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, Gregory, Karpinski, Honer, and Smith present.

**Karpinski moved to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2024, Committee of the Whole meeting as written, which was seconded by Smith providing the date was corrected to reflect December 12, 2024, not November 21, 2024, as published;** 5 yeas; motion passed.

**Gregory moved to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2024, Council meeting as written, which was seconded by Karpinski;** 5 yeas; motion passed.

***Public Participation:***

N/A

***Mayor’s Report:***

Mayor Kincannon shared the following:

1. In addition to the 2.5% cost-of-living adjustments previously approved, Mayor Kincannon approves the following recommendations of the Chief Laubenthal:
	1. Ramsey = 2.5% plus 1%
	2. Bowyer = 2.5% plus 1 step
	3. Sycz = 2.5% plus 1 step
2. Kincannon will attend mayor’s court training on Thursday, January 9th, in Dublin, Ohio. He may miss the Committee of the Whole meeting but should be back in time for the regular council meeting.
3. Attendance for the latest bicentennial / sesquicentennial meeting increased to 15-20 people. Committees were formed.
4. Kincannon suggested that the water rate change be communicated via the January utility bills, which will go out next week, and inclusion of a more detailed letter to be mailed with the next EPA water quality communication, which will be sent in late January. Honer suggested that the letter also be posted on the website and/or an article put in a local newspaper(s).

Smith asked if an organizational meeting is needed before our first regularly scheduled meeting in January. Our first meeting in January will address that. One of the action items will be to appoint a council president.

***Police Chief’s Report:***

Chief Laubenthal stated that the Elyria Municipal Court is looking forward to Kincannon resuming mayor’s court. Homer-Miller interjected that Kincannon’s attendance at mayor’s court training does not mean mayor’s court will resume.

Laubenthal reported on the following statistics for the period of November 21st through December 25th:

1) There were 248 non-criminal requests for assistance.

2) There were 16 criminal complaints / investigations - 0 felonies; 2 misdemeanors; 0 juvenile charges. They included 2 arrests on warrants, 1 criminal trespassing, 2 domestic disturbances, 2 animal complaints, 4 disorderly conducts, 1 domestic violence, 1 telecommunications harassment, 1 noise complaint, and 2 thefts.

3) There were 280 traffic-related incidents including 3 crash investigations, 66 operating and equipment charges, and 135 warnings.

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

***Solicitor’s Report:***

Solicitor Breunig did not have a report.

***Village Administrator’s Report:***

Village Administrator Gates was not in attendance.

***Fiscal Officer’s Report:***

Fiscal Officer Homer-Miller reported on the following:

1. Several water meters are not reading correctly. Homer-Miller provided council with an August 2024 quote from Metron Farnier for 24 water meters. Including shipping, that quote totaled $9,545 (24 meters @ $395 each = $9,480 plus $65 shipping). We currently have 41 units that are not reading accurately (i.e., no data or invalid data). We have 17 units on hand that are designated for the apartments on U S Grant. We are estimating that 50 meters plus shipping would cost $20,150 (i.e., 50 meters @ $400 each = $20,000 plus $150 shipping). A meter approaching the end of its useful life runs slower, not faster. Water meters will be a topic for the January Committee of the Whole meeting.
2. She reminded the group that it is important that we tighten our belts in 2025 to allow our fund balances to recover.
3. Starting next week Homer-Miller will open 2025 in the accounting and payroll systems and will start closing 2024.

***Old Business:***

**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 third reading. **Karpinski moved to adopt and declare an emergency, which was seconded by Gregory**; 5 yeas; motion passed.

**Ordinance 2024 – 2556** --- AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN INCREASE IN COMPENSATION FOR THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY --- This was the second reading. **Karpinski moved to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Honer**; 5 yeas; motion passed. **Karpinski moved to adopt, and declare an emergency, which was seconded by Gregory**; 5 yeas; motion passed.

**Ordinance 2024 – 2557** --- AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN INCREASE IN COMPENSATION FOR THE VILLAGE FISCAL OFFICER AND AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2023-2517 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY --- This was the second reading. **Karpinski moved to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Honer**; 5 yeas; motion passed. **Karpinski moved to adopt and declare an emergency, which was seconded by Flynn**; 5 yeas; motion passed.

**Ordinance 2024 – 2558** --- AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE POSITIONS AND THE PAY RANGES FOR THE POSITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR THE VILLAGE OF LAGRANGE, REPEALING ORDINANCES 2021-2452, 2022-2478, AND 2023-2518 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY --- This

was the second reading. **Karpinski moved to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Flynn**; 5 yeas; motion passed. **Karpinski moved to adopt and declare an emergency, which was seconded by Honer**; 5 yeas; motion passed.

***New Business:***

**Ordinance 2024 – 2559** --- AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 2020-2430, AMENDING SECTION 951.02 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF LAGRANGE AND DECLARING

AN EMERGENCY --- This concerns residential rubbish pickup. **Karpinski moved to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Gregory**; 5 yeas; motion passed. **Karpinski moved to adopt and declare an emergency, which was seconded by Smith**; 5 yeas; motion passed.

**Ordinance 2024 – 2560** --- AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE VILLAGE OF LAGRANGE DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY--- **Karpinski moved to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Flynn**; 5 yeas; motion passed. **Karpinski moved to adopt and declare an emergency, which was seconded by Flynn**; 5 yeas; motion passed.

**Ordinance 2024 – 2561** --- AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 921.05 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE VILLAGE OF LAGRANGE TO CHANGE WATER RATES AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY--- Two options were presented (option 1 reflected a $30 minimum while option 2 reflected a $33 minimum). **Karpinski moved to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Honer**; 5 yeas; motion passed. **Karpinski moved to adopt option 1 and declare an emergency, which was seconded by Honer**; 5 yeas; motion passed.

**Ordinance 2024 – 2562** --- AN ORDINANCE FOR THE TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE VILLAGE OF LAGRANGE DURING THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY **--- Karpinski moved to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Honer**; 5 yeas; motion passed. **Karpinski moved to adopt and declare an emergency, which was seconded by Gregory**; 5 yeas; motion passed.

**Resolution 2024 – 1022** --- A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE FISCAL OFFICER TO MAKE A CERTAIN INTER-FUND TRANSFER AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY --- **Karpinski moved to suspend the rules, which was seconded by Smith**; 5 yeas; motion passed. **Karpinski moved to adopt and declare an emergency, which was seconded by Flynn**; 5 yeas; motion passed.

***Miscellaneous Business:***

N/A

***Committee Reports*:**

**Park Board** – Kincannon stated that there was no report.

**Planning Commission** – Price was not in attendance to provide a report.

**LaGrange Community Improvement Corp**. – Flynn stated that there was no report.

***Presentation of Bills:***

The Fiscal Officer presented the list of warrants and electronic payments issued between December 13 and 26, 2024, totaling $84,982.13 per the payment listing provided. **Gregory moved to accept, which was seconded by Karpinski**; 5 yeas; motion passed.

There being no further business, **Smith moved to adjourn, which was seconded by Karpinski**; 5 yeas; motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

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

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