + Ms. Berry suggested that we stain the existing wooden benches and picnic tables so they look newer. Council was in agreement. Roger will be asked to pick up the supplies and do this when he is able. The Mayor stated that we should put these in storage to make them last longer.
  + Ms. Berry also suggested that we purchase a 2 ball storage rack (called a “Basketball Butler”) to secure to the basketball pole at Louy Park. We can get one on Amazon for around $60. Council was good with this; Sarah will place the order.
  + The picnic tables, grill, and trash can are not scheduled for delivery until July 11th (this was delayed due to COVID).
  + Mulch will be ordered after the weeds are sprayed in the playground areas. Delivery will be scheduled sometime when Roger is able to be there to direct them.
  + Since there are more older children at Louy Park lately, it was decided to remove one of the baby swings and add a regular swing in its place for now. We have extra swings in storage.
  + At the last meeting, we had discussed the purchase of a yard roller for the walking path. However, we found something we can use instead and didn’t need to buy a new one.
  + We will discuss the Harvest Party at the next meeting. We don’t want to schedule it or start planning before we know if the COVID government mandates will be lifted.
* **Fire Board**- Nothing to report; last month’s meeting was cancelled.
* **Streets/Sidewalks**-
  + High Street and the east alley are now complete. The Mayor had Precision Paving look at our alleys while they were in town; they will be providing us with some estimates for future use.
  + Roger was able to clean the curbs on Custar Road, except for a few spots where cars were parked. Sarah will print some signs that we can put on the windshields of vehicles in the future to ask them to move within 24-hours so we can clean the streets.
  + The Mayor recently heard about a grant program for sidewalk completion. He will be getting some more information on this.
* **Safety**-
  + The racoons have been removed from the Cook property.
  + The mowing assessment process was briefly reviewed with council.
* **Water/Sewer**-
  + The Mayor will be meeting someone from the Wood Co Engineer’s office at the ditch on Custar Road to get it cleaned out at the grate area.
  + The Mayor noted that the NWWSD will be doing hydrant flushing between May 17th and June 1st. This could result in rust stains on clothing when doing laundry. These dates, as well as where to get free rust remover, will be posted on our Facebook page.
* **Zoning**- The new storage container brought up concerns about the possibility of others wanting to put similar things in their yards. Since there is no solid foundation, a zoning permit would not technically be required. The matter will need to be discussed further.

Other Business

Spring Clean-up/Trash Drop-off Day went well, and the dumpsters were completely full by the time the company came to pick them up. Most people got the newsletter late (due to USPS delay), so some residents didn’t know about it in time and missed it. Next year, we will be sure to put out a newsletter well beforehand to give ample notice.

No further business was brought before council.

At 8:50pm, Ms. Bates made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Mr. J Dauster; all were in favor.

Fiscal Officer \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Mayor\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_