

# Regular Meeting August 1, 2010

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 Bouse, Clerk Duden, and Trustees Ehler, Gehrt, Jones, Parkerson, and Severins. President Bouse led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guests included Mary Sutherlin, Carrie Mulvaney, Robert Ward (Rantoul Press), Gary Jones, Brian Baxter, and Tony Cler. Mulvaney inquired about the stop sign on West Street and the Village website, as had been discussed at the last monthly meeting. President Bouse said we would discuss those in later reports.

Sutherlin thanked the Village for repairing the holes in the road on Plumb Street by her driveway and the stop sign there. She also said the Village Chamber voted on a town motto, 'America's Home Town', but wanted Board approval before having any signs made. They are currently getting bids for signs which will be placed on the north end of Main Street by Hicksgas and south on Main Street by the park. They are hoping to have the signs designed from iron, but will have more details at a later date. Robin Clements checked with the County regarding placement and the specifications for approval, since the signs will be placed along the County road. They have volunteers that will do the landscaping, using solar lights.

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 Severins. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no). Trustee Gehrt made a motion to accept the minutes as read. It was seconded by Trustee Parkerson. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no).

As each Trustee and Officer had been given printed copies of the bills to be considered for payment, Trustee Parkerson 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 (5 yes, 0 no). There was discussion regarding the work performed behind the Main Street Café to alleviate the drainage issues there. Treasurer Duitsman said the bill was less than estimated, since Jess Childress helped Kocher with the job. Duitsman said he wasn't sure how to divide the billing between the Main Street Café, The North Forty, and the Village. He will meet with Jess Childress and discuss the issue. Trustee Ehler made a motion to pay the bills. It was seconded by Trustee Parkerson. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no).

As each Trustee and Officer had been given printed copies of the Treasurer's Report, Trustee Severins 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 (5 yes, 0 no). The balance in Village accounts as of June 30, 2010 was \$504,653.49. Total money received for the month of July was \$50,140.72, plus \$40.37 from CD #8170 and \$66.28 from CD #15399. Total expenses for the month were \$49,600.81, leaving a balance on July 31, 2010 of \$505,300.05.

The Police Report was read by Chief Weary. In Traffic Matters, there were 28 incidents, 23 verbals, and four citations. In Investigative Matters, there were 23 incidents and three reports.

## **WATER AND SEWER REPORT**

Trustee Jones reported activity for the month of July 2010.

Total gallons of water pumped-----2,508,000

Average daily consumption-----80,900

Jess Childress's report further stated he jetted tile in Robin Clement's lot and replaced about nine feet of bad tile; dug up and jetted tile on Florida drive; replaced tile and tied downspouts into alley behind Main Street Café, taking four days; mowed and did dirt work on ditch in Ernray subdivision; washed out and cleaned blower room and garage at the wastewater treatment plant; got called out on July 7th for pump #2 failure and had to remove debris from the impellers; got called out on July 15th for pump 31 failure and had to remove debris from the impellers; mowed lot by The Spreader, maintenance building, lot on Plumb Street, office, and wastewater plant; sprayed and pulled weeds around lagoons and sand filters; put up some new stop signs; had the County come in with the Vactor Truck and clean all catch basins down Main Street; backwashed filters 17 times at the water treatment plant; cleaned chlorine pump and lines that feed into the water system; read all water meters and remotes; logged all water bill receipts and made all deposits; sent out seven letter for non-payment of water and sewer bills; discontinued one water service for non-payment. There was discussion regarding issues with mop heads getting caught in the impellers. Bouse talked to Country Health and they said they didn't think they were their mop heads, but that they will be changing to microfiber mop heads and hope it will help.

## **STREETS AND ALLEY REPORT**

Trustee Parkerson said Brad Polson was finished with the first portion of North West Street and it looks great. They completed the area from about 402-408 North West Street. Parkerson had proposals for additional repairs along that street and around the corner east on North Pointe Drive almost to the County road. There was discussion regarding proposals from Polson and from Royal Sealcoating. It was decided to leave the North Pointe subdivision out of the sealcoating bid and have Polson finish North West Street around to North Point Drive and east. Trustee Ehler made a motion to approve the Royal Sealcoating bid, excluding North West Street and North Pointe Drive for a total bid of \$6,466. It was seconded by Trustee Parkerson. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no). Trustee Ehler made a motion to have Brad Polson finish asphalt on North West Street around to North Pointe Drive and east for a bid of \$18,000. It

was seconded by Trustee Parkerson. In a roll call vote there were four yes vote and one no vote, with Trustee Gehrt expressing concern that by awarding the North Pointe bid to Brad Polson could be considered as 'stringing' where you offer several jobs to be bid out to keep the costs under the \$20,000 limit, when they could actually be bid as one larger job, and that was against the purchasing guidelines of the state. There was discussion regarding placing an additional stop sign along West Street to slow traffic on the street. Trustee Ehler made a motion to have our attorney draft an ordinance to change the corner of West Street and North Street to a three way stop. It was seconded by Trustee Gehrt. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no). President Bouse suggested the Village check into purchasing new military signs to replace those along the poles on Main Street. Mary Sutherlin said the Chamber would investigate, getting names of those in the military and which branch they are in.

### **SANITARY AND STORM REPORT**

Trustee Ehler said the drainage issues have been repaired on South West Street, behind the Longbranch, and behind the Main Street Café. They still need to dig up a culvert at the McElhoe residence on North Park Street and do some work there. Discussion followed. Ehler said it may cost about \$2,000 to that job.

### **POWER LIGHTS AND TELEPHONE REPORT**

Trustee Severins said one light had been repaired at the corner of North and Park Streets.

### **RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT**

Trustee Gehrt said the website VillageofGifford.com is up and running. Discussion followed. President Bouse suggested putting the town motto on the site. Trustee Jones suggested letting residents know how the \$6 surcharge had been spent on the recent drainage repairs. Mary Sutherlin also said the GiffordChamber.com site is also running. Trustee Gehrt said she would be the contact person at this time to make any additions or changes to the Village site, and she will then contact Matt Dewey. Eventually Tracy Childress will manage the site.

### **FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE REPORT**

President Bouse said the sidewalk work will begin on Park Street in the next week or so, starting at the church parking lot, going south to the existing sidewalk.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Trustee Severins asked if there was anything new on the golf cart suggestion. Trustee Jones said she had talked to Pete Walker in Ludlow about their ordinance, who told her they met with their attorney and followed the rules of the road as set up by the State of Illinois to set up an

ordinance. President Bouse said he was told it was a state law that they could not be driven on or across Main Street or Rt 136, and there were risks and liabilities for the Village. It was decided to table the golf cart issue at this time.

Treasurer Duitsman said he checked with the auditor and the bank about a Village credit or debit card, and it could be confusing determining which accounts would be affected by the various purchases, so it was decided to not pursue the issue at this time.

Trustee Jones presented Officers and Trustees with a copy of the employee manual for all to review and discuss at the next meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Treasurer Duitsman said the tax levy could go up to 5% without the truth in taxation for next year. He said there had been a tax cap placed on last year's levy and the Village did not receive as much as we had requested. After discussion, Trustee Ehler made a motion to not raise the tax levy, but keep it at the present rate. It was seconded by Trustee Jones. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no).

Treasurer Duitsman presented the audit from Mike Graham. Discussion followed. Trustee Ehler made a motion to accept the audit. It was seconded by Trustee Severins. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no).

President Bouse said the Village Hall is in bad condition, needing repairs to the air conditioner, water heater, sink, water lines freezing in winter, and just getting too small for our needs. There was discussion regarding Bob Busboom's property next door, and having separate offices for the water department and the police department for privacy.

President Bouse asked Trustee Parkerson if he could be the mayor-pro-tem for the next few weeks while he is gone on vacation. Parkerson said he would be available.

Trustee Parkerson moved them meeting be adjourned. It was seconded by Trustee Ehler. All Trustees concurred in a voice vote. The meeting was properly adjourned at 8:34 P.M.

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Village Clerk

Approved by me this 2nd day of September 2010.

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President of the Board