Village of Custar, Ohio

Minutes from **August 9, 2023**

Regular Council Meeting

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

The minutes from the July meeting were not yet completed; they will be reviewed at the next meeting.

The BPA was not in attendance, as their August meeting was cancelled. They will meet next on Sept 6th.

Visitors:

Zoning Inspector Tim Schroeder was in attendance to discuss the zoning issue with the Habichts’ shed. John & Nicole Habicht were in attendance to address the matter as well, along with their neighbors, Jeff & Terri Altstadt. Mrs. Habicht provided a copy of Tim Behrman’s survey. She stated that the shed is not on the village alley. Mr. Schroeder measured the alley and believed the shed to be in compliance.

Jeff Altstadt voiced concern over the fact that this was made into such a big issue that took over a year to resolve. He also felt that there should be more zoning information on the village website; Sarah fully intends to update the website with all of the zoning information, but this will still take some time. She will send him a copy of the original zoning ordinance this week.

Mr. Altstadt also questioned why the Village owns the empty lot on High Street when it does not generate any income and is only an expense. There was some debate as to why the property has not been listed for sale; and both the Habichts & Altstadts expressed an interest in having it go up for bid.

Mr. Schroeder, the Habichts, & the Altstadts left the meeting at 7:55pm.

Fiscal Items:

* Council reviewed the payment register for 7/13/23-8/9/23, which included:

 Regular check #’s 14501-14506, totaling $1,257.83

 Payroll check #’s 14487-14500, totaling $2,211.20

 4 EFT payments, totaling $13,909.59

It was noted that payment for the Custar Road project is still outstanding. Geddis Paving has not yet invoiced us for anything, and Sarah is waiting to receive a call back from them. We also need confirmation as to what all is included in the final amount we were given ($104K), how much has been paid by the county, and to whom we need to pay our local share (Geddis or the county).

This should all be figured out by the next meeting.

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

* The financial reports for July 2023 were presented to council for review. Mr. Cron made a motion for approval, and Mrs. Vanscoder seconded; all were in favor.
* The Fiscal Officer asked if it was ok to move $150K from our primary checking into a new 5% interest CD that is currently being offered by Farmers & Merchants Bank. Council was fine with doing so. We also have a $19K CD that will be expiring soon, which can just be dissolved into the checking.

Committee Business

* **Parks & Recreation:**
	+ The tetherball pole has been installed, and the final grant report was submitted to WCPD.
	+ At the time the pole was being installed, we had to have the 811-marking done. While the crew was here, they were asked to mark the area for where the new tree will go as well. However, this is only good for 10 days before they would have to come out again.
	+ Ms. Hartman received quotes for the gazebo from Brian Plummer, who previously installed the shelter house at Community Park. She will call him with a few questions and we will discuss further at the next meeting.
* **Streets/Sidewalks:**
* Geddis Paving will be out again to look at the spot on the north end of Custar Road. We need to figure out what is causing it to be so wet underneath before we put any money into fixing it. We will likely have to tear up that whole section and re-do it.
* Along 281 (at 8987 Custar Road), there is about a 4” lip in the sidewalk that presents a huge hazard, especially to children on bikes. The Mayor will check out the spot and we will discuss further at the next meeting.
* **Recycling:** The fence is complete and the bins are in place. We still have the old bins at the site as well. After speaking with Sarah Sizer, there wasn’t a clear timeline on when these might be removed.
* **Safety:** Complaints have been received about a camper in the road on France Street, making it hard for cars to get by safely. A letter will be sent to the property owner with a copy of the recently-passed ordinances in relation to on-street parking and recreational vehicles.

Other Business:

* Ms. Hartman brought some trees (4) and stumps (6) to council’s attention that are in need of removal. She spoke with Dean Mantel’s Tree Service, and was quoted $1,450 for everything. Ms. Bates moved to have the work done if the price is indeed correct. Mrs. Vanscoder seconded the motion, and all were in favor. This would be paid from the General Fund.
* Sarah and Dawn were assigned the task of updating the employee handbook.
* The Mayor recently met with Dick & Bob Feehan with the American Legion, and they have been considering donating the Legion Hall building to the Village (with stipulations). Their membership has dwindled, and they don’t want to have to keep up with the building expenses (propane, maintenance, etc). After discussion of specifics, Ms. Hartman made a motion to move forward with the process to accept the transferred property. Ms. Bates seconded the motion, and all were in favor. Rob will call them tomorrow and set up another meeting.

No further business was brought before council.

At 8:50pm, Ms. Hartman made a motion to adjourn, and Ms. Bates seconded; all were in favor.

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Fiscal Officer Mayor