Village of Custar, Ohio

Minutes from **October 11, 2023**

Regular Council Meeting

Mayor Rob Cavin called the meeting to order at 7:32pm. Council members Renee Hartman, Dawn Berry, Cheryl Vanscoder, Dee Bates, and Brian Cron were all present.

Minutes from the Sept 2023 meeting were not yet completed. They will be ready for the next meeting.

BPA Business

All members were in attendance until 7:40pm. They had no new business for council.

Ms. Bates reported a light flashing on/off by the Crawford garage. Jerry will check this out.

Visitors:

1. **Dick Feehan** (from the American Legion) and his wife **Marie** were briefly in attendance. The solicitor had recently told us that it was necessary for the Custar Veterans Association to update their filing with the Secretary of State’s office before they can sign over the deed. Sarah instructed them to complete the renewal online, directing Marie to the website. They will contact Sarah if they run into any issues while completing this.
2. Resident **Brian Bush** came to the meeting to express his interest in the vacant council seat. He has been a long-time resident and would love to serve his community. Ms. Hartman made a motion to appoint Mr. Bush, which was seconded by Ms. Bates; all were in favor. The Mayor then swore him in. The vacancy is thru 12/31/25.

Fiscal Items:

* It was noted that the engineering costs were not included in the final CDBG figures we received; therefore, an additional $12,570.25 is owed to the county for our local share of the project. This requires that we amend the appropriations to cover the extra cost, and Resolution 2023-15R was read to approve these amendments. Ms. Vanscoder made a motion for passage, which was seconded by Ms. Berry. All were in favor; passed.
* Council then reviewed the payment register for 9/14/23-10/11/23, which included:

 Regular check #’s 14533 and 14550-14558, totaling $28,208.96

 Payroll check #’s 14534-14549, totaling $3,461.73

 8 EFT payments, totaling $18,096.93

It was noted that the register included the aforementioned local share payment to Wood County.

Ms. Bates moved to approve the payment register, seconded by Ms. Berry; all were in favor.

* The financial reports for September 2023 were presented to council for review. Ms. Hartman made a motion for approval, and Mrs. Vanscoder seconded; all were in favor.
* Resolution 2023-14R was read, to vote to re-appoint Bill Barnhart to the NWWSD board. Ms. Bates moved for passage, which was seconded by Ms. Hartman. All were in favor; passed.
* Resolution 2023-16R, to authorize the $1 purchase of the real property from the Custar Veteran’s Memorial, Inc, received the first reading.

Committee Business

* **Parks & Rec:**
* After the last meeting, we were able to purchase an appropriate drag for the walking path (for under $100 on Amazon). It has not yet been used.
* Shawn has spread almost all of the mulch around the trees at Community Park.
* Council was asked to look at purchasing a scoop attachment for the front of the mower, which would save the maintenance workers from having to use a shovel. This might be something we can consider next year.
* Ms. Berry was able to find pre-built gazebos available at the new nearby company just outside of Weston. Since they already come assembled, the cost is less than half of what was discussed at the previous meeting. She obtained estimates for 2 different sizes: the 12’x12’ model is $6,491.00 and the 10’x16’ is $7,954.00. Ms. Hartman and Ms. Berry both preferred the 10’x16’ model, but due to its size, it may require additional engineering costs if the provided drawings are not sufficient (since it may not be structurally compatible for commercial use). The 12’x12’ model is actually just under the 120’ building inspection guideline (when factoring in the triangular corners), so no engineering would be required.

It was agreed to go ahead and apply for the 12’x12’ gazebo on our WCPD grant application. Sarah will complete this before the 10/20/23 deadline.

* **Streets/Sidewalks:** Sarah reported that she spoke with Dave Kuhn at Feller Finch about the income survey process. When we had them do one for us back in 2016, the cost was $1,500; today they would charge us $2,000. Council was hesitant to spend this when people were leery about giving income information to strangers last time. If we didn’t want to do a survey of the whole town, we could just survey the section benefiting from the project (on our own). It would only quality if 51% of the inhabitants fell below the income guidelines.
* **Zoning:** Our permit application and fee listing have been added to the Zoning page of our website.

Other Business:

* Ms. Hartman contacted Dean Mantel Tree Service after the last meeting about additional trimming of overhanging branches on 281. He has put us on his list and will get back to us.
* The bell from the old township school / former community building was given to the Village recently after being housed at the bank for several years. It is now inside the Legion building. The Mayor would like to have it restored and put on display at the park.

No further business was brought before council.

At 8:30pm, Ms. Bates made a motion to adjourn, and Mrs. Vanscoder seconded; all were in favor.

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Fiscal Officer Mayor