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.

**Gregory moved to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2023, Committee of the Whole meeting as written, which was seconded by Karpinski;** 6 yeas; motion passed.

**Karpinski moved to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2023, Council meeting as written, which was seconded by Dill;** 6 yeas; motion passed.

**Price** movedto approve the minutes of the October 23, 2023, public hearing as written**, which was seconded by Dill**; 6 yeas; motion passed.

***Public Participation:***

Residents in attendance including Julie Thompson of 190 Parklane Drive, Jenna DeSanto of 302 West Main Street, Tina Pribulsky of 161 Taylor Boulevard, and Brenda Hammond of 215 General Lee asked about the proposed apartments. Mayor Kincannon stated that the plans were displayed on a table in council chambers for their review and that there was a public hearing on the matter on Monday. Some were concerned about Keystone’s ability to handle more students. Kincannon indicated that Keystone attendance has been declining, not increasing. They have lost students to charter schools, home schools, etc. Residents asked about the rental rates, which are expected to be in the $1,300 to $1,600 range. Kincannon indicated that the land was purchased approximately 2.5 years ago. Brenda Hammond said that she communicated via email with Keystone Superintendent Dan White who told her that there isn’t room for more students. Kincannon suggested that she follow up with Dan White. Honer suggested they look online for school district enrollment data. Kincannon indicated that there aren’t many options for folks who cannot afford and/or do not want to own a home but want to live in this area. Karpinski reiterated that many of our youth are not interested in buying and maintaining homes. Joe McDonald of 4147 Biggs Road asked about the Saddler Farm property, which is west of State Route 301; nothing is going on with that property that we know of. Karpinski mentioned that the proposed apartments should not be visible from Biggs Road. The plan shows that there will be approximately 100 apartments and 26 houses. Jenna DeSanto was concerned about more vehicles on the roads.

***Mayor’s Report:***

Mayor Kincannon shared the following:

1. The chairman of the Planning Commission Chris Gates is resigning as of December 31, 2023.
2. The new jetter-vactor arrived Wednesday morning. Training was provided to our employees upon delivery.
3. Former Council President Scott Lawless could not remember the particulars of the money we got from the railroad. Administrator Gates will look for the agreement. We would like to use the money to pave roads.
4. Dan White contacted Kincannon about HB 33 which set aside money for a crossing elimination program. White asked if we would apply for grant money. Kincannon applied for grant money on behalf of the Village and Township. Grafton Village has an overpass while Wellington has an underpass.

***Police Chief’s Report:***

Chief Laubenthal responded to the residents’ concerns about the proposed apartments. He indicated that current rentals are full, have waiting lists, and that many tenants are long-term tenants. Incidents involving apartment tenants typically are limited to the apartment complex – not outside of the apartment complex. Traffic should not be an issue as we mainly have a commuter community.

Chief Laubenthal reported on the following:

1. There were 43 non-criminal requests for assistance.
2. There were 14 criminal complaints / investigations - 0 felonies; 3 misdemeanors; 0 juvenile charges. They included 1 arrest on warrant, 1 disorderly conduct, 1 domestic violence, 1 animal at large, 1 fraud, 2 misdemeanor thefts, 1 criminal damaging, 2 menacing, 1 aggravated menacing, and 3 domestic disturbances.
3. There were 140 traffic-related incidents including 3 crash investigations, 34 operating and equipment charges, and 95 warnings.
4. There were no parking violations issued but 5 warnings.

Karpinski asked if the closing of mayor’s court and opening of the violations’ bureau has made it easier for officers. Laubenthal responded that it does not help the officers but streamlines things and helps our clerk. Laubenthal supported us no longer having mayor’s court. Contested tickets are handled by Elyria Municipal Court.

***Solicitor’s Report:***

Solicitor Clark did not have a report. Flynn stated that residents on Biggs Road have complained about loud music at night coming from Grey Hawk. Julie Thompson said that typically the music from the golf course ends at 10:30 p.m. or 11:00 p.m. Our noise ordinance goes until 11:00 p.m.

***Village Administrator’s Report:***

Village Administrator Gates was not in attendance but provided a report on the following, which was read by Fiscal Officer Homer-Miller:

1. The VacCon jetter truck was delivered on Wednesday, October 25th.
2. Doug Nusser, our Engineer for the past 28 years, has resigned from Kleinfelder (formerly Poggemeyer Design Group) effective November 3rd.
3. The electricians started working at the maintenance building.

***Fiscal Officer’s Report:***

Fiscal Officer Homer-Miller reported on the following:

1. Homer-Miller attended the Role of Fiscal Officers in Ohio’s Future training in Columbus earlier today. Auditor of State Keith Faber mentioned that cyber fraud is our number one threat. She was grateful that we hired an IT service provider who implemented the necessary security to our system. Solicitor Clark asked if our insurance policy includes cyber security; Homer-Miller will confirm that it does.
2. Information provided recently to the mayor and council members included the following:
   1. The Public Entities Pool (PEP) is looking for photos showcasing public entities and highlighting the best we have to offer for their 2024 calendar. The submission deadline is October 31st.
   2. A letter from the Office of the Ohio Secretary of State concerning the statewide ballot issues was shared.
   3. We have been invited to meet the new director of One Lorain County at Gehring’s Tavern in Grafton Village on Monday, November 20th, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
3. We currently have aggregation for electricity but not natural gas. Homer-Miller asked if we should consider doing aggregation for natural gas also. Council was in favor of that.

***Old 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 second reading.

***New Business:***

**Ordinance 2023-2513** --- An Ordinance REZONING 19.47 acres located ON BIGGS ROAD From R-1 MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL District to R-4 MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL District AND 12.97 ACRES located ON BIGGS ROAD FROM R-1 MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL District to R-1 RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY --- This was the first reading.

**Ordinance 2023-2514** --- AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER INTO A THIRD-PARTY ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CONTRACT WITH EITHER DYNEGY ENERGY SERVICES OR ENERGY HARBOR FOR RENEWAL OF THE VILLAGE’S ELECTRICITY GOVERNMENTAL AGGREGATION PROGRAM AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY --- **Karpinski moved to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Honer;** 6 yeas; motion passed. **Karpinski moved to adopt and declare an emergency, which was seconded by Gregory;** 6 yeas; motion passed.

**Ordinance 2023-2515** --- AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 182 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF LAGRANGE WHICH PROVIDES FOR A MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX --- This was the first reading. Homer-Miller indicated that this is an update of our municipal income tax due to updates in the Ohio Revised Code.

***Miscellaneous Business:***

Discussion was had on the use of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. Karpinski explained that the new jetter / vactor needs to be stored in the winter in a heated area. He spoke with Gates and Homer-Miller. Karpinski suggested removing the access road from the proposed use of ARPA funds list and replacing it with insulation for the maintenance building. We received 2 quotes for blown-in insulation of our maintenance building. The first quote was $27,900. The second was $39,900. Besides use of the ARPA funds for the insulation, we can use our sanitary sewer, storm sewer, street, and state highway funds to pay for it. Homer-Miller reminded council that the ARPA fund list that Karpinski referenced contained her suggestions for use of the ARPA funds. **Karpinski moved to allocate $40,000 for insulation of the maintenance building, which was seconded by Honer**; 5 yeas; 1 nay (Flynn); motion passed. Flynn asked about the materials. We are allocating funds so that when the third quote is received, a decision can be made. Brenda Hammond asked why a motion was made when we did not have the particulars of the insulation. Karpinski responded that we have 2 quotes, understand R values, and rely on our Village Administrator.

The engineering rating document will be reviewed at the next Committee of the Whole meeting. Clark will provide examples from other communities before our November 9th meeting.

***Committee Reports*:**

1. Park Board – Kincannon reported on the following:
   1. The trick or treat trail will be on Saturday from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Approximately, 800 people attended last year. There will be food trucks, vendors, a maze, and a trunk or treat.
   2. Keystone Empowers You and the library are sponsoring the storybook trail. There will be a ribbon cutting on November 6th.
   3. They continue working on the April 2024 total eclipse event. Many attendees are expected not only in LaGrange but also in Lorain County. Police presence has been requested.
   4. Denny Smith will take over as chairperson effective January 1, 2024.
   5. The park board needs more members and encouraged audience members to join. Tina Pribulsky of 161 Taylor Boulevard asked what was involved. She will attend the November 14th meeting at 7:00 p.m.
2. Planning Commission – No meeting; no report. Honer asked if we can get the Planning Commission meeting minutes on our website. Homer-Miller will speak with Zoning Clerk Legrand about this.
3. LCIC – No meeting; no report.

***Presentation of Bills:***

The Fiscal Officer presented the list of warrants and electronic payments issued between October 13 and 26, 2023, totaling $200,571.46 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 Flynn**; 6 yeas; motion passed. Adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

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

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