

SARDINIA VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING

DATE OF MEETING: March 14, 2022

Roll Call:

Bill North – Present
Angela Lyons- Present

Dustin Puckett – Present
Anna Turner – Present

James Schroeder – Present
Peggy Vance - Present

Council reviewed the minutes from the February 14, 2022 Regular Meeting. *Motion to accept the minutes was made by Dusty Puckett. Peggy Vance seconded the motion. All yeas with James Schroeder abstaining. Motion passed.*

Council reviewed the bills to be paid and the bank reconciliations for February 2022. *Motion to pay the bills was made by Bill North. James Schroeder seconded the motion. All yeas. Motion passed.*

Police Department:

- Tickets written for the February 24 court date totaled 15, 9 of those were written on SR 32. Officer Barg testified before the Grand Jury and 2 indictments were issued for burglary. Officer Peters and Chief Lewis followed up on 2 thefts from Tractor Supply and issued citations to 3 individuals. Officer Peters and Chief Lewis followed up on a hit skip across from Fuel Mart and issued citations. It was with the help of a home security video system that they were able to identify the truck. 2 reports were taken.
- The following Auxiliary Officers were in attendance to be introduced to Council: Samantha Rutherford, Darlene Cox, Tony Peters, Glenn Bohl and Matt Bredis. Chief Lewis explained that each Auxiliary Officer works 2 volunteer 8-hour shifts per month and in exchange we hold their police commission in accordance with OPADA regulations. Officer Peters works 2 6-hour paid shifts per week and Officer Bohl works a paid 8-hour shift every Friday. Chief Lewis works 38 hours per week from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm. Angela Lyons asked if we have an officer on duty every day. Chief Lewis stated that we do not have an officer on duty every day because we only have 10 Auxiliary Officers and himself. The Auxiliary Officers also all have regular jobs as well. Anna Turner asked how hard it was to keep law and order in Sardinia. Officer Peters stated that is not usually an issue. It depends on the situation. Anna Turner asked if we have a problem with vagrants. She heard that there was a person over by the cemetery that had a run in with a suspicious person. Chief Lewis stated that the person in question had been arrested. Chief Lewis also stated that there are drugs in and out of town and the Brown County Drug Task Force is aware of the problem. They focus on tracking down the main people leading the drug rings.

Audience:

Linda Hensley came to ask Council to discuss the property on Winchester Street that has had the side porch collapse between the buildings. She stated that she has witnessed 4 boys playing around in there and she is afraid they are going to get hurt. Mayor Townes stated that the property owner has been notified of the problem and they are supposed to be taking care of it. We have sent two letters to the property owner. There was discussion as to the steps we have to follow to address issues like this. Tom Mayes stated that we could declare it a public nuisance and we could also hire someone to clean it up and assess it to the property taxes. We have to send the owner a certified letter before we can do that.

Administrator:

- Karen has contacted 3 contractors to get estimates for the ceiling repair in the Council Chamber and for the addition to the Police garage. One of the contractors has been in to take measurements for both projects and will be providing a quote. She has not heard back from the other two contractors yet.
- We have contacted 2 companies to provide us estimates on the pump station rebuild and repairs. We are still waiting on the estimates.
- The 2020 – 2021 financial audit is in process. Karen is hoping to have the final audit report by the April meeting.
- We have a request for an address assignment for a property on Steinman Road. A new property owner is going to be building a house and we need to assign the address. The new address will be 13181 Stiemman Road. *James Schroeder moved to approve the address. Dusty Puckett seconded the motion. All yeas. Motion passed.*
- The AEP Energy supplier contract is due to expire on April 18, 2022. Karen contacted AEP Energy and AEP Ohio to find out what the current supplier rates are. AEP Ohio rates are Tariff 830 \$0.0497 and Tariff 840 \$0.0489. AEP Energy rate are Tariff 830 \$0.07697 and Tariff 840 \$0.07090. Karen recommended allowing the AEP Energy contract to expire and revert back to AEP Ohio. *James Schroeder moved to allow the AEP Energy contract to expire and to revert back to AEP Ohio. Dusty Puckett seconded the motion. All yeas. Motion passed.*

Committee Meetings:

Economic Development: No action items to discuss at this time.

Mayor: Tina Coday Townes

Village Wide Yard Sale Dates: Mayor Townes would like to set the dates for Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends. *James Schroeder moved to set the Village Yard Sale Dates for Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends. Dusty Puckett seconded the motion. All yeas. Motion passed.*

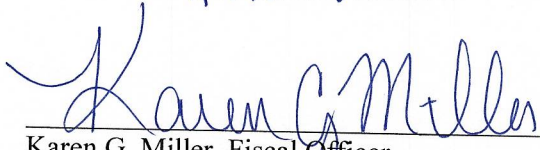
Other: Mayor Townes stated that at the February meeting, it was decided that we would not be filling the position left open by the resignation of Chris Bales. It has been brought to her attention that this has created a safety issue for our Public Works employees that needs to be addressed. Mayor Townes would like permission from Council to advertise to fill the vacant Public Works position. *Dusty Puckett moved to advertise for the vacant Public Works position. Bill North seconded the motion. All yeas. Motion passed.*

Council Comments:

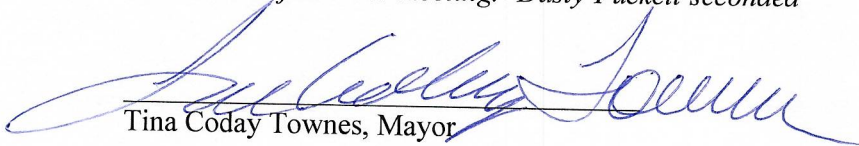
- Anna Turner and Angela Lyons toured the sewer plant and Anna stated that she was very impressed and feels that Tim Mock is doing an excellent job. She stated that it made it clear as to why our water and sewer rates are where they are. There are a lot of things that go on behind the scenes that are directly tied to the cost of running the plant. She stated that people putting things down the drains into the sewer system that are not supposed to be in there and it causes problems in the pump stations and at the sewer plant. Rob Tucker stated that it seems that since we sent the letter informing everyone what not to put down the drain, we have had even more problems with unwanted items ending up in the system. Anna Turner suggested going door to door in the areas that we know there is an issue to educate the community on the problem. She also suggested asking businesses to hang small signs in the restrooms asking patrons not to flush items that are not meant to be flushed.
- Karen had one other item that needed to be mentioned. We called in Unger Construction on Friday because there was a sewer issue at the Fuel Mart and we were not sure if it was a problem on the Village's side of the system or if it was on the Fuel Mart side. Fuel Mart was in agreement that if it was on their side, they would pay to contractor's invoice. It ended up being an issue on the side of the Fuel Station, they had employees flushing the brown paper hand towels, which was clogging up their lines and resulting in a backup.
- Angela Lyons mentioned that we need to purchase a gantry system to make it safer to pull the pumps at the pump stations. Karen stated that she is aware that this is a needed item. She is waiting on the specifications and quotes from Rob Tucker, Public Works Foreman so she can get the purchase order ready and get it ordered. Council discussed what our options are until we get the gantry ordered.
- Peggy Vance stated that she wondered if we could allow school groups to tour the sewer plant. Karen stated that she would have to check with the Insurance company to see if that is allowable.
- Angela Lyons asked if the restaurants have grease traps since Tim mentioned that we have an issue with grease build up in the pump stations. Karen stated that she has been in contact with the Health Department because the pump station out at Tankers, which is a private pump station for their use, has been an issue for many years. They do not maintain it like they should and there is always a bunch of grease and build-up in it. She even reported an overflow to the Health Department a month ago. The Health Inspector that visits the restaurants is supposed to be double checking to make sure all of them have grease traps and that they are being maintained.
- Peggy Vance asked if there were public trash cans in the Village. Karen stated that there are several: we have them at the cemetery, the park & ride and at the 4-way stop in the center of town.
- Anna Turner asked if we accept septic dumping at the sewer plant. Karen stated that we can accept up to three loads per day. Currently we accept septic dumping from Barber Septic Hauling and he is charged a fee per load that he dumps.
- Angela Lyons stated that she and Peggy attended the Municipal League training in Cincinnati. She said it was a very good training.

Mayor Townes asked for a motion to adjourn. *James Schroeder moved to adjourn the meeting. Dusty Puckett seconded the motion. All yeas. Motion passed.*

PASSED 4/11/2022



Karen G. Miller, Fiscal Officer



Tina Coday Townes, Mayor