

SARDINIA COUNCIL MEETING

August 12, 2024 7:00 P.M.

Prayer Mayor Bill North

Pledge Mayor Bill North

Roll Call: Ashlie Webster, Gary Troutman, Dustin Puckett, Anna Turner, Angela Lyons, Peggy Vance

Also in Attendance: Amy Mason, Administrator; Maria Palm, Fiscal Officer, Tom Mayes, Venita Milburn, Clerk

COUNCIL NOTES

Council reviewed meeting minutes from July 8, 2024, regular meeting. *Motion to approve made by Dustin Puckett, second by Angela Lyons. Roll call all yes.*

Council reviewed meeting minutes from July 30, 2024, emergency meeting. *Motion to approve made by Ashlie Webster, second by Anna Turner. Roll call all yes.*

Council approval of financials for July 2024. Comparison of previous year and current year for both Disbursements and Receipts can be shown. Ms. Mason shared that the total allocation was \$1,939,352.41. Ms. Mason did identify some checks for council members that had not been cashed and requested council members with outstanding checks be deposited. *Motion to approve made by Dustin Puckett, second by Peggy Vance. Roll call all yes*

Attachments: Meeting minutes from July 8 and July 30, 2024. Financials for July 2024

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

Shauna Weis – Update on a successful Farmers Market with over 400 people throughout the day. Did have 27 vendors will limit to 25 vendors for the September market due to crowding. October will have a Harvest Party. Mention was made of the EJFED Car Show on August 17th. Ms. Weis thanked council members and the police department for the opportunity to have the Farmers Market and police presence.

Beth Dotson – Asked if there was a liaison between the Village administration and RITA (Regional Income Tax Agency). Ms. Dotson was informed our fiscal officer was the liaison and Mr. Mayes also stated he could help with communication with RITA. Ms. Palm informed Ms. Dotson that RITA will not give her information. Also asked when the tax ordinance was passed and if it passed as an emergency measure. Also Mr. Mayes stated that the tax ordinance could be reviewed by council and finance committee as it was passed many years ago but has not been changed since his. Mr. Mayes that the State of Ohio is pushing the tax to go through RITA. Ms. Dotson also mentioned that she had signed the petition to dissolve the Village which was not against the police department but because of the taxes that must be paid.

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ADMINISTRATOR

The Village audit by the State is still ongoing for the years 2022 and 2023. There have been policies or processes that need to be updated or put in place which the auditors have been very helpful in educating administration, fiscal officer, and clerk. There have been 1 – 4 auditors at the Village office during this time reviewing documents. The ordinance 1292-22 for the sewer rates was found to have a typed error which was stated per 100 gallons increments when it should be 1000 gallons. Ms. Mason asked for a motion to amend the ordinance to 1000 gallons that was typed in error. *Motion to amend was made by Peggy Vance, second by Anna Turner, Ms. Webster abstained. All others yes on roll call.*

Ms. Vance did ask if there were any billing mistakes during this time and that the ordinance was not correct. Ms. Mason stated all billing was appropriately charged.

Attachment: Ordinance 1292-22

Property owned by Ty Pack at 137 S. Main – At last council meeting motion passed to write off tax liability for this property for sewer charges since Mr. Pack was improving the property with there being no financial impact on the Village since no water had been used at the property in many years. Ms. Mason had given Mr. Pack the meeting minutes and a letter to give to the auditor notice of this prior to Mr. Pack having to pay this amount to the auditor's office before the property could be released to Mr. Pack. The auditor stated this was not how the process worked that Mr. Pack had to pay the back liability. Since that time, there was found to be additional charges which would be turned over to the auditor's office this August/September. Ms. Mason asked the council if they would be willing to allow Ms. Mason to have a conversation with Mr. Pack to write off this amount for accumulated sewer charges that had not been turned over to the auditor instead of issuing Mr. Pack a check for what he had already paid and settle the account. *Motion for Ms. Mason to have a conversion with Mr. Pack to settle charges of \$2852.15 made by Ashlie Webster, second by Dustin Puckett. Roll call Angela Lyons – no, Peggy Vance – no, all others yes.*

Winchester Street Fire update: Road is still closed. The owner of the property still owns the property as it stands right now. He has made several inquiries as to resources to help take that down. Ms. Mason has reached out to several companies if the Village must step in. Currently the EPA is considering the building that must come down as RACM which means asbestos is present. The current bids are \$300,000 and \$282,000. A different company came in last Tuesday met with the EPA to determine if all of what is standing is not RACM which means all the material that is already on the ground is asbestos which would have to be specially removed. This would bring the bid down significantly. The results should be back this week. Commissioner Woodruff has been here to examine the building and he has made several calls for assistance but since the building is privately owned no funding is available. Mr. Carlisle has issued a letter to council that states after he has not found any resources, he is willing to concede the building to the Village. Mr. Mays would draw up a contract if this is the direction that is decided. Also have a company that may restore the building after the EPA results come back. Different contractors have given different variations of what needs to be done with the building, but the best scenario would be around \$120,000. The owner has until August 25th

Ms. Mason needs to schedule a personnel committee meeting last week to continue review of the personnel Manuel that is being reviewed per the State auditor's suggestions. Next meeting will be scheduled to continue the review process.

Farmer's Market road closure was originally asked for July and August but Hope and Promise still has requests for September and October. Ms. Mason asked council if they would be willing to continue this for the last two months to keep the road closed for the Farmer's Market. Christmas closure will be addressed at a later date. *Motion made by Peggy Vance, second by Ashlie Webster. Roll call – Ms. Lyons abstained, all others yes.*

Ms. Mason stated that there are CD accounts at US Bank which has \$1200 for perpetual care for the cemetery and a loan at First State bank that both have Karen Miller as a signer. Ms. Mason would like to move both to People's Bank with Maria Palm as the signer. *Motion to add Maria to CD and loan made by Angela Lyons, second by Gary Troutman. Roll call all yes.*

Executive Session

Executive session to discuss 121.22G3 Imminent legal action and 121.22G1 Personnel Compensation Motion to go into Executive Session made by Ashlie Webster, second by Peggy Vance. Roll call all yes

Executive session begins 7:37 p.m.

Motion to come out of Executive Session made by Ashlie Webster, second by Peggy Vance. Roll call all yes.

Executive session Ends 8:31 p.m.

Action taken as result of Executive Session

Request for Ordinance to increase Brian Perry's salary as an emergency ordinance.

Motion to suspend the rules made by Ashlie Webster, second by Anna Turner. Roll call Gary Troutman abstained, all other yes.

*Motion for approval of emergency ordinance to increase Chief Perry's salary to \$60,000 annually made by Angela Lyons, second by Ashlie Webster. Roll call all yes.
Roll call all yes.*

POLICE REPORT

Chief Perry stated that Sargeant Ingle and himself have been actively patrolling all aspects of the Village not just on St. Rt. 32. It has been stated that the officers come in and go straight to St. Rt. 32 which is not the case.

There are ongoing investigations that have been the results of this active patrol. Ms. Webster commented to Chief Perry to keep up the good work and that council supports the efforts of the department.

Both Chief Perry and Sargeant Ingle are going to be changing the hours that are worked. Chief Perry and Captain K9 Ghost are also doing foot patrol.

Ms. Mason commented that the attacks are getting ridiculous that the department is putting up with, but the professionalism is continuing within the Department.

Mr. Mayes commented that he and Chief Perry have had conversations regarding the safety of the officers and the public. He also stated the interference is going on in other departments also.

ROUND TABLE

Mr. Troutman feels that for the audience public comment a one-minute warning should be given. The council agreed this would be a good idea.

Motion to adjourn Angela Lyons, second by Dustin Puckett. Roll call all yes.

End at 8:42 p.m.

9/9/2024
Date Approved

Blevins
Mayor

Oshier Webster
President of Council