

Regular Council

January 9, 2023

Sugarcreek Village Council had a regular council meeting at Village Hall January 9, 2023, with Mayor Jeff Stutzman presiding.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Sam Beachy, Mick Fanning, Jason Hamsher, Josh Jarvis, Jim Parson, Matt Miller.

Matt Miller made a motion to accept the minutes and it was seconded by Jim Parson. At roll call all members voted approval.

Jason Hamsher made a motion to accept the expenditures and the motion was seconded by Mick Fanning. At roll call all members voted approval.

Mayor Stutzman:

The contract with the Village of Baltic is up for renewal and the mayor asked for a motion to renew the contract. Sam Beachy made a motion to renew the contract for 1 year. It was seconded by Miller and at roll call all members voted approval.

Stutzman recommended Keven Kaser be named the next Village Administrator and Jason Hamsher made a motion to confirm Kaser effective March 1, 2023 with a salary of \$20,000 per year in addition to his salary as police chief. The motion was seconded by Beachy and at roll call four members voted approval. Parson and Fanning voted no. The motion passed.

The mayor informed council that he uses his personal phone for village business and the village does not reimburse him for his phone service. He asked council to consider reimbursing him for the new phone he purchased. Beachy made a motion to pay for the new phone and it was seconded by Fanning. At roll call, all members voted approval.

The Fire/EMS levy which is in place expires at the end of 2023. The issue was sent to committee for a decision on how to proceed.

The proposed green space at the square was also sent to committee.

Solicitor Frautschy:

The annexation is moving along as expected. Doug will be out of the office the first full week of February and will miss the council meeting on the 6th.

Administrator Specht:

The Maple Street project cost estimate has been updated. The estimated cost to the Village stands at \$1,502,878.0. TAP funds have been secured in the amount \$992,303.00. There are other funds the Village will seek to reduce the village share. ODOT wants the letter of interest to go out as soon as possible. Once an engineering firm is selected, the village will be committed to pay that firm. Hamsher made a motion to send the letters of interest and it was seconded by Beachy. At roll call all members voted approval.

There are improvements that need done at the Grove. The issue was sent to committee.

The contract between the Village and the Kimble company is due for renewal March, 2023. Specht and Jarvis will be working on the renewal.

Sam Beachy:

The safety committee held a meeting prior to council to discuss full-time fire fighters and the possibility of a new fire station. Solicitor Frautschy will update the employee handbook and make an amendment to the pay ordinance for the next meeting.

A special council meeting will be held January 17, 6:00 p.m. and possibly the 18th, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at Village Hall to discuss:

- Needs for a new fire station
- Full time fire fighters
- Green Space
- Updates at the Grove
- Kimble contract

Sam Beachy announced a safety committee meeting at 6:00 p.m. on January 9th, prior to the council meeting to discuss the fire department.

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Jim Parson:

The lands and buildings committee held a meeting prior to council. A representative from Gable elevator presented information about the expected cost and scope of work involved in replacing the elevator at Alpine Hills Museum. Estimated cost to the village for just the elevator is \$175,000.00. That does not include work that would need done by a general contractor.

Matt Miller called a committee meeting at 6:00 p.m. prior to council January 23, to discuss the Grove and another meeting at 6:15 p.m. to discuss the green space.

A resident was present and voiced his concerns over the condition of the roads and alleys and the lack of mowing in the Shanesville area. He requested that the No-Thru Traffic signs be replaced.

The next regular meeting of council will be January 23, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45, p.m.

Mayor

Attest: _____

Fiscal Officer