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, Honer, and Smith present.

**Smith moved to approve the minutes of the October 24, 2024, Council meeting as written, which was seconded by Karpinski;** 6 yeas; motion passed.

***Public Participation:***

Deb Albert of 504 Bailey Court and the Durham Ridge Homeowners Association informed the group of a parking issue on Robinson Drive. Folks regularly park their vehicles on the bend in Robinson. There are many driveways and mailboxes on both sides of the street. A mailbox already has been taken out, and there have been close calls. She wondered if parking could be disallowed on both sides of the road along the bend. Chief Laubenthal met with the homeowners’ association. He stated that some vehicles already are parked illegally. He agrees with posting no parking signs in the bend area. Solicitor Breunig stated that no action is needed by council as this can be addressed via the police department and signage. Administrator Gates will conduct a site visit with the chief. She then will order the necessary signs.

***Mayor’s Report:***

Mayor Kincannon shared the following:

1. On Wednesday Kincannon attended a grant webinar; he emailed the Power Point slides to council.
2. He recently discussed the bill of rights and voting with local cub scouts and boy scouts at the Lions Club.
3. County Commissioners Moore and Riddell were at the recent mayors’ meeting along with Commissioner-Elect Gallagher. After speaking with Commissioner Moore, Moore stated that he is willing to speak at the 2025 bicentennial event and suggested that we contact the Lorain County Visitors Bureau for assistance.
4. Gates and Kincannon met with Brooke who represents the new owners of the IGA complex. They discussed the open lots and provided her with Jim Tipple’s contact information as he is interested in a gymnasium as is Brooke.
5. The Christmas in the Village event will he held at the municipal building on Sunday, December 1st from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
6. For the month of October 27 tickets went through the Violations’ Bureau with $3,297 coming to the Village.

***Police Chief’s Report:***

Chief Laubenthal provided the following statistics for the period of October 24th through November 20th:

1) There were 98 non-criminal requests for assistance.

2) There were 11 criminal complaints / investigations - 0 felonies; 0 misdemeanors; 0 juvenile charges. They included 1 animal at large, 1 juvenile assault, 1 fraud, 3 unruly juvenile, 1 telecom harassment, 1 criminal damaging, 1 disorderly conduct, 1 peddler without a permit, and 1 theft.

3) There were 206 traffic-related incidents including 5 crash investigations, 55 operating and equipment charges, and 156 warnings.

4) There were 2 parking violations issued and 2 warnings issued.

Honer complimented the Police Department on their interactions with residents on Halloween night.

Kokinda thanked the Village Police Department for showing up at his neighbor’s property in the township; the Township Fire Department asked them to assist.

***Solicitor’s Report:***

Solicitor Breunig did not have a report.

***Village Administrator’s Report:***

Village Administrator Gates reported on the following:

1. 658 square feet of concrete was replaced on Commerce Drive East, which cost $23,231.
2. The contractor has moved most of the dirt from the retention area to the new ballfields at the school.
3. The Railroad Street resurfacing project is complete.
4. The maintenance building roof will be completed next week. We received $1,812.20 in scrap from the old roof.
5. Gates provided a summary of the solid waste bids to council. We are in the process of finalizing the contract. Our current rates are higher than the bid with the lowest rates.

Kincannon stated that the concrete from Commerce Drive was dropped at the park. It will be broken up and used as rip rap.

Smith stated that Railroad Street looked good. Gates stated that the storm sewers still need to be cleaned and jetted and that the permanent striping will be done in the spring. Flynn asked about sidewalks; Gates responded that the property owners are to put sidewalks in by May 2025.

Honer asked about updates to the zoning map. It recently was discussed during Planning Commission. Because there are costs involved with updating the zoning map, the updates will be done after the next 2 projects are completed.

***Fiscal Officer’s Report:***

Fiscal Officer Homer-Miller reported on the following:

1. Resolution 2024-1021 under new business addresses some inter-fund transfers including a transfer from the general fund to the water fund per the discussion we had during the Committee of the Whole meeting. That resolution also corrects for a January 2023 data entry error. She is working on another transfer involving mayor’s court / violations’ bureau that she plans to present at the next meeting.
2. As mentioned during a prior meeting, it was necessary to transfer investment dollars from our STAR Plus account to our Huntington checking account to cover the large dollar amount of payments recently made. The majority of our funds are held in our STAR Ohio and STAR Plus accounts, which are investment accounts. The latest bank reconciliation was provided so that council could see the bank and investment account breakdown.
3. When the audit is officially completed, an in-person audit review meeting will be scheduled with a representative of the audit staff.
4. She has not had a chance to revise the 2024 appropriations or prepare the 2025 budget yet but both are on her to-do list.

***Old Business:***

Flynn asked about cleaning the mud from the road by the apartments; Gates has been calling them daily.

***New Business:***

**RESOLUTION 2024 – 1021** --- A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE FISCAL OFFICER TO MAKE CERTAIN INTER-FUND TRANSFERS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY --- **Karpinski moved to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Flynn**; 6 yeas; motion passed. **Karpinski moved to adopt and declare an emergency, which was seconded by Gregory**; 6 yeas; motion passed.

ORDINANCE 2024 – 2555 --- AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2023-2524 ESTABLISHING SALARY RANGES FOR MEMBERS OF THE VILLAGE OF LAGRANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY --- This was the first reading.

***Miscellaneous Business:***

The building lettering looks good. Lighting will be added in the future.

***Committee Reports*:**

**Park Board** – Kincannon reported the following:

1. The entrance to the ball field complex now is concrete.
2. They are working on ideas for Memorial Day weekend including a 5K, color run, and/or car show. Keystone is OK with the car show being done on their campus.
3. A robotic ball field lining machine was demonstrated at the park this morning. It was expensive. It would cost $6,000 monthly to rent it.

**Planning Commission** – Price reported the following:

1. The performance agreement was finalized at the November 7th meeting. Council’s suggestions for fees, penalties, deadlines, enforcement, etc., were implemented. Beran has not signed yet. Karpinski extended a thank you from council to the Planning Commission for their work on this.

Smith asked if the Police Department could enforce the issue with mud on the road. Flynn stated that it was in the contract to clean the road; however, there is no contract with North Star. Flynn confused the engineer’s review of the plan with a contract. Chief Laubenthal stated that the Police Department would need to site an individual for putting debris in the road, not a company.

**LaGrange Community Improvement Corp**. – Flynn reported the following:

1. Flynn recently contacted 2 companies about the LCIC properties. Both declined to pursue them due to the many restrictions currently in place. Flynn would like to invite the current business to attend the January LCIC meeting to discuss business options.

***Presentation of Bills:***

The Fiscal Officer presented the list of warrants and electronic payments issued between October 27 and November 21, 2024, totaling $909,234.74 per the payment listing provided. **Gregory moved to accept, which was seconded by Honer;** 6 yeas; motion passed.

At 8:10 p.m. **Karpinski moved to go into executive session to discuss employee compensation and discipline, which was seconded by Flynn.** Roll call was taken with Flynn, Price, Gregory, Karpinski, Honer, and Smith present. **Smith moved to return to regular session, which was seconded by Flynn;** 6 yeas; motion passed. Regular session resumed at 8:45 p.m.

**Smith moved to direct the solicitor to prepare the necessary ordinance(s) to increase the pay of the Police Chief, Administrator, and Fiscal Officer by 5%, which was seconded by Gregory;** 6 yeas; motion passed.

Honer suggested we gather more information on water loss such as ion infiltration. Companies like Leak Seeker are expensive.

There being no further business, **Smith moved to adjourn, which was seconded by Gregory**; 6 yeas; motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

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

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