Village of Custar, Ohio

Minutes from **November 9, 2022**

Regular Council Meeting

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

The minutes from the previous meeting (10/12/22) were reviewed by council. Ms. Bates made a motion to approve them as read, which was seconded by Ms. Berry; all were in favor.

The BPA was not in attendance. It was noted that a light on France Street that was previously shot out is now completely gone. Rob will let Jerry know and see if he has contacted the Sheriff’s office.

Fiscal Items:

* Council reviewed the payment register for 9/15/22-10/12/22, which included:

Regular check #’s 14315-14318, totaling $641.63

Payroll check #’s 14301-14314, totaling $1,387.24

7 EFT payments, totaling $14,389.52

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

* Council reviewed the October 2022 financial reports. Ms. Bates made a motion for approval, which Ms. Berry seconded; all were in favor.
* The Fiscal Officer noted that our Records Retention Schedule was approved by the state.
* As discussed at the last meeting, a $100K CD was opened. We were able to get a 3.1% promo rate for a 12-month period.
* After the last meeting, the Mayor went to the Wood Co Auditor’s office and spoke to Julie Allison about the $28K mentioned in the Sentinel article. He was assured that we have received all of the ARPA funding that we are due, and referred him to Gene Berry at the Office of Budget Management. The Fiscal Officer was given his contact information and will get in touch.

Committee Business

* **Zoning/Planning:**
  + The committee held a meeting on 11/2/22 to discuss the matter of the Habichts’ shed. A survey was presented that had been obtained several years ago by Sharon West, showing where the survey pins should be. Additionally, Ms. Hartman had the Auditor’s aerial map (which is not an official survey), showing that the farmer behind their property (Behrman) has crops extending into the alley as well. It was decided that Ms. Hartman would contact the farmer, we could try to find the survey pins, and then go from there.
  + Ms. Berry suggested that we create a checklist to be followed when zoning permits are issued, and that properties should be re-inspected after the work is completed.
  + The Mayor asked why the ZONING page of the Village website says that it is “currently under construction”. The Fiscal Officer explained that it could take some time to get all of the zoning regulations compiled and posted, as we have had a great deal of amendments to the original zoning ordinance. It was suggested that we work on a comprehensive draft that incorporates all of the changes made since the original passage.
* **Safety:** There are railroad ties extending into the alley near the old Boyer property, which will make it difficult for the snow plow to get through. A notice will be sent to the property owner.
* **Streets/Sidewalks:**
  + Our CDBG project was put back out to bid, as discussed at the previous meeting. Two bids were received, with the lowest from Geddis Paving & Excavating again this time. Although the specs were the same (with increased estimate figures), their bid was for $112,681.95. Our grant was extended until April 2023, and the project should be completed in the spring.
  + Ms. Hartman asked that we put a section in the next newsletter that explains what/where the right-of-way is, that the Village right-of-way extends beyond the pavement, and that the utility poles are on Village property.
* **Recycling:** Once Jerry is able, he and Roger will start putting the fencing together.

Other Business:

* The Mayor was asked again recently about whether or not the Village intended to sell the property we own on High Street. Council had previously expressed concern that the interested party would drive their 18-wheeler on High Street if they did obtain the property, causing the road to further deteriorate. This individual is still interested in the land, and stated that they were willing to put something in writing promising not to drive their 18-wheeler on High Street. If we did sell, it would have to be put up for auction and could not be sold outright to a specific person. Ms. Berry stated that if we sell it, there’s no telling what will be done with it, and she’d rather have an open green space than the potential for an eyesore. Ms. Hartman expressed a desire to plant trees there.

The discussion was tabled.

* Council discussed doing another Christmas Lighting Contest this year. The Mayor stated that the individual who donated the anonymous cash prizes last year will not be doing so again this year. Ms. Bates will see if she can round up some donors for a first and second place prize. If so, it was agreed to move forward with the same method and rules as last year.

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The Mayor expressed the need to discuss a BPA personnel matter. At 8:10pm, Ms. Bates made a motion to go into executive session, Ms. Hartman seconded; all were in favor.

At 8:29pm, Ms. Hartman moved to go back into regular session, which was seconded by Mrs. Vanscoder; all were in favor. No action was taken.

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No further business was brought before council.

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

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Fiscal Officer Mayor