Council President Kincannon called the Council Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. After the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call was taken with Flynn, Price, Gregory, Kincannon, Dill, and Karpinski present.

**Motion by Flynn, which was seconded by Gregory,** to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2022, Committee of the Whole meeting; 6 yeas; motion passed.

**Motion by Flynn, which was seconded by Karpinski** to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2022, Council meeting; 6 yeas; motion passed.

***Audience Participation:***

N/A

Tia Cruise and Domenic Fleming were sworn in as police officers by Council President Kincannon.

***Mayor’s Report:***

The trucking company’s insurance is paying up to $2 million for the damage caused to the circle and soldiers’ monument. The township’s insurance company is paying $460,000. That should be plenty to repair / reconstruct the monument, landscaping, etc.

Kincannon went to the LaGrange Township trustees’ meeting this past Monday night. They plan to install a new sign; Kincannon reminded them to apply for the necessary permit. Kincannon asked about the petitions for Kelner Ditch; Trustee Gardner indicated that they only had one signature so far. Rural Water will build a 3-million-gallon tank on their property; after that is done, the existing water towers will be taken down. Rich Beran contacted the trustees about annexing his property; the trustees did not oppose it. Beran wants the frontage to be zoned commercial. We will be responsible for maintenance of Biggs Road.

Our crews are repairing light poles on the square. We are getting $25,000 in ARPA funds from the county commissioners for phase 3 of our retention pond. The alumni band contacted Kincannon again about Christmas on the Square; it will be held on December 4th.

***Police Chief’s Report:***

Chief Laubenthal reported on the following for the period of September 22nd through October 26th:

1. There were 36 non-criminal requests for assistance.
2. There were 14 criminal complains/investigations - 0 felonies; 0 misdemeanors; and 0 juvenile charges. They included 2 trespassing, 3 thefts, 1 sexual assault, 1 parole / probation order violation, 2 confiscated contraband, 2 domestic disputes / violence, 1 assault, and 2 dogs at large.
3. There were 21 traffic-related incidents including 3 crash investigations, 2 operating and equipment charges (12 warnings), 2 parking violations (0 warnings), and 2 leaving the scene.

***Solicitor’s Report:***

Solicitor Clark reported on the following:

1. A draft noise ordinance was provided to council for their review. An ordinance will be ready for the next council meeting.
2. Clark spoke with the title company about Mr. McConnell’s purchase of Village property north of town on State Route 301. We are holding the $2,000 deposit. Clark suggests we wait until before spring planting to take any action. McConnell has not been responsive to us or to the title company.

***Village Administrator’s Report:***

Village Administrator Gates reported on the following:

1. We are in the process of replacing all of the anchor bolts and rods on the light poles on the square. The luminaries are leaking, which is adding to the corrosion of the bolts. Originally, 16 poles were installed in 1991 for $20,200. We are asking council to approve up to $25,000 to replace the luminaries, install LED lights, replace the wiring, replace the electrical outlets, and replace the anchor bolts and rods. The southwest corner of the square by the old Virgil’s Kitchen has one of the new luminaries with a LED light in so the difference between the existing lights and an updated one can be seen. **Motion by Gregory, which was seconded by Karpinski**, to spend up to $25,000 to replace the luminaries, install LED lights, replace the wiring, replace the electrical outlets, and replace the anchor bolts and rods; 6 yeas; motion passed.
2. Rural Lorain County Water Authority (RLCWA) and Republic Waste will be raising rates next year. Do we want to raise our sanitary rates also? RLCWA will increase rates by 2 percent. Republic will raise their rates by 3.5 percent. We will revisit this at an upcoming meeting so that council has an opportunity to consider this.
3. We would like to amend all of our utility ordinances to have a required Bentonite dam on all access lines and also have our sanitary ordinance include a sanitary valve for all future residents that would receive their water from RLCWA.
4. We had our pre-construction meeting with North Star Builders for the apartments on U. S. Grant Street. They plan to start in November.
5. Council was given a draft of the proposed Exterior Maintenance Code. Tom Horseman would like to discuss it with council at the November committee of the whole meeting.
6. We currently are in violation with the EPA for water because we do not have a licensed operator. We are asking council to approve hiring Eastwood Environmental until we can get someone licensed. They cost $3,400 per month for sampling, reporting, etc., and would be here 6 hours per week. Hillary Grasse has been with us for 7 years. 20 percent of her hours are applied to water. It will be another year or so before she has the hours necessary for this license. We are down an operator. This will come up again under new business.
7. Railroad Street was funded at the district level for OPWC round 37. Our engineer is working on the project. It will be advertised to bid in early 2023 and should start in late spring of 2023.
8. The Lorain County Commissioners approved our $25,000 ARPA grant application for our retention pond.
9. The material for the maintenance building at 313 East Main Street has been ordered. They are hoping to start as soon as it comes in. The contractor needs to know if we are doing the batted insulation for $21,660 or the spray-in insulation for $50,150. Batted insulation was the consensus of councils.
10. A copy of the third quarter overtime hours were provided.
11. The signs for illegally parking in handicap spots ($250 fine) have been placed on all handicap parking spots.
12. Our engineer reviewed our sign ordinance regarding electronic message boards and recommended that they are approved by the Zoning Administrator, Zoning Board of Appeals, and the Police Chief for safety reasons. There is a concern about where the township wants to place their sign due to traffic concerns on the circle.
13. Mike Kroupa will be retiring next week. Tim Fairchild has been hired to replace him as our building maintenance staff.

***Fiscal Officer’s Report:***

Fiscal Officer Homer-Miller was not in attendance but provided a report on the following:

1. The audit of our 2020 & 2021 financials is ongoing. The auditors were only here 1 day. Periodically, they email Homer-Miller for information.
2. Iler Networking quoted $40 per computer/server per month, which comes to $750-$800 per month (approximately $9,600 annually). Addressing issues that come up, projects, etc., would cost $132 per hour. Iler hosts our website & are willing to work with another company (Pozywak) if needed for police department. They have 9 local IT employees verses Pozywak having 1-2. Kincannon has had good experience with Iler Networking.

Peak Technology quoted $1,300 per month ($15,600 annually). They have 6 local IT employees verses Pozywak having 1-2. Instead of managed service, we could buy support hours at $125 - $150 per hour.

Our current IT service provider is LORCO Data / Richard Pozywak. Pozywak now has a partner. However, his availability is limited. His hourly rate is $75. If after normal business hours, it's $125 per hour. We have another meeting before deciding on an IT service provider.

1. All full-time employees should update and/or complete their FormFire profiles on or before October 28th. We'll then be able to get additional health insurance quotes.
2. Our liability insurance renewal has been completed. Kincannon participated in part of the liability insurance renewal meeting with Homer-Miller and our representative from Ryan-Saint Marie. Our covered items are more complete after Homer-Miller’s detailed review with input from Gates, Laubenthal, Lilly, and others.
3. The next monthly reconciliation has been started. Keeping things afloat takes more time than expected - especially with insurance renewals, 2023 budget preparations, audits, etc.

Kincannon mentioned that the open items list has been updated. He mentioned that changes may be needed to mayor’s court and/or fines. It should be discussed at an upcoming meeting when the mayor and fiscal officer are present. Clark asked if the entities surveyed have magistrates.

***Old Business:***

N/A

***New Business:***

Ordinance 2022-2475 --- AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 506, SECTION 507, SECTION 509, AND SECTION 510 OF THE SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF LAGRANGE OHIO --- This concerns concrete instead of asphalt streets. This was the second reading.

Ordinance 2022-#### --- Draft noise ordinance for discussion at future meeting.

Resolution 2022-981 --- A Resolution to Authorize the Village Administrator to Enter into an Agreement with EASTWOOD ENVIRONMENTAL INC. for the PROVISION of WATER TESTING SERVICES and Declaring an Emergency --- **Price** **motioned to suspend the rules; Dill seconded**; 6 yeas; motioned passed. **Flynn** **motioned to adopt and declare an emergency; Gregory seconded**; 6 yeas; motion passed. Clark suggested the resolution be amended to limit the amount to $50,000. **Motion as amended by Gregory; seconded by Karpinski**; 6 yeas, motion passed. **Motion to adopt and declare an emergency as amended by Karpinski, seconded by Flynn**; 6 yeas; motion passed.

***Committee Reports*:**

1. Park Board – The township meeting discussed partnering with the village on the park drive. This is something we will revisit in the spring.

Administrator Gates asked Solicitor Clark if the township can help pay for the lighting on the square. Clark will look into and will provide an update at an upcoming meeting.

1. Planning Commission – There will be a meeting next week.
2. LCIC – N/A

***Presentation of Bills:***

The Fiscal Officer provided the list of warrants and electronic payments issued between October 14 and 27, 2022, totaling $286,726.06. **Dill motioned to accept, which was seconded by Flynn**; 6 yeas; motion passed.

There being no further business, **Karpinski motioned to adjourn, which was seconded by Gregory**; 6 yeas; motion passed. Adjourned at approximately 8:25 p.m.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Attested by: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Kim E. Strauss, Mayor Christie Homer-Miller, Fiscal Officer

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_