

Village of Crooksville
Council Workshop Meeting
September 23, 2024

Mayor Mohler calls the meeting to order with the following council members present: Mr. Hampton, Mr. Locke, Mr. Loomis, Mr. Redfern, Ms. Smith, and Mr. Walters. Lacey Tumblin and Courtney Edwards were also present.

First up on the agenda, Mrs. Tumblin wanted to thank everyone that had helped with the transferring of water from the pool to the pond to get it to a safer level for the fish. It was getting dangerously low because of the lack of rain. Mark Dalrymple had suggested testing the pool water and transferring it to the pond.

Next up, Mrs. Tumblin wanted to talk about Reservoir #3 and to get some questions answered that people have had. The first conversation was discussed on August 26 at the Council Workshop Meeting. Many people were concerned that it was just to sell the property, for the village to make money and give bonuses. This will not be a money-making endeavor, and the Village is not able to do bonuses. This was inspected through the water resources division of ODNR. It was a routine safety inspection. Mrs. Tumblin has spoken to ODNR since we have decided to move forward with dewatering. Mr. Hampton stated we discussed it at the workshop if we could keep it or if it was financially beneficial for us to keep it. He states that there are so many reasons for the Village not to keep it. Mrs. Tumblin states that this is being done out of necessity. It is a beautiful area, but a lot of bad things happen out there. People are concerned that we are doing this during a drought. We do not need that water and are not dewatering this year. We are talking about it and looking into grants. We no longer have a treatment plant so that water is not good, useable drinking water. There are a lot of repairs that need done that are extremely costly to the Village and have been long standing. The maintenance costs that need to be done quarterly cannot be met by the Village. People have been concerned about the aquatic life at the Reservoir. Mrs. Tumblin has been in contact with ODNR's Aquatic Stewardship Program Administrator as well as their Permit Coordinator to ensure the health and safety of the aquatic life and the measures taken to make sure the wildlife is properly taken care of. Mr. Hampton would like to find out what the cost would be to make it into a pond. Mrs. Tumblin stated that she will reach out to Verdantas to see if we have the option to do that.

Next, Thomas Heston was present to introduce himself. He would like to join Crooksville Fire/Ems. He is from Rushville. He will be on the docket for October 7th to officially approve.

Next, Mrs. Tumblin stated that she, Heather Chapman, Erik Peterson and Ann Bonner with the ODNR, Division of Forestry, sat down to discuss the different options. The next grant for the trees will be 2026. Ms. Bonner believes we should start up a Tree Commission. If anyone knows of anyone from the community who would be interested to have them reach out. She also gave information on some meetings that the guys could attend to get different certificates and to learn different ways to trim and maintain trees. Colton Wilson, Patrick Samson, and Alan Locke are signed up for one of the classes.

Next up, Mrs. Tumblin stated that we have ARPA money that needs to be used by the end of the year. We had planned to use it for the B1, B6 project but are not going to be able to use it for that by the end of the year. We have a little over \$20,000 left. There was a brief discussion on donating it to the Food Pantry. Other options mentioned were picnic tables and playground equipment at the park. The Council all agreed to donate \$5,298.75 to the Food Pantry.

Next, Mrs. Tumblin stated that she had spoken to Teresa Rice regarding the climbing wall. They had a brief discussion about that and then she asked if anyone would be interested in taking it on for the new generation. The council and Mrs. Tumblin stated they will try and get the word out to see if they can find a replacement to take over.

Next up, Mrs. Tumblin stated that we put in for the grant to update the billing system. She does not know when they will announce who has received it. The total upfront cost would be around \$14,000. The yearly cost would be about \$1,000-\$3,000 per year. She stated that there would be a lot of benefits to upgrading. We could also do away with our server backup subscription (Accunet) which is almost \$200 per month. The council agreed they are all in favor of upgrading.


Next, there are 12 organizations so far for this year's Christmas parade. The parade is November 26. If you know of anyone that would like to be a part of the parade, have them contact Lisa Osborn at the office.

Finally, there will be no meeting next Monday. It is the 5th Monday of the month.

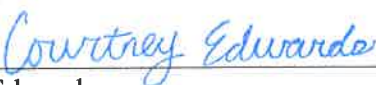
Mr. Redfern asks Ms. Tumblin for the baby pool update, and she has no updates for the baby pool.

The 2024 paving is complete.

Without any further discussion, the meeting is adjourned.



Chris Mohler
Mayor



Courtney Edwards
Fiscal Officer