

Regular Meeting September 1, 2011

The Village Board of Trustees met at 7:00 P.M., local time, in the Village Board Room, to hold their regular monthly meeting. Officers and Trustees present were President Ackerman, Clerk Duden, and Trustees Cler, Crozier, Ehler, Hethke, Jones, and Severins. President Ackerman led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guests included Nancy Cogil, Carrie Mulvaney, and Nicole Keeney (Rantoul Press). Mulvaney had information from the Chamber of Commerce regarding the Harvest Bazaar, which will be held on October 29 from 10-5. She said they were checking into using people movers to transport people from behind the bank to the park and wanted to know about any insurance issues. They were planning on having a hay maze at the park, but hold all other activities behind the bank. She also wanted to know if the Village website could put in information regarding the Harvest Bazaar. Mulvaney asked if anyone knew how long the road construction would be going on between Gifford and Thomasboro. After discussion, it was decided the construction may take about five weeks, and then there is going to be work on one of the bridges, which will keep that section closed most of the winter. She asked if anyone knew of any buildings for sale in town, which the Chamber could place on their website. Trustee Hethke said he would investigate that and let her know.

As each Trustee and Officer had been given printed copies of the minutes from the last meeting, Trustee Ehler made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. It was seconded by Trustee Jones. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no). Trustee Ehler made a motion to accept the minutes as read. It was seconded by Trustee Cler. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no).

As each Trustee and Officer had been given printed copies of the bills to be considered for payment, Trustee Hethke made a motion to dispense with the reading of the bills. It was seconded by Trustee Ehler. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no). Trustee Cler made a motion to pay the bills. It was seconded by Trustee Jones. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no).

As each Trustee and Officer had been given printed copies of the Treasurer's Report, Trustee Hethke made a motion to dispense with the reading of the Treasurer's Report, except for the summary. It was seconded by Trustee Ehler. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no). The balance in Village accounts as of July 31, 2011 was \$517,975.89. Total money received for the month of August 2011 was \$54,286.72, plus \$17.46 from CD #8170 and \$39.04 from CD #15399. Total expenses for the month were \$47,158.12, leaving a balance on August 31, 2011 of \$525,160.99.

The Police Report was read by Trustee Severins. In Traffic Matters there were 27 incidents, 20 warnings, and seven citations. In Investigative Matters there were 24 incidents, five reports, and one arrest.

WATER AND SEWER REPORT

Trustee Jones reported activity for August 2011.

Total gallons of water pumped-----2,589,000

Average daily consumption (gal)-----83,516

Jess Childress's report further stated he raised pump #2 on the 6th and cleaned debris from the impellers at the wastewater plant; dug up water service at 403 S East St and replaced the yolk, water meter pit, and installed a touch read meter; mowed at the office, water plant, corner by the Spreader, and wastewater plant; raised pump #1 at wastewater plant to clean; power washed aerator tank and cleaned

all screens on top of the tank at the water plant; raised pumps #1 and #2 on the 18th due to debris in the impellers; cleaned all chlorine lines and pump at water plant; read all water meters and remotes; back washed all pressure filters at water plant; raised both sewer pumps on the 24th to clean impellers; responded to a call on the 27th for blockage in the pumps at the wastewater plant; logged all water bill receipts and made all deposits; sent out 13 letters for non-payment of water and sewer bills; discontinued one service for non-payment; put in 25 new touch read water meters; pulled and sprayed weeds in the sand filters at the wastewater plant. There was discussion regarding the purchase of new pumps and a basket to catch the debris. Childress said the cost for two new pumps and electrical wiring to install would be \$14,483. A motion to purchase two pumps and the electrical installation by Marshall Huls for a cost not to exceed \$15,000 was made by Trustee Ehler. It was seconded by Trustee Jones. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no). Childress will order the pumps.

STREETS AND ALLEYS REPORT

Trustee Cler received a proposal from Mast to get the oil and chip on Park Street north of Florida Drive to bring that section up to prevent further drainage issues.

SANITARY AND STORM REPORT

Trustee Ehler said Kalin Kocher will get him a bid for the alley project behind Robin's Body Shop, which could cost somewhere between \$20,000-\$40,000. He also suggested Robin Clement's new building be reassessed to check the grade to keep drainage issues from recurring. Ehler and Childress will use the laser to check the grade to make sure it's where it had been decided prior to construction.

POWER LIGHTS AND TELEPHONE REPORT

Trustee Severins reported a light out at Center and Main. He talked to Kenny Buhr regarding flag poles and thought his prices were rather high. Childress presented him a price sheet from another company selling flag poles and accessories at much more reasonable cost. Severins said he still hadn't heard from the Eagle Scouts about installing the poles. He said Dave Dowling emailed him regarding the information Severins had presented to the Board about pole replacement in case of storm damage. Dowling said the power company would be responsible for pole replacement, but not light replacement.

RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT

Trustee Crozier said the website make over is almost complete and it is looking great. Most of the ordinances have been added and the remainder will be added, yet. If anyone has any information they would like to see added, please let him know. He said that in regard to the use of land lines to forward to Childress and Weary's phones, there is an extra line at the Village offices that can be utilized. They will have a sign constructed for about \$100 and placed out front of the building with phone information, and also add it to the website. Also the Dodge pick up is currently in the bidding process on EBay and the price is up to \$2,550 with five days to go. The old generator will also go out on bids on EBay at a later date.

FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE REPORT

Trustee Hethke said the sidewalk construction is completed except for filling in dirt where necessary. He said he and Neil Baker are working on a grant for park equipment, which is necessary to update for

insurance purposes. Hethke had three estimates from Water's Electric for poles and lights at the park ball diamond, ranging from \$38,000 to \$68,000. He said the grant needs to be completed and returned to the State by November 1, 2011. He said he is also looking into grant money for sidewalk construction.

OLD BUSINESS

President Ackerman asked if there had been a reply from the school board regarding the Village no longer paying for the crossing guard. Trustee Ehler said he had not heard back from anyone, but would have some information by the next meeting.

Trustee Ehler made a motion to accept the Gifford Employee Handbook as amended at the special meeting on August 18, 2011. It was seconded by Trustee Cler. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no).

Trustee Ehler suggested having the truck title ready to transfer to the new owner once the bidding process is completed. Treasurer Duitsman said he would have that ready.

NEW BUSINESS

President Ackerman said State Representative Chad Hays is going to be holding traveling office hours, and would like to come to the Village Hall on September 27th from 1-3. It was decided to have the building open for him.

Treasurer Duitsman said we would need to get the tax levy for f/y 2012 passed, but needed to know if we wanted to raise it. We were allowed to raise it up to 5% over the last year. After discussion, Trustee Ehler made a motion to leave the levy at its current level. It was seconded by Trustee Cler. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no).

Childress said he had been approached by a resident regarding pools with water that were not being used. Trustee Crozier said he would investigate any nuisance ordinances to see if we could pursue the matter and talk to Chief Weary.

Treasurer Duitsman said he received a phone call from Kelly Carter suggesting the Village use an electronic debit card to receive payments from residents for utility bills. He thought it sounded like something the Village could use, and he will investigate it further and have more information at the next meeting.

Trustee Ehler moved the meeting be adjourned. It was seconded by Trustee Cler. All Trustees concurred in a voice vote. The meeting was properly adjourned at 8:09 P.M.

Village Clerk

Approved by me this 6th day of October 2011.

President of the Board