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 Gregory, which was seconded by Karpinski,** to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2023, Council meeting as written; 6 yeas; motion passed.

***Public Participation:***

N/A

***Mayor’s Report:***

Mayor Kincannon shared the following:

1. Political signs are not permitted in the road right of way. This was posted on our Facebook page. Another post will be made indicating that folks have through the weekend to move signs from road right of ways, or they will be removed by Village employees and placed in the lobby of the municipal building.
2. Candidates’ night will be held here on Tuesday, October 17th, at 7:00 p.m. The event will be posted online via Facebook Live. Homer-Miller will be the moderator.
3. Starting on October 16th, the municipal building will be open for walking on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. through Keystone Empowers You.
4. Last Saturday’s homecoming parade went well.
5. Trick or treat will be on the 31st from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

***Police Chief’s Report:***

Chief Laubenthal reported on the following:

1. Over the last 1.5 months, criminal mischief, trespassing, and criminal damaging has occurred in the U. S. Grant / Durham Ridge area. Three 14-year-old suspects have been identified and spoken to. The activity (throwing rocks at houses and vehicles) should stop. Although the police department received only 3 complaints, the chief understands that there were more than 3 incidents.
2. Kent Iler looked into a possible IT issue. Iler indicated that an active connection that existed between us and the Grafton Village Police Department had been disconnected. Iler reached out to Poziwak but had not received a response. This is something that was not communicated when IT services switched from Poziwak to Iler. Iler opened a ticket with Lorain County 911 and hoped that they would respond quickly. This matter will be investigated further as our former IT person, Poziwak, is affiliated with the Grafton Village Police Department.

Honer asked about vehicles on Harmon Court backing into people’s driveways and damaging mailboxes. He asked if we could put up a sign indicating that there is a turnaround at the end of the street. That is something we can do; however, we cannot guarantee drivers will use the turnaround. Another suggestion was for mailboxes to be moved to the other side of driveways.

Flynn asked if things quieted down on Hendrix / Riley. Laubenthal indicated that it had calmed down before it started up again. One of the rock throwers caused some drama.

***Solicitor’s Report:***

Solicitor Clark did not have a report.

***Village Administrator’s Report:***

Village Administrator Gates reported on the following:

1. Certified letters were sent to 2 businesses concerning their retention ponds.
2. Gates went to the Lagrange Township Trustee meeting on October 9th. Don Romancak from the Stormwater Management District provided updates on the drainage projects in the Township. The final report for the Kelner Ditch project will be submitted in January 2024. The second public hearing will be in March 2024. The bid should be sent some time between May and July 2024. The project should be awarded in August / September 2024. Construction should start in October 2024. Weather permitting, the project should be completed in 18 months or around spring of 2026. Funding for the Township is coming from Stormwater and ARPA funds. If they are doing a 50/50 split with the county, then we also should have a 50/50 split with 50 percent coming from our stormwater fund and 50 percent coming from the county’s ARPA funds. Gates and Kincannon have had conversations about this with the county commissioners. The commissioner with whom Kincannon spoke said that the township did not receive ARPA funds; however, Homer-Miller indicated that townships did receive ARPA funds. The commissioners are open to the idea of helping the Village with this project.
3. We selected Schalk Mechanical to do the emergency repairs on 3 of our lift stations.
4. Our electric aggregation will expire in April 2024. Council was given AMPO Inc. and Palmer Energy’s recommendation for a 20-month contract. The current rate is $0.0469 per kilowatt hour. The new rate would be $0.06483 per kilowatt hour. We will speak with another company before moving forward on this.

***Fiscal Officer’s Report:***

Fiscal Officer Homer-Miller reported on the following:

1. Last month Homer-Miller shared that we received a notification from Huntington National Bank about a data security incident. She contacted the government banking group earlier this month for an update. The relationship manager responded that “Huntington’s systems were not involved or impacted by the identified vulnerabilities.”
2. The Ohio Municipal League’s October 6th legislative bulletin was provided to make the mayor and council members aware of new legislation that was announced concerning an increase in employer contributions to the Ohio Police & Fire Pension Fund and an upcoming grant writing workshop that’s being held in Toledo on November 20th and 21st.
3. Candidates’ night will be held here on Tuesday, October 17th, beginning at 7:00 p.m.
4. The public hearing on the proposed zoning change of the former Forbush farm will be held here on Monday, October 23rd, at 7:00 p.m.
5. A copy of the letter from the Lorain County Commissioners concerning the 200th Bicentennial Celebration was provided. The Bicentennial Committee asked for items that can be included in the time capsule that will be opened in 50 years.
6. After contacting GLW Broadband on October 4th about them being behind on payment of cable franchise fees, they released a check dated September 1st that we received on October 10th.
7. Homer-Miller is waiting to hear back from Columbia Gas Transmission as we have not received a payment from them since mid-April.
8. Homer-Miller will be in Columbus on the 26th attending the Role of Fiscal Officers in Ohio’s Future training, which is a collaboration between the Ohio Treasurer and Auditor’s offices. Meeting packets will go out before she drives to Columbus on the 25th. The training is scheduled to wrap up at 3:30 p.m. on the 26th. She will get things ready for our next council meeting after arriving.
9. RITA sent information that we need to amend our municipal income tax ordinances before December 31, 2023. Clark will work on this.

***Old Business:***

N/A

***New Business:***

**Ordinance 2023-2510** --- AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 505.08 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF LAGRANGE PROHIBITING CERTAIN NUISANCE CONDITIONS WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY --- This was the first reading.

**Ordinance 2023-2511** --- AN ORDINANCE DETERMINING THAT A REAL AND PRESENT EMERGENCY EXISTS IN THE VILLAGE OF LAGRANGE SEWER DEPARTMENT AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH SCHALK MECHANICAL, INC. FOR LIFT STATION PIPING REPLACEMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY --- **Motion by Karpinski to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Gregory;** 6 yeas; motion passed. **Motion by Karpinski to adopt and declare an emergency, which was seconded by Dill;** 6 yeas; motion passed.

**Ordinance 2023-2512** --- AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO NEGOTIATE, EXECUTE, AND DELIVERY A GOVERNMENTAL LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT NO. 001-0897044-300 DATED OCTOBER 6, 2023 (THE "LEASE"), IN A PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $423,625.00 BETWEEN VILLAGE OF LAGRANGE AND THE HUNTINGTON NATIONAL BANK, 11100 WAYZATA BLVD. SUITE 700, MINNETONKA, MN 55305; AND PRESCRIBING OTHER DETAILS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH 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 Gregory;** 6 yeas; motion passed.

**Resolution 2023-1002** ---A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR --- **Motion by Karpinski to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Flynn;** 6 yeas; motion passed. **Motion by Karpinski to adopt and declare an emergency, which was seconded by Dill;** 6 yeas; motion passed.

***Miscellaneous Business:***

Compliance Officer Kimberly Ruhl provided the quarterly credit card data for council’s review per Ordinance 2023-2501. Homer-Miller presented the information. The credit limit on our Menard’s account has not been reduced yet. Homer-Miller delayed that because when she contacted Lowe’s to reduce the credit limit on that account, the account was closed due to it being linked to Mayor Strauss as a personal guarantor. Since Lowe’s requires a personal guarantor, we no longer have a Lowe’s account. Any Lowe’s purchases can be made via our Huntington credit card account.

The shred event resulted in collection of 1,650 pounds. It was well worth it per Flynn and Honer.

***Committee Reports*:**

1. Park Board – New members are needed. A new president will be needed when Roger Kuhl becomes a Lagrange Township Trustee on January 1, 2024. Jeff Voitich (sp?) is working with the park board on the solar eclipse watch party. The township had not made their $35,000 annual payment to the park board yet; they will pay it. Flynn asked about weight limit signs going up now that the driveway work has been completed. Kincannon did not bring that up at the meeting. Enforcement would be a challenge. Placement of a weight limit sign is a matter for the park board.
2. Planning Commission – A work session occurred last week. They discussed the likes and dislikes of the apartments. Things are going according to zoning.
3. LCIC – No meeting; no report.

***Presentation of Bills:***

The Fiscal Officer presented the list of warrants and electronic payments issued between September 29 and October 12, 2023, totaling $184,543.67 per the payment listing provided. **Dill motioned to accept, which was seconded by Gregory**; 6 yeas; motion passed.

There being no further business, **Honer motioned to adjourn, which was seconded by Price**; 6 yeas; motion passed. Adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

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

Gary R. Kincannon, Mayor Christie Homer-Miller, Fiscal Officer