

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of

Village of Sabina Regular Council

Meeting

BEAR GRAPHICS 800-325-8094 FORM NO. 10148

Held Thursday, December 22 20 22

Mayor Collings presiding opened the regular Council meeting on Thursday, December 22, 2022 at 7:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vicki Mongold, followed by a moment of silence. Next, roll call was taken with all members present.

**Minutes:** Mayor Collings asked the Council if there were any changes, corrections or additions that need to be made to the December 8, 2022 minutes. Abe Arnold pointed out a couple of grammatical errors. Mayor Collings entertained the motion to approve the minutes with corrections. Abe Arnold made the motion, seconded by Vicki Mongold.

**Persons Before Council:** None.

**Mayor's Report:** This week's meeting is the last council meeting for 2022 and we have a full agenda. The first resolution is to accept a bid for a new roof on the municipal building. Although the municipal building needs a lot of work, a new roof is an important first step. This will ensure there are no more water leaks in the historical society, the Police Department, and elsewhere. The next resolution is for temporary appropriations which will ensure continued operations until final appropriations are completed early next year.

The next two pieces of legislation are related to the appointment of Chastity Pinkerton to the position of Fiscal Officer and setting her new pay in this position. Chastity has worked hard in her position in the fiscal office and has done an excellent job given all the responsibilities she has been given. More will be asked of her as Fiscal Officer, but those that have assisted in her training and myself believe she is more than capable of handling it. This appointment is for the remainder of the current term which was left vacant due to the health issues and recent passing of the late Nancy Cornell. Nancy is greatly missed and once again like to offer my condolences to Nancy's family for this tragic loss.

The fifth piece of legislation is a resolution authorizing the Village Administrator and myself to submit a project proposal to the EPA for funding considerations. As everyone is aware, our water infrastructure system is riddled with problems. Many of these problems are due to the age and effective obsolescence of our current plant. We have known for at least a year that a new plant or alternative source of water for the village was needed. Over the past several months staff and myself have researched the various options available to the Village. A new plant was priced at roughly 5 million dollars, but that was prior to this year's inflation. Additionally, funding for a new plant would come in the form of loans due to the EPA's desire to incentivize greater regionalization of water infrastructure.

Through discussions with neighboring jurisdictions and the assistance of a consultant who specializes in water infrastructure, the best option currently available is the construction of a pipeline from Wilmington. This pipeline would allow the Village to bulk purchase water from Wilmington and secure a safe source of drinking water for our community. Included in this proposal would be new electronic water meters and a complete rehab and sandblasting of the water tower. Funding for this regional project has the potential to be funded through both grants and low interest loans. If this project proceeds, it would eventually eliminate the

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if it is approved – not a guarantee – there is no obligation to proceed if another more viable option is found.

The final piece of legislation is a three-read ordinance on setting the monthly service charges for water and sewer. Given the uncertainty of the future of our water system and the already comparatively high rates, I am proposing no increases for the coming year. However, the water department should still have a revenue increase because staff will begin resetting meter read outs. This will ensure the meter read outs and meters are synchronized thus reducing the amount of unpaid water loss in our system. This has not been done in the past, but I am working to make it annual process as we move forward.

There are also some in the Village who are experiencing water discoloration. Unfortunately, the parts we need to proceed with repairing the filters have not yet come in. We are exploring other options on how to proceed. We understand the discoloration is frustrating for residents and I can assure you we are doing everything we can to remedy this situation as soon as possible. Rob has thought of something new to try while we wait for parts that may provide some relief – flushing the water lines. I do not know when they will be doing this, but we shall notify residents when it is scheduled.

Before concluding, I would like to thank Susanne Kenney for all her work over the years publishing the Sabina Community Newsletter. Though I hate to see it end, she has decided to fully retire. I hope her well-deserved retirement is enjoyable and relaxing! I would also like to remind everyone of the holiday decorating contest available to both residential homes and businesses. The deadline to enter is this Thursday at noon and winners will be announced after Christmas. There will be prizes for the winners thanks to the generous donations of local businesses. I would also like to thank Chief Grehl and Councilor Grehl for their work on another awesome event in the Village. This past Saturday they were able to get in contact with both the Grinch and Santa Clause. Fortunately, they had time in their schedules to come see some of the kids here in Sabina and spread some holiday joy.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to everyone in Sabina!

Abe Arnold asked about resetting the meters. Rob Dean said the apartments were hard to keep track of since people move in and out constantly, or are vacant. He said he'd do the best he can to put new meters in to resolve the issue, whether it is the readout, wire or meter itself. Abe wanted clarification on what resetting meant. Mayor Collings stated Charissa said she knows people are living there but are getting the minimum bill.

Beth Ghrel asked about Highland Pipe bringing their pipe to Lees Creek. Mayor Collings said we would have to pay half of the engineering cost, full cost to fill waterline, then transfer ownership of waterline to them. Peggy Sloan mentioned Washington Court House and Mayor Collings said it's one he still needs to look into.

Peggy also asked about Chastity Pinkerton's position as Fiscal Officer. It will no longer be an elected position; it will be appointed since it's in the middle of the term. Will clarify with David Henry.

**Village Administrator:**

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Rumpke wants to bring 600 trash cans to store and then distribute starting January 4, 2023. Rumpke will also send out letters to residents informing them.

Beth Grehl asked for clarification on warming centers. Wilmington and Sabina Municipal Buildings are warming centers.

Beth also welcomed Rob back.

**Police Chief:** John Grehl stated the new car was picked up. Randy Vance will stripe it and will be ready on Friday. The other car should be done next week.

John reminded everyone that residents need to be breaking down their boxes at Christmas time to cut back on thieves trying to break into residences.

He also asked about Lt. Noah and his one year in November. He was told the step system was suspended at the moment.

**Law Director:** Absent.

**Fiscal Officer:** None.

**Bill List:**

## Village of Sabina

### Bill List 12/22/2022

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Dept.</u>
3C Ag	\$99.41	St, PD, Mayor
10-8 Video	\$2,505.00	PD
Allied	\$49,343.02	Sewer
Sandy Arrasmith	\$50.00	Fiscal
American Legal Publishing	\$850.00	Admin.
Chrisman H2O	\$18.00	W/S/St/PD
Dave Powers	\$28.00	Mayor/Admin
Flagway	\$2,224.29	W/S/St/PD
Groves Tires	\$18.00	PD
Greenfield Pest Control	\$45.00	Admin.
Google	\$30.80	PD
Insight Pipe	\$18,943.06	Sewer

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Staples	\$118.39	
Scadata	\$700.00	
Sheehy Systems	\$189.00	Sewer
West End Auto	\$74.73	PD
Uline	\$1,264.13	Park
MASI	\$1,675.80	W/S
Mid State Electric	\$444.00	Water
AIM	\$159.68	
Kimball Midwest	\$204.56	Street
McCarty Gardens	\$157.00	Mayor
PEP Insurance	\$865.00	PD
IRS	\$4,390.34	
Kenny Shields	\$550.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$201,531.05</b>	

Mayor Collings entertained a motion to pay the bills. Motion made by Peggy Sloan, seconded by Bruce Gottschalk.

Mayor Collings asked Council about a Christmas bonus for employees. \$250 was suggested. Mayor Collings stated that he would like all employees, regardless of how long they have worked, to receive the bonus. Chastity stated there are around 18 employees, 3 of which are under 6 months. Mayor Collings entertained a motion to approve a \$250 Christmas bonus to all employees. Motion passed with a 5-1 vote.

**Appropriations & Budgets:** None.

**Audit & Internal Processes:** None.

**Economic & Community Development:** None.

**Employee Relations & Polices:** Peggy Sloan stated the final fire meeting of the year was December 20, 2022. There were seventy-nine runs in November and sixty so far in December. She also stated on December 5, 2022 there was a blood drive. Twenty-five people registered, with twenty-two people donating blood.

Peggy mentioned the hospital grant they received to purchase a Polaris. It was \$30,000, but \$3,935 is being added for windshields.

**Infrastructure & Development:** None.

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Mayor Collings asked about Committees and which one Council would like to be on next year.

**Ordinances & Resolutions:** Mayor Collings presented an emergency Resolution 1178 to award the lowest and best bid for a new roof on the Municipal Building as an emergency measure. Mayor Collings entertained the motion to approve Resolution 1178. Abe Arnold made the motion to waive the three readings and adopt Resolution 1177 as an emergency measure, seconded by Beth Grehl.

Mayor Collings presented an emergency Resolution 1179 making temporary appropriations for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2023 as an emergency measure. Mayor Collings entertained the motion to approve Resolution 1179. Peggy Sloan made the motion to waive the three readings and adopt Resolution 1179 as an emergency measure, seconded by Bruce Gottshalk.

Mayor Collings presented an emergency Resolution 1180 for the appointment of Chastity Pinkerton to the Office of Village Fiscal Officer as an emergency measure. Mayor Collings entertained the motion to approve Resolution 1180. Beth Grehl made the motion to waive the three readings and adopt Resolution 1180 as an emergency measure, seconded by Ty Baker. Passes with a 5-1 vote.

Mayor Collings presents the 1<sup>st</sup> read on an Ordinance #2022-18 setting the wage for Chastity Pinkerton as Village Fiscal Officer. A Appropriations and Budget Committee meeting is scheduled for January 3, 2023 at 6:30 pm to discuss pay.

Mayor Collings presents the 1<sup>st</sup> read on Resolution #1181 authorizing the Mayor and Village Administrator to submit a project proposal to the EPA's WSRLA Program for the construction of a waterline from Wilmington, Ohio.

Mayor Collings presents the 1<sup>st</sup> read on Ordinance #2022-19 setting the monthly water and sewer charges for the Village of Sabina, Clinton County Ohio at the same rate established for 2022.

**Public Comments:** None.

**Council Comments:** Beth Grehl stated there was a great turn out for the Santa and Grinch event held at the Municipal Building. She thanked Peggy for her help. There was around fifty people at one point in attendance. More planning and help next year would be appreciated.

The debit card will be turned off. There needs to be a two-signer account.

There were some questions on accounts. Abe Arnold stated that Melissa, previous attorney, had approved in court to transfer \$200,000 from the sewer fund to the general fund. It was suggested that the \$200,000 needs moved to an account that earns interest.

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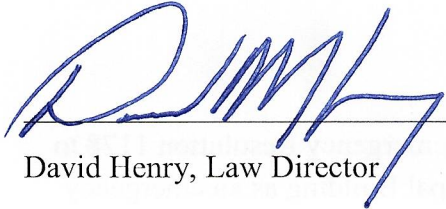
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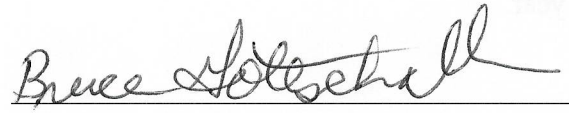
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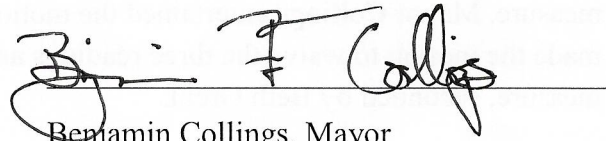
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Attest:

  
David Henry, Law Director

Approved:

  
Bruce Gottschalk, President of Council

  
Benjamin Collings, Mayor