Mayor 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, Karpinski, and Dill present.

Mayor Kincannon swore in Richard Honer as a new Council member.

**Motion by Dill, which was seconded by Gregory,** to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2023, Committee of the Whole meeting; 4 yeas with Price and Honer abstaining; motion passed.

**Motion by Flynn, which was seconded by Gregory,** to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2023, Council meeting; 4 yeas with Price and Honer abstaining; motion passed.

***Old Business:***

Resolution 2023-985 --- A JOINT RESOLUTION BY THE VILLAGE OF LAGRANGE AND LAGRANGE TOWNSHIP TO AMEND JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 97-388, AS AMENDED, TO PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT OF A STIPEND TO MEMBERS OF THE JOINT RECREATION PARK BOARD --- This was the second reading. Solicitor Clark asked if the Park Board is made up of 5 or 7 members.

Resolution 2023-986 --- A Resolution Authorizing the Village Administrator to Execute a Competitive Retail Electric Service Affidavit and Declaring an Emergency --- This was the second reading. **Motion by Karpinski,** **to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Dill**; 6 yeas; motion passed. **Motion by Karpinski, to adopt and declare an emergency, which was seconded by Gregory**: 6 yeas; motion passed

***New Business:***

Ordinance 2023-2488 --- An Ordinance CONSENTING TO THE annexation of 32.384 acres located ON BIGGS ROAD to the VILLAGE OF LAGRANGE Upon the petition of THE OWNER and declaring an emergency --- **Motion by Karpinski, to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Price**; 6 yeas; motion passed. **Motion by Karpinski, to adopt and declare an emergency, which was seconded by Price**; 6 yeas; motion passed.

Ordinance 2023-2489 --- An Ordinance STATING the services that the VILLAGE OF LAGRANGE will provide upon the annexation of 32.3840 ACrES located ON BIGGS ROAD to the VILLAGE Upon the petition of THE OWNER AS REQUIRED UNDER SECTION 709.03(D) OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE and declaring an emergency --- **Motion by Karpinski, to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Price,** to approve; 6 yeas; motion passed. **Motion by Karpinski, to adopt and declare an emergency, which was seconded by Gregory**; 6 yeas; motion passed.

Ordinance 2023-2490 --- AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAINTENANCE OF ROADWAYS INCLUDED IN ANNEXED TERRITORY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY --- **Motion by Karpinski, to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Price**; 6 yeas; motion passed. **Motion by Karpinski, to adopt and declare an emergency, which was seconded by Honer**; 6 yeas; motion passed.

Ordinance 2023-2491 --- An Ordinance REQUIRING the CONSTRUCTION OF A BUFFER separating the use of territory IF ANNEXED FROM LAGRANGE TOWNSHIP and the adjacent land remaining within the township UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS AS REQUIRED UNDER SECTION 709.023(C) OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE and declaring an emergency --- **Motion by Karpinski, to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Price,** to approve; 6 yeas; motion passed. **Motion by Karpinski, to adopt and declare an emergency, which was seconded by Dill**; 6 yeas; motion passed.

Ordinance 2023-2492 --- AN ORDINANCE TO CONSENT TO AN ASSIGNMENT OF A CONTRACT FOR THE SALE OF REAL ESTATE OWNED BY THE VILLAGE OF LAGRANGE TO THE STREAM AND WETLANDS FOUNDATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY --- **Motion by Karpinski, to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Dill,** to approve; 6 yeas; motion passed. **Motion by Karpinski, to adopt and declare an emergency, which was seconded by Dill**; 6 yeas; motion passed.

Ordinance 2023-2493 --- AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE HOUSING COUNCIL MEETING BASED UPON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE HOUSING COUNCIL MEMBERS AND DECLARING THIS ACT AN EMERGENCY --- **Motion by Karpinski, to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Price,** to approve; 6 yeas; motion passed. **Motion by Karpinski, to adopt and declare an emergency, which was seconded by Gregory**; 6 yeas; motion passed.

Ordinance 2023-2494 --- AN ORDINANCE FOR THE PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE VILLAGE OF LAGRANGE DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY --- **Motion by Karpinski, to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Dill,** to approve; 6 yeas; motion passed. **Motion by Karpinski, to adopt and declare an emergency, which was seconded by Price**; 6 yeas; motion passed.

Resolution 2023-987 --- A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN SETTLEMENTS OF NATIONAL OPIOID DISTRIBUTOR LITIGATION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY --- Motion by Karpinski, to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Price, to approve; 6 yeas; motion passed. Motion by Karpinski, to adopt and declare an emergency, which was seconded by Dill; 6 yeas; motion passed.

***Mayor’s Report:***

Mayor Kincannon shared the following:

1. A resident on Loperwood Lane could not afford to bury a family member who passed away in the Village. We are responsible for providing a burial / cremation for indigent persons who pass away in our community. It cost the Village $750 for the cremation. The family kept the ashes; therefore, a burial was not needed.
2. Mayor Kincannon and Administrator Gates met with Jason Scott of North Star Builders / Cedar Creek Apartments / Grey Hawk Development about landscaping. A resident on Vicksburg has a retention pond 3 feet from the property line.
3. The mayor attended Keystone’s all-day strategic planning meeting at Penfield Township’s hall. Unfortunately, Superintendent White used the meeting to make inappropriate comments about the bus access road.
4. Mayor Kincannon confirmed with Fiscal Officer Homer-Miller that GLW franchise fees are being paid to the Village on a regular basis.
5. Typically, whoever is appointed council president sits on the LCIC board with the mayor. However, at the last meeting, the mayor was not appointed to the board. **Motion by Karpinski to resign from LCIC and appoint Mayor Kincannon in his place, which was seconded by Dill**; 6 yeas; motion passed.
6. Mayor Court Fees were discussed. Chief Laubenthal suggested that the fees be raised to $75 for all minor misdemeanors except for parking violations. He felt that regular parking violations should be $50 and handicap parking violations should be $250. Administrative fee should be $75. Chief Laubenthal felt that speeding should not be on a prorated scale. He thinks they should be a flat $75 for any amount over the speed limit. Consensus of council, except speeding, which Flynn objected to for juveniles; however, juveniles go straight to juvenile court.
7. Garage / rummage sale permit fees were discussed. It was recommended to increase them from $1 to $5. An ordinance is needed before this can happen. Council wants to know what the Township charges before a final decision is made. Garage sale permits are not needed for the community garage sale events.

***Audience Participation:***

A village resident wants a traffic light put up at the entrance of Sentinel Square – between McDonald’s and the gas station. She was informed that State Route 301 is the responsibility of ODOT, making it a state issue.

***Police Chief’s Report:***

N/A

***Solicitor’s Report:***

Solicitor Clark reported that the first records commission meeting of 2023 was held before today’s council meeting. Retention schedules will be submitted to department heads for their input as our retention schedule probably needs to be updated.

***Village Administrator’s Report:***

Village Administrator Gates reported on the following:

1. We had 107 hours cleaning up 410 North Center Street. The total cost for the cleanup was $10,213.70, which will be added to the tax duplicate.
2. Brookside Design Group completed the roof of the maintenance building (313 East Main Street).
3. Administrator Gates asked Council to approve up to $7,000 to get 400-amp electric service to the maintenance building. **Motion by Karpinski, which was seconded by Flynn**; 5 yeas; motion passed.
4. Our annual CRA meeting was held on March 14, 2023. The housing council voted to continue the abatements for both TGC Real-Estate and Pinto-Slade.
5. We received no calls for any backups from the 1.75 inches of rain that we received on Friday, March 3, 2023. However, we had a lot of infiltration and are looking for ways to eliminate it.
6. Earlier this month a water leak was repaired on Forest Street.
7. Mayor Kincannon and Administrator Gates met with the County on the 9th about the Kelner Ditch project. They are planning to have a drone viewing of the project in May.
8. We will chip brush on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday’s of every month starting April 11 and going to the end of October.

Flynn asked about the following items:

1. Has a new Zoning Clerk been hired? The new Zoning Clerk starts on April 3, 2023.
2. What is happening with the property across from Dollar General? The fire department is using it for training. This is the property that will be annexed.
3. What is the status of Clark’s open items? Clark is prioritizing them.
4. What is the status on retention ponds? Second letters will go out in April. Council requested a status report.

***Fiscal Officer’s Report:***

Fiscal Officer Homer-Miller reported on the following:

1. 2022 was closed with the state earlier this month. A few lose ends will be wrapped up soon including filing the regional tax return and filing the LCIC return. The required legal notice was published in the March 19th Chronicle-Telegram.
2. Our 6-month CD with Farmers Savings Bank matured on February 19th. The CD was converted from 6 months to 12 months as doing so resulted in a 4% rate instead of a 1% rate. The change needed to occur within 10 days of the maturity date.
3. Homer-Miller attended a free Employee Handbook Essentials workshop earlier today in Avon hosted by the Wickens Herzer Panza law firm. It was well worth her time.
4. Homer-Miller will attend the Local Government Services conference on March 28th & 29th. She will drive to Columbus before the sessions begin on the 28th, and will stay overnight. The conference fee is $200. Lodging is estimated at $215. Because another community will benefit from her attending this conference, they will reimburse her for mileage.
5. The Auditor of State’s office sent an advisory that a new wave of potentially fraudulent unemployment claims is emerging.
6. The March 9th meeting packets included an Ohio Municipal League call to action concerning rail safety measures.
7. The March 23rd meeting packets included an updated open items list along with recently closed items.
8. Information was provided before the March 9th meeting on reasons that executive sessions can be held, Ohio Municipal League’s Lobbying Day on March 22nd, and the April 11th public records training in New Russia Township hosted by the Lorain County Township Association. Certified public records training is a requirement of most elected officials.
9. A recent conversation with Mayor Kincannon prompted Homer-Miller to look into billings to Keystone School District for the School Resource Officer. The last billing was done in December 2020. Unfortunately, we are behind on billing them for the 2020/2021, 2021/2022, and 2022/2023 school years. Council supported Homer-Miller’s plan for getting us caught up.

***Committee Reports*:**

1. Park Board – The book mobile will be at the park this summer on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, June through August. There will be a school board meeting to request funds; the mayor will attend to support them and their request.
2. Planning Commission – No report / no meeting.
3. LCIC – The first LCIC meeting of 2023 was held this evening before this council meeting. Flynn reported that elections were held with Burnett as President and Flynn as Vice President. Flynn will contact realtor Ken Keiffer to see if he still is interested in finding ways to bring new businesses to Opportunity Lane. The 2022 tax return will be filed by Secretary-Treasurer Homer-Miller. A CD will be opened with $8,000 of the $10,647 bank balance.

***Presentation of Bills:***

The Fiscal Officer presented the list of warrants and electronic payments issued between March 10 and 23, 2023, totaling $152,703.97 per the payment listing provided. **Gregory motioned to accept, which was seconded by Price**; 5 yeas; motion passed.

***Executive Session:***

**Motion by Karpinski, to enter executive session for a conference with Solicitor Clark concerning imminent court action,** **which was seconded by Gregory**. A roll call vote was taken; Flynn, yea, Price yea, Gregory yea, Karpinski yea, Dill yea, and Honer yea. The motion passed.

Regular session resumed at 9:12 p.m.

There being no further business, **Honer**; **motioned to adjourn, which was seconded by Gregory**; 5 yeas; motion passed. Adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

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

Gary Kincannon, Mayor Christie Homer-Miller, Fiscal Officer

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