

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of Village of South Amherst

REGULAR COUNCIL

January 22, 2024

Call to order:

7:00 p.m. – The council meeting was called to order by Mayor Scott Jones and opened with the Lord's Prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The roll was called:

Councilmember Michele Jeffers	P
Councilmember VACANT	
Councilmember Becky Siesky	P
Councilmember Jeri Leigh Siss	P
Councilmember David Troike	P
President Pro Tempore Jeanne Maschari	P

Ex officio members:

Fiscal Officer Michelle Henke	P
Records Clerk Laurie Beran	P
Law Director Matthew Mishak	P
Utility Admin. David Valentine	P
<i>(EA – excused absences)</i>	

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

January 22, 2024

Amendments to the agenda:

no parking enforcement; Newly Elected Councilmember Seminar; Sandstone Joint Ambulance District, Volunteer Fire Dependency Board, 2024 Attorney General Vest Grant.

Councilmember Maschari moved to accept the agenda with amendments. Councilmember Siss seconded the motion.

Jeffers x Maschari x Siesky x Siss x Troike x

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 15, 2024

Councilmember Maschari moved to approve the minutes as presented. Councilmember Siesky seconded the motion.

Jeffers x Maschari x Siesky x Siss x Troike x

Motion carried.

VISITORS

Chris Gallagher 390 Annis Rd.

Michael & Barb Sangiacomo 111 E Main St.

Rob Koscho 209 N. Lake St. – Expressing interest in the soon to be vacant council position. Has lived in the Village for three years, has a background in non-profits and community stewardship and would like to help the community in which he lives.

MAYOR

Appointment(s)

Mayor Jones read a brief bio on Michael Sangiacomo who has been recommended to fill the vacant council seat left open from the 2023 General Election. Mr. Sangiacomo is a veteran journalist retiring from the Cleveland Plain Dealer and has taught at Temple University, Columbia College, plus Case Western Reserve. Mike seeks to contribute to the Village Council through his unique perspective gained from his diverse experiences.

Councilmember Maschari moved to approve the appointment of Michael Sangiacomo as a Councilmember. Councilmember Siesky seconded the motion.

Jeffers x Maschari x Siesky x Siss x Troike x

Motion carried.

Mr. Sangiacomo was sworn in by Mayor Jones and took his seat on council.

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Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Grant (WWIG)

The fiscal officer stated that Bramhall Engineering has submitted a proposal on behalf of South Amherst for the amount of \$2,118,230.00 for the replacement of water and storm water lines along the section of Elm, Fern, Leonard, Maple, and W. Main. The Village would be responsible for the design and engineering fees of \$177,000.00, which would come from the remaining ARPA Funds, User Fees and if needed the General Fund.

Councilmember Siss inquired about the State Capital Budget that Bramhall had mentioned as a possible source of money for replacing infrastructure. The fiscal officer stated that there was one requirement that could not be met with the current project. The State Capital Budget required a tie-in to a park, which in this case the project was not close enough to a park entrance.

IRG Update

The Industrial Realty Group (IRG) is currently in a phase of awaiting sewer infrastructure, as discussed with Vice President Justin Lichter. Despite this pause in progress, there is an opportunity for collaboration with IRG through potential donations or goodwill to benefit the Village. Council has been asked to collectively consider potential needs/projects that could be formally proposed to IRG for consideration.

Emails

Effective communication is crucial in professional settings, particularly when corresponding via email across different departments. When sending emails with inquiries or questions, it is important to acknowledge the sender's effort promptly. Responding in a timely manner not only showcases professionalism but also conveys respect and courtesy. Councilmember Siss suggested that the Administrative Committee develop an SOP that would encompass emails for all departments.

FISCAL OFFICER

Payment Listing 1/1/24-1/18/24

Presented to council.

Financial Reports

The following financial reports were presented to council: Payment Listing 1/1/24-1/18/24; January Fund Summary; January Revenue Summary; January Appropriation Summary

Year End Update

2023 has been completed and information for the formulation of the Hinkle Notes has been compiled and sent to the auditor.

Permanent Appropriations Update

Public Hearing 2/12 @ 6:45 p.m., information will be sent out by the end of next week for council review.

Newley Elected Councilmember Seminar

OML will be holding their one-day seminar for newly elected officials March 23rd at Embassy Suites Rockside in March if anyone is interested.

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Sandstone Joint Ambulance District

The contract was not signed by the Village per sei, but by the committee. We are responsible for the fee of \$8,784.00 paid in monthly installments to Lifecare Ambulance.

Councilmember Troike moved to approve the payment of \$8,784.00 to Lifecare Ambulance in monthly installments. Councilmember Siss seconded the motion.

Jeffers x Maschari x Siesky x Siss x Troike x

Motion carried.

Special Events Budget

Councilmember Maschari inquired if it would be possible to budget for special events such as parades, community events, etc. The fiscal officer stated that yes, it could be done as long as it does not go against the ORC, which means that it needs to be for a public purpose and no alcohol. The fiscal officer requested a proposed budget amount be submitted by January 30th.

RECORDS CLERK

Year End Building Report

Exhibit A (attached)

UTILITY ADMINISTRATOR

No parking enforcement

A discussion was held with the police chief regarding snowplowing contractors parking in the streets to clear private drives and blocking the road for the Village snowplow to effectively clear the streets. Councilmember Troike did state that a current ordinance says a commercial vehicle can be parked in the road for 15 minutes. Councilmember Siss recommended that the safety committee talk with the police department regarding the enforcement of the no parking on Village streets.

COMMITTEES

Bldg.& Grounds

Will meet on January 30th at 7:00 pm to discuss maintenance issues.

Street-Sidewalk-Service

Councilmember Jeffers informed council that the street sign that states Oakdale St. will be corrected to Oakdale Dr. as reflected on the county auditor's map.

Audit/ Finance (Councilmember Siesky presented.)

November & December were audited along with Mayor's Court, there were no discrepancies. Reminder to council that the bank reconciliation statements need to be signed monthly.

Ordinance

February 8th @ 7 p.m. for the Backyard Chicken Ordinance. Councilmember Troike will not be able to attend.

Safety (Councilmember Jeffers presented.)

Requesting all of council to attend the February 5th committee meeting which will include police, fire, and the service departments to discuss the Eclipse. Councilmember Siss reiterated the

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suggestion that the Historical Society be invited and possibly a representative from the school district.

Volunteer Fire Dependency Board

Annual certification needs to be completed. The chief still needs to recommend 2 firefighters to the board. John Wright will be the resident member of the board.

2024 Attorney General Vest Grant

Chief Frazier would like to outfit the entire department with bulletproof vests through a reimbursement grant from the Ohio Attorney General. The total cost of the vests is \$13,665.00 and the village would need to match 25% (\$3,416.25).

Councilmember Machari moved to approve the 25% match for bulletproof vests.

Councilmember Jeffers seconded the motion.

Jeffers x Maschari x Siesky x Siss x Troike x

Motion carried.

Community & Economic Development (Councilmember Siss presented.)

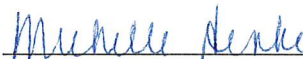
Will complete one last newsletter with information to be turned in by January the 31st. The newsletter should be released at the latest February 9th.

MISCELLANEOUS

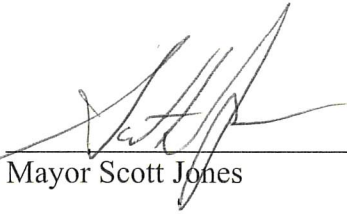
Park – service the dog waste bins.

ADJOURNMENT Time 7:50 p.m.

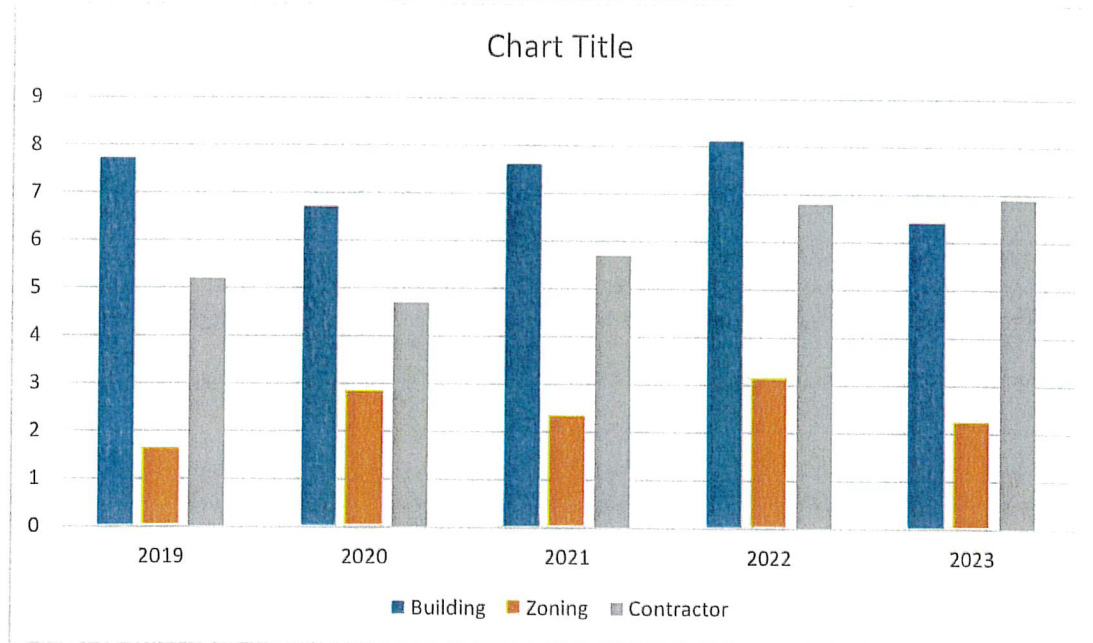
Respectfully submitted,



Fiscal Officer Michelle Henke



Mayor Scott Jones

2023 Construction Yearend**Building**

Total of 64 permits

Commercial 5

Residential 59

Residential permits the last 5 years:

2023 59

2022 81

2021 76

2020 67

2019 77

Zoning

Total of 22 permits (all residential)

Permits the last 5 years

2023 22

2022 31

2021 23

2020 28

2019 16

Contractor

Total of 69

Permits last 5 years

2023 69

2022 68

2021 57

2020 47

2019 52

One new home was constructed at the corner of Annis and Russia Roads. Due to a change in the inspector agreement, all fence and concrete permits will be handled by the Zoning Department. Zoning ordinances and districts will be reviewed as part of the strategic plan.