

Regular Meeting August 1, 2013

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 Baxter, Cler, Jones, Severins, and Youmans. President Ackerman led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The only guest in attendance was Ryan Latvaitis from the Rantoul Press.

As each Trustee and Officer had been given printed copies of the minutes from the last meeting, Trustee Severins made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. It was seconded by Trustee Cler. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no). Trustee Cler made a motion to accept the minutes as read. It was seconded by Trustee Baxter. 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 Youmans made a motion to dispense with the reading of the bills. It was seconded by Trustee Cler. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no). Trustee Cler made a motion to pay the bills. It was seconded by Trustee Youmans. 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 Baxter made a motion to dispense with the reading of the Treasurer's report, except for the summary. It was seconded by Trustee Cler. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no). The balance in village accounts as of June 30, 2013 was \$620,791.27. Total money received for the month was \$64,726.34, plus \$10.17 interest from CD #8170 and \$14.85 interest from CD #15399. Total expenses for the month were \$39,708.09, leaving a balance on July 31, 2013 of \$645,834.54.

The Police Report was read by President Ackerman. In Traffic Matters, there were 20 incidents, 15 warnings, and two citations. In Investigative Matters, there were 10 incidents, four reports, and one arrest.

WATER AND SEWER REPORT

Trustee Jones reported activity for the month of July 2013.

Total gallons of water pumped-----2,827,000

Average daily consumption-----91,200

Jess Childress's report further stated he had to locate and dig up a four inch water main at the car wash; mowed in town and at the wastewater plant; took the yearly nitrate and nitrite water samples for the EPA; replaced a broken check valve that injects chlorine into the water system at the pump house; sprayed weeds around the lagoons and sand filters at the wastewater treatment plant; replaced pieces of roofing blown off the dosing tank at the sewer plant; replaced four old meters and remotes with new touch reads; backwashed all pressure filters at the water treatment plant; jetted an eight inch tile on South road by Steve Bruns's residence; read all water meters and remotes; logged all water bill receipts

and made all deposits; took all monthly water and wastewater samples for the EPA; sent out 13 letters for non-payment of water and sewer bills; had to discontinue one water and sewer service for non-payment. Childress said he jettied the tile in front of Steve Bruns on South Road and after it went about 60-70', it got stuck. He said he will need to dig to work on that issue.

STREETS AND ALLEYS REPORT

Trustee Cler said he talked to Bryan Schluter about sealcoating at North Pointe and filling cracks around town. Schluter will do the sealcoating on a very hot so it will set faster. It usually takes 24 hours to completely dry, so he will work on one side of the street one day and do the other side another day, having those residents affected parking on the opposite side of the street until the sealcoating has dried. He will go door-to-door and inform each resident of the upcoming street work and inconvenience. Schluter also will fill in areas around town on the older asphalt.

SANITARY AND STORM REPORT

President Ackerman said he talked to Trustee Ehler who informed him that Kalin Kocher will be here in about two weeks to start on the drainage work.

FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE REPORT

Trustee Baxter met with John Stalter regarding sidewalk construction. He had given an estimated amount of \$20,638 at this time. He suggested raising the area on Church Street on the north side across from the church parking lot to alleviate the issue with water pooling in the area whenever it rains. The plan at this time is to go 575' north on Park Street starting at the northwest corner of Park and Church Streets and put in new sidewalks. In regards to the playground structure, it was suggested we get about 10-15 volunteers to install the new equipment in order to save about \$15,000. Baxter said he will get two new estimates on structures since the structures that had been submitted in the grant proposal are now outdated. Baxter said the grant application for the next year had been submitted, but will not get any consideration since we have not completed the project for the last grant we received. Once we fulfill the grant requirements for the current grant, we will be eligible to apply for next year's grant money. He said someone has donated concrete parking abutments for parking on the east side of the park. Neil Baker had said he would have to cut the poles that are currently placed there and haul them away before the concrete can be brought in. There was discussion regarding finding enough volunteers to help with the playground construction. It was thought that we could easily find that many people to assist with the project. Baxter said they needed a better way to maintain the ball diamond, but finding the money to fund any projects is not available. After discussion, it was decided to investigate having advertisement banners placed along the fencing in the outfield to help raise money for the diamond.

OLD BUSINESS

President Ackerman said Dave Atchley from MSA has filed all of the paperwork for the new well and is waiting to hear back from the EPA so we can begin the work.

President Ackerman said Treasurer Duitsman published the notice of the surcharge for water and sewer, so Childress can start charging customers with their current water and sewer bills.

President Ackerman said that in regards to the house on South New Street that the Village would like to see condemned and torn down, our attorney is working on that problem. He said the house did not sell at the auction for over \$50,000.

President Ackerman said the Board had the option of raising the tax levy up 5%, which is the limit without passing a referendum. He said it had not been raised for several years. After discussion, Trustee Cler made a motion to raise the tax levy 5%. It was seconded by Trustee Severins. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no).

President Ackerman asked for discussion on the topic raised at the last meeting about parking the squad car in the Village maintenance building each night. Treasurer Duitsman said he had contacted our insurance company, who told him that if Weary was driving his car to town in order to retrieve the squad car to respond to call, and he was involved in an accident, his insurance would be responsible up to a point. After that, the Village insurance would pick up the remainder. There was discussion regarding response time from Weary's house and how often he responds to calls when off duty. Trustee Severins made a motion to have the squad car remain in the Village and parked in the maintenance shed each evening. It was seconded by Trustee Jones. The motion carried in a roll call vote with Trustees Cler, Jones, and Severins voting in favor of the motion and Trustees Baxter and Youmans opposing the motion.

Trustee Jones asked about the trailer on North Main Street just south of Casey's Store. She said there were trees growing through the roof and the trailer had been an object of discussion in the past. After discussion, it was decided to have Chief Weary talk to the owners.

NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Severins asked about the house on South Road that burned a while back. He suggested having the owner tear it down. After discussion, it was decided to contact the owner.

Trustee Baxter asked if there had been any consideration to having South Street revert back to a two way street, now that Colonial Pantry has been removed. After discussion, it was decided to wait to see what the bank does with the property before making any decisions.

Trustee Severins asked what the policy was on abandoned cars. He said there is one on South Road by the blue house, and one on North Main next to Hicksgas. After discussion, it was decided to have Chief Weary talk to these people.

Trustee Severins asked if there was a better way to handle the petty cash and credit card situation with Weary and Childress. Treasurer Duitsman said the cards have a \$500 limit on them, and he keeps them in his possession until Weary or Childress need them. He said this was how the Board had decided to set it up several years ago. After discussion, it was decided to keep the cards locked up with the petty cash in the Village Hall, so Weary and Childress don't have to find Duitsman whenever they need to make a Village purchase. There was also discussion regarding purchasing gas from Casey's and keeping track of receipts and mileage.

Trustee Youmans suggested putting something on the Village website informing residents of the opportunity to have the Gifford State Bank automatically debit their accounts to pay their water and sewer bills.

Trustee Baxter moved the meeting be adjourned. It was seconded by Trustee Jones. All Trustees concurred in a voice vote. The meeting was properly adjourned at 8:07 P.M.

Approved by me this 5th day of September 2013.

Village Clerk

President of the Board