

SARDINIA VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING APRIL 10, 2023

Roll Call:

Bill North-Present Dustin Puckett-Absent Angela Lyons-Present
Anna Turner-Present Peggy Vance-Present Ashlie Webster-Present
Tom Mayes, Solicitor Present Amy Mason, Administrator

The minutes from February 13, 2023, and March 13, 2023, were presented for approval. *A motion was made by Ms. Webster, seconded by Ms. Turner. Roll call was made, all members voted yes. Motion carried.*

The financial reports were reviewed by Council. *A motion was made by Bill North to approve the March financial reports as submitted, a second was made by Peggy Vance. Roll call was made, all members voted yes. Motion carried.*

Administrator

GFIS of Ohio carries our current liability insurance policy. The current policy ends on April 12, 2023. We added the dump truck to the policy this year. Our current policy was \$25,800. The new contract reflects an increase to \$28,007. This policy covers all our vehicles and properties. We have had to file two claims recently. We had damage to the elevator and damage to a cruiser this year. I would like to research other policies in future years. Mrs. Mason notified the council that she would be signing a new contract at \$25,800.

IGS Energy is a company that bids out utility rates. We currently have services with AEP. Their new bid rates are 10.2 cents per kilowatt hour. IGS is quoting us a rate for 24 months of .06 cents per kilowatt hour. There is a minimum saving of \$26,000 for the first year if we contract our rates with IGS Energy. The rates are current as of the end of the market today. Mrs. Mason recommends the 24-month contract to lock in the rate and have projected savings of \$51,000 over the next two years. *A motion was made by Ms. Webster to sign a 24-month contract with IGS Energy, seconded by Ms. Vance. Roll call made, all members voted yes. Motion carried.*

Mrs. Mason requested the council to set dates for the Village wide yard sale. Historically, the sales have been held on Memorial Day and Labor Day weekend. *A motion was made by Ms. Turner to approve Memorial Day and Labor Day weekend to be the approved weekends for the Village wide yard sale, seconded by Ms. Lyons. Roll call was made, all members voted yes. Motion carried.*

Mrs. Mason informed the council that GRIT did approve our grant request to build the workforce development center upstairs. Mrs. Mason requested the approval of a resolution drafted to increase revenue by \$291,400. This is the estimate of expenses for the GRIT project. *A motion was made by Ms. Vance to approve the resolution, seconded by Ms. Lyons. Roll call was made. Mr. North-yes, Ms. Vance-yes, Ms. Lyons-yes, Ms. Turner-yes, Ms. Webster-abstain (she is employed by GRIT). Motion carried.*

Mrs. Mason updated the council on the Voinovich School of Leadership class. She received the grant to cover the total cost of \$3200.00, but the classes were postponed until September.

Mr. Newman notified Mrs. Mason that the EPA had come out to investigate a dye or a chemical spill that happened out in front of Tankers. The EPA was onsite over the weekend and has collected samples. We have not been notified of the results from the EPA, but they will notify the Village in the future.

Mayor

The mayor presented an ordinance to approve and adopt ORC 505.375 and ORC 505.391. He did a first reading of this ordinance. The Fire department has asked us to adopt this ordinance to help our first responders to charge for false alarms.

Mr. Mayes reviewed the ordinance designating Postal Lane as a no through traffic in the Village of Sardinia. This was requested by Mr. Pack and the Public Works committee. The first reading was done by the mayor. The second Ordinance was to designate a portion of Cyclone Alley in the Village of Sardinia as a one-way street. The first reading was done by the mayor for this ordinance. The cost to the Village will be approximately \$700 to install the barriers and signage for the changes. Mr. Pack spoke to the council and stated after further discussion and investigation, he does not think this will be a workable solution since drivers cannot make the turn easily onto Cyclone Alley. Further discussion will be needed to determine if a second reading will happen in May. A public safety committee meeting must be scheduled and advertised in April to address this before the next council meeting.

The first responder's prayer service is scheduled for May 15, 2023, at 7:00pm around the flagpole in Sardinia. Some of the local ministers are getting together to pray for the responders. Commissioner Barry Woodruff will be participating. There will be refreshments provided by Sardinia Hope & Promise.

Memorial Day parade lineup is at 9:00am, starts at 9:30, ends at the cemetery at 10:00am. This will be sponsored by the VFW.

The mayor updated the community about the train derailment outside of town. The Police Chief and Officer Peters provided site safety for the first few hours after the derailment.

Police Department

The Director of Public Safety, Bob Feinen, presented it on behalf of the Police Department. Mr. Feinen updated the council on computer improvements/issues. He informed them that they have a cruiser being repaired from the damage sustained during a storm. The equipment is still being evaluated. The body cams that the department had had not be used. They have purchased two new body cameras. The database used with these devices is free. We are still working to address some things that are still upstairs. The radios need to be recalibrated. Mr. Feinen is updating the certifications required by the police department. Mr. Feinen presented a book of policies to approve. He will be giving it to Mr. Mayes for review and then it will be given to the council for consideration. Mr. Pangallo cannot be present tonight due to a prior commitment. Mr. Feinen is working to get tasers donated to the Village. This will allow the Chief to be compliant with the

State. Mr. Feinen introduced Mr. Perry who has a taser that he carries from another department. Mr. Perry is a proactive officer. Mr. Feinen reviewed the monthly statistics. Please see the report for all the details. *Ms. Webster made a motion to approve the use of a Facebook page for the Sardinia Police Department, seconded by Ms. Vance. Roll call was made, all members voted yes. Motion carried.*

Mr. Feinen discussed the interest in having a K-9 officer. Mr. Perry's dog was just approved as a drug enforcement K-9 officer. Chief Pangallo is looking at other departments that have cages that fit into Cruisers. West Union just decommissioned their dog according to Mr. Mayes so they might have equipment available. The mayor stated that there is an interest in a K-9 officer. When the department is ready, present the specifics to the Public Safety Committee for a recommendation to the council.

A motion was made by Ms. Turner to install the drug collection box outside of Village Hall so that residents can dispose of their unused prescription medications, seconded by Ms. Vance. Roll call was taken, all voted yes. Motion carried.

Audience: Pat Reifenger signed up to speak to the council and read a letter of resignation effective immediately. *A motion was made by Ms. Lyons to accept the resignation, seconded by Ms. Webster, roll call was made, all members voted yes. Motion carried.*

Shauna Weis gave an update on Sardinia Hope and Promise. They have purchased flowerpots and will be added to the corners down on the main street corners around the middle of May.

Committee update:

Economic Committee: We met with the new owners of the Bank building in town. We discussed their ideas regarding their plans. The owner will be working with us to get it zoned for a new business model. Ms. Mason confirmed with the council that we would only charge the \$200 fee for the zoning permit since the main floor is less than 2000 square feet. The historic Santa Clause has been returned to the bank building and will be displayed at Christmas time. The Creamery building is still on track to be taken down before the end of the fiscal year. The committee updated the council about the grant work that will begin on the second floor of Village Hall to develop a workforce development center with GRIT. Ms. Webster gave a reminder that all work will be paid for through the grant and not by taxpayer's expenses. Computers have been donated to this center when it is up and running.

Finance Committee: The committee is recommending a credit card be secured for Mrs. Mason to use for Village expenses. The auditor prefers refunds are not issued and there are expenses that often require a credit card to purchase. The finance committee recommends posting a position as a Utility Clerk. The current clerk will be moving out of state in June. The committee recommends listing this position for 30 hours a week at \$15-\$18 an hour based on experience. The current position is 25 hours a week. We would like to open the office six hours a day, five days a week. *A motion was made by Ms. Lyons to post the position of Utility Clerk for 30 hours a week with a pay rate of \$15-\$18 an hour based on experience, seconded by Ms. Webster. Roll call was made, all members voted yes.* The committee recommends that we waive the sewer fee for Mr. Fred Thompson 131 Oakdale Avenue of \$1,912.17. This is completely due to sewer charges. He says he told the past

administrator and thought there would be no new charges. The property is being sold and the new owner will be installing a sewer cap. *A motion was made to waive the administrative fees of \$1912.17 if he installed a sewer cap within 30 days by Ms. Lyons, seconded by Ms. Turner. Roll call was made, all members voted yes.*

The finance committee asked Tom to draft a resolution to add Jayme Eldridge as the sole signer required for all checks. Ms. Eldridge is the current fiscal officer for the Village of Sardinia. *A motion was made by Mr. North to approve the resolution, seconded by Ms. Webster. Roll call was made, all members voted yes. Motion carried.*

A finance committee was scheduled on April 18th at 9:00am to discuss insurance options for employees.

Public Works Committee: Meeting was held to discuss a request to require 5 tons or less for commercial vehicles that do not have a business within the Village limits. Public Works committee is concerned about the damage to roads within the Village. This topic will be discussed with the Public Safety Committee to discuss further. The committee is recommending that grease traps be required to be cleaned out twice a year. The first reading will take place in May. Mr. Newman has recommended that a line item be added to the budget for Storm Drain and that \$10,000 be added to that line item. This would not increase the budget but will help us track spending in proper categories as storm drain repairs should not come out of general or sewer. *A motion was made by Ms. Turner to create a storm drain line item in the budget and to transfer \$10,000 from general into this line for better tracking, seconded by Ms. Vance. Roll call was made, all voted yes. Motion carried.* The committee recommended approving a standardized requirement for sidewalks. This will be drafted in the future and presented to the council.

A motion was made to enter executive session to discuss personnel due to Ohio revised code I21.22G1 at 8:29am by Ms. Vance, seconded by Ms. Turner. Roll call was made, all members voted yes. Motion carried.

A motion was made to exit the executive session by Mr. North, seconded by Ms. Vance at 8:36pm. Roll call was made, all members voted yes. Motion carried.

Ms. Webster made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Turner, all approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:37pm.

Passed:

5/8/23

James Schroeder, Mayor

