Village of Custar, Ohio

Minutes from **December 8, 2021**

Regular Council Meeting

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

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

The minutes from the previous meeting (11/10/21) were reviewed by council. Mr. C Dauster made a motion to approve them as read, which was seconded by Ms. Hartman; all were in favor.

All Members of the BPA were in attendance until 7:43pm.

* Mr. Clink informed council that he will be on medical leave beginning 1/4/22. The City of BG will cover (and bill us) if we need anything that Kevin can’t handle while Jerry is unavailable.
* Board Member Deb Bechstein announced her retirement from the BPA, effective 12/31/21. She has served for roughly 35 years. Resident Cheryl Nagel has agreed to finish out the remainder of Deb’s current term. She will be at the next meeting.
* The Christmas pole decorations are starting to need replaced. The plan to start buying 2 new items every year to phase out the older ones.
* The board was asked what they’ve decided to do with the old electric building on Custar Road. Jerry stated that they have started to clear it out, but aren’t quite finished yet. They are hoping to be done by the summer, level the building, and put the land up for sale.

Council discussed the upcoming Christmas Lighting Contest. Members of council and the BPA were reminded to drive around and look at everyone’s decorations and submit votes to the Mayor before December 21st. We received anonymous prize monies for the winners.

Fiscal Items:

* Council reviewed the payment register for 11/11/21-12/8/21, which included:

Regular check #’s 14077-14080, totaling $475.32

Payroll check #’s 14060-14076, totaling $2,198.52

7 EFT payments, totaling $20,270.99

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

* Council then reviewed the November 2021 financial reports. Mr. C Dauster made a motion for approval, seconded by Mr. J Dauster; all were in favor.
* **Resolution 2021-8R** was read, to increase the 2021 appropriations in the ARPA Relief Fund, as they’re able to begin work on the storm sewer project in the current year (which was not originally anticipated). Ms. Bates made a motion for approval, seconded by Ms. Hartman; all were in favor.
* Emergency **Ordinance 2021-9** was read, to establish the permanent appropriations for the 2022 calendar year. Mr. C Dauster moved to suspend the second and third readings, which was seconded by Ms. Bates. A roll call vote was taken with all in favor. Ms. Hartman made a motion for passage, Ms. Bates seconded, all were in favor; passed.
* The new 3-year EMS contract with the Village of Weston was put before council for their review. It was noted that they increased the contract price to $810/year (plus unpaid runs), with additional stair-step increases for 2023 ($995) and 2024 ($1,180). Ms. Bates made a motion to approve the contract, seconded by Ms. Berry; all were in favor. It was then signed by Mayor Cavin.

Committee Business

* **Parks & Rec**-
  + The park equipment order (2 picnic tables, trash can, & grill) was recently delivered and is currently being stored in the mower garage.
  + The Mayor’s neighbor has some rocks we can use at the park, which he has set aside for us.
  + There are issues again with the lock on the mower garage; Jim will be meeting the locksmith there tomorrow.
* **Fire Board**- At their last meeting, they discussed the possibility of getting automatic garage doors, and the need to repair the roof.
* **Streets/Sidewalks**-
  + The topographical work for the CDBG road project should be done in late January or early February. Dave would like to have it bid out by the end of February so we can start the project in the spring.
  + It was noted that stone prices will be going up at the beginning of the year. It was agreed to get a load of stone and store it next to the electric building. We still need stone in some of the alleys and in the right-of-way by the post office.
  + The Mayor spoke with Mark Sunderman from Legacy about the trucks causing the damage to Custar Road. The proposed load limit ordinance was mentioned. They would like to avoid being detoured and are willing to help.
* **Zoning**-
* After not hearing back from the solicitor in relation to the Wagner lot combination, the attorney for the property owner asked if we could just write a letter stating that council is ok with the request to combine the parcels. This was completed recently and sent.
* A local resident recently brought a Conex rail box into town (corner of 281 and Custar Road). He was informed to have this no longer than 90 days with no utilities hooked up to it.
* **Safety**-
  + Ms. Bates made council aware that there is a case of rabies (from bats) in the area.
  + The Fiscal Officer was instructed to send a junk notice to a house with lots of building materials sitting in the side yard.
  + An individual recently purchased the Boyer property and has plans to clear it out, fix it up, and resell it. Three junk vehicles have already been removed and he will be recycling the camper.
* **Finance**- Mr. C Dauster returned the credit statement binder. This will be given to whoever is appointed as the head of the committee at the beginning of the year.
* **Recycling**- Ms. Hartman will review the info from the Fiscal Officer on EPA recycling grants.

Other Business

* Since we have not been able to consistently get in touch with the solicitor lately, council discussed looking for alternate legal representation. The Fiscal Officer was instructed to contact Paul Skaff.
* Mark from Habitat for Humanity contacted the Mayor and will be coming out sometime with his crew to look at the High Street property.
* This was the last meeting for both Jeff and Chad Dauster. Their two seats will be open at the beginning of January. If anyone knows of anyone who would be interested in being on council, they should have them contact the Mayor. The Fiscal Officer was asked to find out if we are allowed to hold meetings with only 4 members.

No further business was brought before council.

At 8:19pm, Ms. Hartman made a motion to adjourn, and Mr. C Dauster seconded; all were in favor.

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Fiscal Officer Mayor