

Village of Crooksville

Workshop Minutes

January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Mayor Mohler calls the meeting to order with the following members present; Mr. Rice, Mr. Locke, Ms. Smith, Mr. Hampton, Mr. Allen, and Mr. Loomis. Tom Collins was also present.

First up on the agenda is Dean Grimmet from the Crooksville Food Pantry. He would like to explain how the food pantry operates. The Food Pantry is located at 183 West Main Street, Crooksville. It was started September 9<sup>th</sup> 2017. There are five churches that work with the Pantry; Rosefarm Church, First Home, Free Methodist, Iliff, and Maple Avenue. Church of Attornment also participates. The Pantry is open from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the second and the fourth Saturdays each month. This is not an income-based Pantry. The only requirement is that they have a Crooksville address. There have been 250 addresses serviced. The money that was donated from the Village has helped a great deal. They are very thankful for the help. There are normally many more food drives throughout the year, but due to COVID they were not able to have most of the food drives. With the Cares Act money donated to the Food Pantry from the Village there has been 2 upright freezers (one that converts over to a refrigerator if needed), 2 chest freezers and a great deal of food. For Christmas they gave out fifty food boxes that had spiral cut hams and all of the goodies needed for a nice holiday dinner. Each month they spend between \$900-\$1200 on food, and \$140 on utilities. They need a minimum of 6-7 volunteers to run the Pantry when they are open. Tom Thanks Dean and all of the volunteers for all of their time and hard work, this is a much-needed program, and the services that they provide are amazing. He also lets them know if there is anything else the Village can do to help them out to let him know.

Next up on the agenda is to discuss the estimate to upgrade all seven electric pedestals at the park. Also, the new 2021 Police Interceptor has an estimate to equip it. The current amount in the Police Equipment and Training Fund is \$16,826.86. Both of these items will need to be voted on during the next meeting. The ODOT sidewalk project for the Industrial drive bridge will be on next week's agenda. We will be needing support letters from local businesses and residents about how much the bridge is used by the residents.

The new swing set and teeter totter have been ordered for the park.

A new Police Interceptor was ordered with Cares Act money. We will only need to pay for the additional items needed to make it a fully equipped police vehicle. Commercial Electronics was the low bidder.

A lengthy discussion takes place regarding the contract with Robertson Construction who are building the new Fire/EMS station. GCI Material testing company found a "bad spot" that needed to be dug out and filled before the concrete could be poured. Robertson wanted to make a change to the contract because they said that when they had bid the project, they had believed they were bidding in tons and they actual bid was made in cubic yards. Therefore, that had not accounted for the additional amount when they had bid the project. The wanted the contract to be raised by an additional \$2500 because they had bid incorrectly. Everyone on Council agrees with Tom that they need to stick to the contract. App Architect felt like the Village should have changed the contract to "keep the peace". The thoughts

of all on Council is that it is a legal contract that needs to be kept, if we change it, "it will only be opening up a can of worms".

Next up is to discuss the K9 fund. There is only \$36.50 in the fund. The K-9 was supposed to be supported by donations; the Village was not supposed to have financially support the K-9. The question is asked "Is Officer Holm pursuing Donations?" Mayor Mohler feels like Officer Holm is being turned down due to the unexpected expenses that the COVID has brought to businesses.

There is discussion that there could possibly be more COVID Cares Act money in the future. If we get this additional money, there is the thought of purchasing a new K-9 Vehicle. The one we currently have is nickel and diming us. We also have a few vehicles that we do not currently use. They we could put up for sale on Gov Deals.

There is a discussion held regarding impounded vehicles. If we were to start our own impound, we could reap the benefits of impounded vehicles that are sold. Right now, we are not getting the money from the sales. In the process it seems as if we are doing most of the work, and yet not gaining any of the funds from it. In the bigger cities they bring in a great deal of money from their impounded vehicles. We need to look in to this further. This could help out with the money in the police funds.

Mayor Mohler lets everyone know that he has been riding on midnights with Chief Walters, and it has been "a very Eye-opening experience".

Jon Allen would like to discuss giving the Village Employees all a raise. They have gone for three years, and not had a raise. He does not want to see us lose another good employee. Jon feels like we have the money to give them a raise, and would like to see it voted on at the next meeting.

There is a slight discussion regarding whether or not there should be an increase of water rates. The water rates have remained the same for five years if the decision is made to keep the rate at the current price.

Ralph Hill has received both of his COVID vaccination shots. He felt fine after the first shot, but was sick for a day after the second shot.

With no further discussion Mayor Mohler calls the meeting to adjourn.



CHRIS MOHLER

Mayor



MARILYN HORNER

Fiscal Officer