

Village of Arcanum Council Meeting
October 31, 2023
7:00 p.m. Regular Session

Call to Order – Mayor Bonnie Millard opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance along with all present members of Council.

Roll Call – The following council members were present: Eric VanHoose, David Hartley, Ryan Burns, Jerry Boolman, Rick Genovesi and Calli Means. Also in attendance were VA/Police Chief Marcus Ballinger, Fiscal Officer Karen Deao, Solicitor Nicole Pohlman, and Bruce Shank.

Meeting Minutes – Corrections and Approvals – Council Member Hartley moved to approve the regular meeting minutes dated 10/10/2023 as amended. Council Member VanHoose seconded. All council members voted yea. Motion passed.

Amendments to Agenda – Addition of Ordinance 2023-35.

Comments from the Public – None.

Administrative Reports –

Mayor:

- Letter received from Vicki Rhodehamel stating that there was not enough interest in doing a live nativity in the park this year, but will try again next year.

Solicitor: Nothing at the time.

Village Administrator/ Police Chief: Reports were provided in Council Packets.

VA/PD Report-

- Personnel – Officer Nicholas Jackson submitted his resignation effective 10/24/23. Council Member Hartley moved to accept Officer Nicholas Jackson’s letter of resignation effective 10/27/23. Council Member Genovesi seconded. All council members voted yea. Motion passed. Looking for another applicant; Chief will be on the road more until a replacement can be found.
- Raised flower beds in Ivester Park have been removed due to their condition. Another Girl Scout Troop has reached out wanting to place wooden raised bed in the area, more of a community vegetable garden project for the troop. Not having a sufficient water source in the park is a concern.

General discussion was had from those present at the meeting. Council Member Genovesi mentioned that the last beds were not taken care and had become a problem, but a smaller wooded bed maybe be easier to handle. VA stated that Superintendent Baker suggested that over the winter the Street Dept. could build the wood beds, with the wood being purchased by the Girl Scout Troop, so that the beds would be made and installed correctly and easily removed if need be. The project for the Girl Scouts would be maintaining the beds, not constructing them. Several Council Members again stated that maintaining the beds in the past has been the problem. Council Member Boolman stated that we would be using taxpayer dollars to build the beds, at no real benefit to the taxpayers. Boolman also reiterated that there is no efficient water source in the area and a typical community garden is a large area. This group of Girl Scouts may take care of it, but like in the past, the next group coming in may not take care of it. Several Council Members agreed that a community “you pick” garden may create unwanted tension between residents. Council Member Boolman moved to allow a local Girl Scout Troop to create a community garden in Ivester Park. Council Member Burns seconded. All council members voted nay. Motion failed.

- Violations – A few violations are ready to have a Summons filed. VA wants Council to be aware that the cost to prosecute could be higher than the actual fine assessed to the owner and that legal fees cannot be assessed to the owner. Council Members Boolman and Genovesi felt that not prosecuting violators would just entice more resident’s to not take care of their properties. Mayor advised that one violation in particular, the Village has tried to work with the owner for quite some time with no real long-term progress being made, just bare minimum work to scape by. VA stated that he felt that even though the Village can just go in and remove the junk cars, he feels the better route is to have it be ordered to be done by a judge. Solicitor feels that once people start to know that the Village will take them to court for property maintenance issues, they will probably start taking the violation notices more seriously. Council all agreed that the Village Ordinances need to be fully enforced.

Fiscal Officer:

- Acceptance of Properly Appropriated and Funded Expenditures.
- Financial reports were provided in the Council Packets.
- Council was given a draft of the September Reconciliation Report. Fiscal Officer has a few items to reconcile on the report prior to it being signed, due to a software input issue.

Safety: Nothing to report.

Utility Committee: Report given by Ryan Burns.

- Utility Department- Reviewed the Utility Superintendents budget for the west side of town; reviewed the 5-year equipment purchasing needs for the Utility Department; discussed the 2024 Utility Budget.
- Sewer – Discussed possible in-house projects; purchasing a new pickup truck to replace two older

vehicles; gear box has been fixed and working well; and SCADA system upgrade will begin in November.

- Water – Reviewed replacement/repair projects for the next few years.

VA advised that there was a fire last night on Hogpath Road, and 7 feet of water had to be used from the water tower and brought the water pressure down to 20psi. The Green Water Tower needs to have a valve put on that will not freeze and will need to be enclosed. Green Tower will be filled over the next couple days. Council Member Boolman asked the VA to get quotes on having a fence put up around the base of the Green Water Tower.

Finance & Audit: Report given by Jerry Boolman. Next meeting is scheduled for 11/6/2023 @5:30pm

- Correction needs to be made from last meeting on Karen Deao receiving a bonus instead of a salary increase. Council Member Genovesi moved to have it corrected from last council meeting that Karen Deao is to receive a salary increase and not a bonus. Council Member Hartley seconded. All council members voted yea. Motion passed.
- Farm Ground Lease – Contract should have stated that there is only 26 acres of tillable land. Council Member Genovesi moved to have the Farm Ground Lease Contact changed from 29 tillable acres to 26 tillable acres. Council Member Hartley seconded. All council members voted yea. Motion passed.
- Discussed 2024 garbage rates with no need to increase cost to the residents.
- Reviewed grants obtained by the VA/Police Chief.
- Working on the 2024 budget; should have a preliminary budget to Council by next council meeting.

Service and Leisure: Nothing to report. Next meeting is scheduled for 11/2/23 @5pm.

Personnel: Nothing to report.

Planning: Nothing to report.

Old Business - None

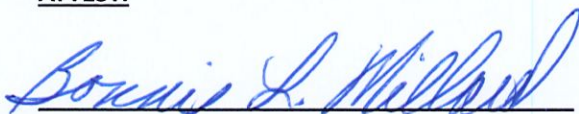
New Business –

1. **Ordinance 2023-35** - An Ordinance Providing For An Amendment To The 2023 Appropriations For Current Expenses And Other Expenditures Of The Village Of Arcanum, Darke County, Ohio And Declaring An Emergency (Parks, Pool & Rec Fund). Council Member Genovesi moved to waive the three-reading rule for Ordinance 2023-35. Council Member Hartley seconded. All present council members voted yea. Motion passed. Council Member Genovesi moved to adopt Ordinance 2023-35. Council Member Hartley seconded. All present council members voted yea. Motion passed. Council Member Genovesi moved to declare Ordinance 2023-35 an emergency. Council Member Hartley seconded. All present council members voted yea. Motion passed
2. **Resolution 2023-31** - A Resolution Authorizing Certification To The County Auditor For The Collection Of Delinquent Utility Bills And Declaring An Emergency. Exhibit A. Council Member Hartley moved to waive the three-reading rule for Resolution 2023-31. Council Member VanHoose seconded. All present council members voted yea. Motion passed. Council Member Hartley moved to adopt Resolution 2023-31. Council Member VanHoose seconded. All present council members voted yea. Motion passed. Council Member Hartley moved to declare Resolution 2023-31 an emergency. Council Member VanHoose seconded. All present council members voted yea. Motion passed
3. **Resolution 2023-32** – A Resolution Authorizing A Contract For The Fire Department To Provide Service To Twin Township, Darke County, Ohio. Exhibit A. (1st Reading). Council Member Genovesi moved to waive the three-reading rule for Resolution 2023-32. Council Member Boolman seconded. All present council members voted yea. Motion passed. Council Member Genovesi moved to adopt Resolution 2023-32. Council Member Boolman seconded. All present council members voted yea. Motion passed.

Announcements –

Adjournment – Council Member Hartley moved to adjourn. Council Member Boolman seconded. All present council members voted yea. Meeting adjourned at 7:42 pm.

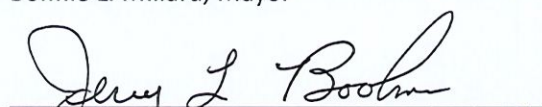
ATTEST:



Bonnie L. Millard, Mayor



Karen L. Deao, Fiscal Officer



Jerry L. Boolman, President Pro-Tem