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, Dill, and Honer present.

**Motion by Karpinski, which was seconded by Price,** to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2023, Committee of the Whole meeting; 6 yeas; motion passed.

**Motion by Gregory, which was seconded by Price,** to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2023, Council meeting; 6 yeas; motion passed.

***Audience Participation:***

N/A

***Mayor’s Report:***

Mayor Kincannon mentioned the following:

1. Kincannon asked Solicitor Clark for an update on the access road. We have not received a response from Keystone’s attorney who has been in trial.
2. Kincannon has been mowing the area by the Taylorwood sign. The county auditor’s website shows that it still is owned by a Taylor. Richard and Susan Taylor passed away last year. If the Village takes over mowing it, the Village can assess their tax lien. Rhonda Smith indicated that the property has sold but could still be in probate. She thinks the heirs would deed it to the Village. One son lives on Parsons Road while the other lives in Montana.

***Solicitor’s Report:***

Solicitor Clark reported on the following:

1. The memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the Village and Pozywak needs to be edited before Administrator Gates signs it.
2. Clark provided information on House Bill 93, legislation preempting the ability of municipalities to recover unpaid charges for utility services. There are different rules for tenants and landlords. The bill was in committee status. Homer-Miller asked if we should contact our House representative now; Clark will look into that.

***Police Chief’s Report:***

Chief Laubenthal provided the following statistics for April 27th through May 24th:

1. There were 45 non-criminal requests for assistance.
2. There were 24 criminal complaints / investigations - 4 felonies; 1 misdemeanor; 0 juvenile charges. They include 1 breaking and entering, 1 felony theft, 1 receiving stolen property, 1 aggravated burglary, 1 assault, 2 vandalism, 1 criminal damaging, 1 animal complaint, 2 thefts, 1 noise, 9 disturbances, 2 harassment, and 4 juvenile.
3. There were 25 traffic-related incidents including 4 crash investigations, 3 operating and equipment charges, 14 warnings, 0 parking violations, and 5 warnings.

***Village Administrator’s Report:***

Village Administrator Gates reported on the following:

1. Eric Heilman is resigning from his position at the wastewater treatment plant. We are advertising on Indeed & OTCO.
2. We fixed a water leak on Vicksburg Court.
3. The Lorain County Commissioners sent certified letters to all residents about the cleaning of Kelner Ditch. The drone viewing will be on Tuesday, June 12th. The first hearing will be on Tuesday, July 18th. We have received many calls about the letters.
4. Gates walked Commerce Drive East & West with our Engineer. We have 3 sets of plans for Commerce Drive East but are not sure what plan was actually used. It was suggested that we shoot elevations and design it to work. There is a ditch on LaGrange Community Incentive Corp. property that is supposed to take water from Commerce Drive East but is not functional because of grade and a separated pipe. We have told the other property owners to hold off cleaning their ditches until Council can discuss the best direction to take. A quote from Rafter A was provided to Council. We are still waiting on a quote from Kleinfelder. Joe Kokinda said that he is concerned about the water going under the railroad tracks after work was done on his detention pond / ditch. Gates said that the water is not going the way it should. Council members Honer and Gregory previously used Rafter A and had good experiences with them. Karpinski asked if this was Gates recommendation. Gates responded that it was. Commerce East is high. There is flooding down at the base by the library. Commerce West is plugged. Rhonda Smith asked about Poggemeyer (now known as Kleinfelder). Gates responded that Poggemeyer does not know which of the 3 plans was implemented years ago. Gates also stated that if we shoot elevations, we can design the plan. **Motion by Dill, which was seconded by Karpinski,** to hire Rafter A for this project; 6 yeas; motion passed.
5. On Commerce Drive West, Vexos cleaned their ditch and retention area but not to the as-built plans from when the County last cleaned it. In order for these ditches to work, we need to verify that when they are remediated that they are done correctly. Gates asked if Council wants to have the elevations checked after the remediation is done.

***Fiscal Officer’s Report:***

Fiscal Officer Homer-Miller reported on the following:

1. At our 05-11-2023 meeting Honer mentioned that Grafton Village will save $36,000+/- in interest costs after joining the Ohio Market Access Program (OMAP).  This program is associated with the State Treasurer's office.  Fortunately, a representative from the State Treasurer's office spoke at a meeting Homer-Miller attended last week. OMAP is available to local governments that issue short-term Bond Anticipation Notes, which are short-term debt that often is renewed annually. If the village is not issuing debt, then there is no reason to apply for the program.
2. Homer-Miller attended a “policies every board needs” webinar on Tuesday, May 23rd.
3. Our financials are closed through January 2023. February’s close is in process.
4. The preliminary budget for 2024 is due in July.

***Old Business:***

Ordinance 2023-2496 --- AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 921.04 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF LAGRANGE --- This concerns tap-in fees and was the third reading. The tap-in fees were updated to reflect those of Rural Lorain County Water Authority. **Motion by Flynn, which was seconded by Honer,** to adopt; 6 yeas; motion passed.

***New Business:***

Ordinance 2023-2501 --- AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2019-2389 ADOPTING A CREDIT CARD USE POLICY FOR THE VILLAGE OF LAGRANGE --- This was the first reading.

Council concurred about the memorandum of understanding between the Village and Pozywak.

***Committee Reports*:**

1. Park Board – Two restrooms were vandalized. Although Mayor Kincannon asked the park board to invoice Keystone for use of the fields, they have not done so.
2. Planning Commission – No meeting; no report.
3. LCIC – A meeting was held this evening. Kincannon once again will serve as President following Gary Burnett’s resignation as President. Other topics discussed included the retention area and hiring Ken Keifer to sell the remaining lots.

***Presentation of Bills:***

The Fiscal Officer presented the list of warrants and electronic payments issued between May 12 and 25, 2023, totaling $170,852.36 per the payment listing provided. **Gregory motioned to accept, which was seconded by Dill**; 6 yeas; motion passed.

Karpinski reported that the Strauss family supports the idea of renaming School Street in memory of Mayor Strauss. They also like the idea of building a gazebo and naming it after Mayor Strauss and may be interested in helping out financially with that. Some council members were not in favor of renaming a street due to the many complexities associated with doing so. This topic will be discussed further at the June Committee of the Whole meeting.

There being no further business, **Dill motioned to adjourn, which was seconded by Flynn;** 6 yeas; motion passed. Adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

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

 Gary Kincannon, Mayor Christie Homer-Miller, Fiscal Officer