

SARDINIA VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING July 17, 2023

Roll Call:

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

The minutes from June 12, 2023, were presented for approval. *A motion was made by Mr. Puckett, seconded by Ms. Webster. Roll call was made, all members present voted yes. Motion carried.*

The financial reports for June 2023 were reviewed by the Council. *Mr. North made a motion to approve the June financial reports as submitted, a second by Mr. Puckett. Roll call was made, all present members voted yes. Motion carried.*

Administrator

Ms. Mason presented the 2024 temporary budget for consideration and approval. This must be submitted to Brown County Auditor, Jill Hall in July. The financial committee will review the budget submission presented to the council for the three readings in Oct., Nov., and December. Ms. Mason requested a motion to suspend the rules and consider this an emergency motion. *Ms. Turner made a motion to suspend the rules, seconded by Ms. Webster. Roll call was made, all members voted yes. Motion carried to suspend the rules. Ms. Vance made a motion to accept the 2024 temporary budget, Ms. Lyons seconded the motion. Roll call was made, all members voted yes.*

Ms. Mason notified the council that Matthew Newman, Public Works Director, has resigned effective July 21, 2023. Mr. Newman has accepted a position to return to Clermont County Sewer department at a higher rate of pay, but the most significant reason for his resignation is that our benefits do not match what the county can provide. We do not offer dental or vision and have a limited life insurance policy compared to the county. We are working together to finish and transition some of the projects he has been working on. The public works department finished the drain at the corner of Winchester and Sardinia-Mowrystown Road. They are working on the one in Charlotte and Tri-County and across the street from that is the third drain to be replaced. In front of the post office, new asphalt should be poured there tomorrow.

The front parking lot of the Administration building has been dug up to run wiring and to place the support for the new sign which was funded by the GRIT grant for our workforce development office. The new sign has raised some local concerns since this is a residential area. The electronic sign will be turned off over night as to not distract any residents. The construction upstairs is progressing. I will be meeting with GRIT representatives at the Mt. Orab location. They have decided to close that location and we will be moving the furniture from that location here and purchasing the additional furniture necessary to complete the workforce development center. The parking lot will be re-paved and the new glass doors will be installed in August. When the Sardinia workforce development center opens, it will be the only one in Brown County.

Ms. Mason presented an emergency ordinance that the Court Clerk has asked the council to approve. We drafted our version from another village. This ordinance will allow the clerk to not refund amounts of \$5.00 or less. When someone overpays their court fees now, we must refund the amount, even if it is a few cents. This ordinance will take amounts less than \$5.00 and deposit it into the general fund instead of issuing a refund. A motion to suspend the rules was requested by Ms. Mason. *Ms. Lyons made a motion to suspend the rules, Ms. Vance seconded the motion. Roll call was made, all members voted yes. Motion carried to suspend the Rules. A motion was made to approve the Ordinance was made by Ms. Turner, seconded by Ms. Lyons. All members voted yes; motion carried.*

Ms. Mason updated the council on training offered for Public Management Academy that begins in October 2023. Ms. Mason is enrolled in Leadership Academy and received a grant for the entire program of \$3200.00. The Public Management Academy will cost \$2750. If Ms. Mason completes both courses, she will be certified in public administration in the State of Ohio which would open many contacts at the local and state level to connect with leaders to improve projects in Sardinia. Both classes should be completed by October 2024.

The OVRDC held their second meeting for Brown County. We submitted a request to update/improve the five pump stations for our sewer system. A had to submit a pre-application in May stating that we would officially submit for funding in September for a 50% grant. In May the council approved us to put our sewer capital funds to match part of the 50% grant. Sardinia was the only one who applied for Brown County, allowing us to get an extra 40 points in scoring because we were given priority status in Brown County, and we received 10 extra points for presenting our request to the board in person. The next meeting with OVRDC will be held August 24, 2023.

Police Department

The chief was unavailable for the meeting tonight, so he has asked Officer Perry to submit the report for the department. The Council reviewed the report. Officer Perry highlighted that tasers were ordered and now all officers have working tasers. Officer Perry confirmed that he initiated the body camera on all stops or integrations with anyone in the Village. Officer Perry reviewed the monthly stats; 52 citations, 2 arrests and seizures of two weapons and six drug charges. The Dodge Charger is done with repairs and is ready for pick up tomorrow. July 1-July 17, we have 60 citations so far, three drug arrests. Officer Perry opened it up to questions from the council. Ms. Webster asked about staff training, specifically Officer Peters virtual academy and how long he must complete that. Officer Perry clarified that completion is required in one year's time. No other questions were asked.

Mayor:

A third reading of an ordinance setting requirements for restaurants and commercial kitchens regarding grease traps, interceptors and separators was made by the mayor. The mayor requested a motion to accept the ordinance as written. *Ms. Webster made a motion to approve the ordinance for a grease trap, seconded by Ms. Turner. There was no discussion. Roll call was taken, all voted yes. Motion carried.*

Audience:

There were no audience comments or questions made. Ms. Webster updated the council on the work that our intern is doing for the Village. This intern is paid for by a workforce development grant. The intern has been digitalizing all our ordinances, resolutions, cemetery, and meeting minutes.

Ms. Webster made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Vance, all approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:39 pm.

Passed: 8-14-2023

~~James Schneider, Mayor~~

Bill Vance