

Arcadia Village Council Meeting Minutes,

October 9th, 2023

Arcadia Village Council met for the regular scheduled session on October 9th, 2023, at the Town Hall located at 104 South Gibson Street Arcadia, Ohio at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Chester Balderson called the meeting to order. All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call Attendance: Mayor; Chester Balderson. Voting Council Members: Stephanie Balderson, Donald Moses, Sherrie Keefe, Rhonda Dingelstedt, Aadam Duckett, and Harry Colvin. Village Administrator; Brian Dingelstedt, Fiscal Officer; Amie Clouse, and Solicitor; John Filkins.

Residents in Attendance: Teresa Margraf, Jeff Hanna, Karen Hanna, Vicki Simon, Britton Powell, Carol Berning, Michelle Hengsteler, Vi Fink and Carol Mc Donald.

Visitors in Attendance: Jeff Hunker

Minutes: Mayor Chester Balderson asked the council if they had a chance to read the September minutes. All concurred they had read the minutes. Mayor Balderson asked for a motion to forgo the reading of the September 11th minutes. Sherrie Keefe made a motion to forgo the reading of the September 11th, 2023 minutes. Harry Colvin seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Harry Colvin made a motion to accept the September 11th, 2023, minutes as written, and Sherrie Keefe seconded the motion. Roll call vote 6–0. Motion carried.

Bills: Stephanie Balderson made a motion to pay the September bills and Rhonda Dingelstedt seconded the motion. Roll call vote 6-0. Motion carried.

Administrator Report: Brian Dingelstedt prepared the reports for receipts and expenditures for September 2023:

	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Gain/Loss</u>
Water	\$27,573.91	\$ 30,491.88	-\$2,917.97
Sanitary Sewer	\$9,086.29	\$4,887.04	+\$4,199.25
Electric	\$56,616.49	\$46,943.55	+\$9,672.94

41 delinquent accounts: \$10,682.92

0 residents were disconnected for nonpayment.

Water: Nothing to report.

Sanitary Sewer: Nothing to report.

Electric: Nothing to report

Other: Brian Dingelstedt explained to council that a letter was sent to the Mr. Leathers, the owner of the abandoned, building on the corner of North Main Street and South St. to address the grass ordinance.

Zoning: Mr. Dingelstedt reminded council that there will be a special meeting Wednesday, October 18th, 2023 to decide a variance for Lonnie Moses.

Fiscal Officers Report: Fiscal Officer, Amie Clouse presented the council with the following reports: Appropriation Status, Revenue Status, Monthly Cash Flow Summary, and the monthly fund balance.

<u>For September</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
General fund:	\$303,954.65	\$308,397.93
Streets:	\$217,104.22	\$220,309.70
Highway:	\$12,757.01	\$12,985.28
Storm Sewer:	\$85,544.17	\$96,947.68
Permissive Tax:	\$4,742.33	\$5,029.83
ARPA Corona Virus:	\$61,716.57	\$61,716.57
Heart and Soul:	\$28,874.25	\$48,461.83
Water:	\$125,987.77	\$123,069.80
Sanitary Sewer:	\$239,844.56	\$244,043.81
Electric:	\$963,547.27	\$973,220.21

Amie Clouse updated council on the status of the storm sewer grant that the village applied for in June. She explained that the village did not receive the grant. Mrs. Clouse explained that she did not have details about why we did not receive the grant. Lizzy Essinger with the Community Foundation helped submit the application. Mrs. Essinger was going to get more details but did not have any more info at this time. The Village is using the ARPA funds for the storm sewer project. The timeline to use these funds for a storm sewer project will allow the village to apply for a grant again next year. The village will need to commit to a project by the end of 2024, then use the funds by December 31, 2026. The village may decide to use these funds for a street project if the storm sewer project becomes an issue to secure funding to complete the proposed project. Mrs. Clouse explained that the storm sewer grant could be applied for again in the early summer. A decision was not needed at this time. Instead, Mrs. Clouse asked council members to consider how they would like to move forward with the use of the ARPA funds and discuss it again at a later meeting.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Chester Balderson explained that he looked over the village legislation about having farm animals in the village. He would be searching for a clause that state you may have these animals but you may not profit from them. He explained that he did not find the documents he was searching for. The only ordinance that has been found states that animals are not allowed unless you meet certain requirements that most residents do not meet. Mayor Balderson asked council to consider what type of restrictions or allowances make sense concerning having farm animals in the village. Mayor Balderson explained that he would send out his ideas to council along with the current legislation that has been found. Then the council can make adjustments and complete legislation to vote on at the next council meeting.

Solicitor Report: nothing to report

Old Business: Mayor Balderson explained that the last legislation that states where council minutes are to be posted was found. This legislation is out of date and has businesses that are not used and or no longer available to use. Currently the minutes are posted inside and outside of the office, the Superette and Kathy's Korner. Aadam Duckett also posts them on the community webpage.

Mayor Balderson explained he called Findlay and Lima's water department to inquire about the taste and smell of the water. Mayor Balderson has received many concerns about Arcadia's water. Mayor Balderson explained that the water departments that he spoke with are also having these issues with taste and smell.

Mayor Balderson discussed tall grass and litter. He explained that letters for tall grass have been sent out but have not been responded to. The next step will be to address the issues and assess the cost to the taxes. Mayor Balderson asked for suggestions about how to deal with properties that have excessive trash and litter. Council member Donald Moses explained that Marion township was addressing a similar issue. He found that the prosecutor informed them that if they went on the property to remove the "trash" they would be charged with trespassing. If they took items from the property they would be charged with theft. Accessing fines to the properties was discussed as an option. Mr. Filkens discussed viable ways to enforce these fines and fees. Mayor Balderson stated we would investigate accessing fines to these properties and make sure we are doing it properly.

New Business: Nothing to report.

Resident Concerns: Carol Berning and Britton Powell were in attendance to observe. Michelle Hengsteler was in attendance to inform the council that she called the board of election regarding the animals in town. She explained that her mother-in-law (Kathy Hengsteler) was mayor when they wrote legislation about having animals in town. Mrs. Hengsteler explained that Arcadia is a farming community and she could not believe that there was no legislation about having animals in town. Mrs. Hengsteler was interested in starting a petition to have farm animals in town. The Board of Elections supervisor was going to investigate their records to see if they could find anything on the matter for Arcadia before the petition is started. Mrs. Hengsteler also explained that her yard was cleaned up and that it would stay that way.

Teresa Margraf updated council about the tree workshops that Amie Clouse and Ben Dolan have been working on with her. The 3 workshops will be available in the fall and are open to everyone. The workshops will be held at the Arcadia community building. She also explained that the grant will also provide tools that residents can check out and use.

Mrs. Margraf also explained that she would like to see the minutes read each month. She also inquired if the Storm Sewer grant was affected by the village's LMI (low to moderate income) results. Mrs. Clouse explained that Lizzy Essinger did mention the LMI results. Mrs. Clouse will inquire again with Mrs. Essinger for more information. Mrs. Clouse explained that the LMI has affected a grant that they applied for in the past and she did explain this issue to Mrs. Essinger in an email but has not received any more information from her.

Mrs. Margraf also mentioned that the zoning rule that was found from 1960 did not make sense because the village did not have zoning until 1974. It was explained that what was found was an Arcadia Ordinance book from 1960.

Mrs. Margraf was also concerned about the child that was hit on Route 12 the week before. The child is fine and everyone is grateful. She is concerned that no one is using the safety crossing that could help avoid accidents like the one last week.

Mrs. Margraf was also concerned with a golf cart that was driving recklessly. Mayor Balderson advised that she contact the Sheriff when she has this issue in the future. The Sheriff has addressed these concerns and has spoken with many residents on golf carts giving warnings about use and rules.

Carol McDonald inquired if the administrator position has been filled. Mayor Balderson explained that there is a candidate that will be discussed later in the meeting.

Jeff Hanna was in attendance to inquire about the water quality. He explained that Mayor Balderson talked about this earlier in the meeting and was content with his report.

Vi Fink reminded the council of an August meeting that Vicki Simon was speaking. Mrs. Fink inquired why council members were rolling their eyes. Council member Donald Moses responded that he was frustrated when council is speaking and residents are also speaking during the meeting. Mrs. Fink asked the council to knock it off. Mayor Balderson explained that he will try to manage the eye rolling and speaking during the meeting.

Vicki Simon was in attendance to ask council to hold off on making any decisions about animals until more information is gathered from the work that Michelle Hengsteler is working on through a petition and the Board of Elections. Mrs. Simon requested that the residents make this decision instead of 6 council members. Mayor Balderson agreed to wait for more information and put the topic on hold until Mrs. Hengsteler brings back more information.

Guest concerns: Jeff Hunker was in attendance to introduce himself. He is running for County Commissioner. He explained that he understood many of the concerns he listened to during the meeting. He gave some information about himself. He explained that he would like to be a voice for the entire county.

Harry Colvin made a motion for all council members, the mayor, solicitor, fiscal officer, and administrator to go into executive session for new employee matters. Sherrie Keefe seconds the motion. All in favor, motion passes 6-0.

Rhonda Dingelstedt made a motion to come out of executive session. Donald Moes seconds the motion. All in favor, motion passes 6-0.

Sherrie Keefe made a motion to hire Mark Bowman part time as the administrator on a probationary period of 30 days at \$18.50 (eighteen dollars and fifty cents) per hour. He will be evaluated at this time for full time employment. Aadam Duckett seconded the motion. All in favor, motion passes 6-0.

Angela Ruth Tong currently works for the village to cover for Mrs. Clouse when she is out of the office. When Mrs. Tong is covering for Mrs. Clouse, Mrs. Tong will be paid out of the village funds at the agreed wage. Harry Colvin made a motion to hire Angela Ruth Tong as the Heart and Soul Coordinator for a part time position, for a 2-year time period at an hourly rate of 22.50. Mrs. Tong's wages will come from the Heart and Soul grant. Vote was 4 yes and 2 opposed. Motion carries.

Adjourn: Stephanie Balderson moved to adjourn the meeting. Rhonda Dingelstedt seconded the motion. All in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Fiscal Officer, Amie Clouse

Mayor, Chester Balderson