

Regular Meeting February 6, 2014

The Village Board of Trustees met at 7:00 P.M., local time, at the Gifford State Bank Board Room, to hold their regular monthly meeting. Officers and Trustees present were President Ackerman, Clerk Duden, and Trustees Baxter, Cler, Ehler, Jones, and Severins.

Guests were Cameron Moore and Susan Chavarria from CCRPC, Ryan Latvaitis from Rantoul Press, Eric Rademacher, Jim and Debbie Cleary, Rich Albers, Steve Griswold, Greg Crow and Dave Atchley from MSA, and Andy Keiser from Graham-Fehr. Moore discussed grants and grant writing and how CCRPC can assist the Village recovery. He said they would need an approximate cost of repair and replacement for damages and to itemize the items. Discussion followed.

Andy Keiser said he had worked with the insurance adjuster regarding the water plant damages. They plan to give the Village half of the insurance money now (\$302,000). Discussion followed regarding what they will and won't pay for. Of the three high service pumps, they will only pay for one new one, and we will have to reuse the other two. In regard to the water quality complaints, he is going to try working on correcting the issue of water color, which he thought relates to too much rust in the water. He said the EPA permit will be issued tomorrow. Childress said the generator was working well at the water plant.

Jim Cleary asked about any fines for those residents who haven't worked on cleaning up their property. Trustee Ehler said Chief Weary has been trying to contact people to see what their plans are and to make sure they at least have a plan for the near future.

Richard Albers said he was out walking one day and talked to a man that had parked near one of the badly damaged homes. He told Albers he wanted to purchase as many properties as he could, place modular homes on the lots, and make them all rentals, turning the village into a rental city, calling himself a slum lord. Albers also wanted to know if there was a time frame for completion of home construction, once it has begun. After discussion, Rademacher said that once outside construction has been completed there wasn't much the Village could do.

Trustee Cler said he had not heard anything regarding the grant for the water tower, but it still sounds positive. He said the jurisdictional transfer with the County needs to be signed, sealed, and returned to the County.

Treasurer Duitsman said Trustee Ehler had talked to the IEPA regarding a loan for the old plant and the new plant. Keiser said the IEPA said we would have to reapply for the loan for the new plant. He said a check for \$59,000 should be coming to help with expenses incurred with the tent and other costs to keep the water treatment plant running. After discussion, it was decided to turn the service over from propane to natural gas to save on costs. The insurance company hired a structural engineer to come inspect the water tower. They examined the top of the tank and the catwalk, but they haven't gotten

back with any decisions, but said the repair costs will be at least \$280,000. Board thought it may be better to replace with new for a little more expense.

As each Trustee and Officer had been given printed copies of the minutes from the last meeting, Trustee Baxter 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 Cler made a motion to accept the minutes as read. It was seconded by Trustee Jones. 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 Cler made a motion to dispense with the reading of the bills. It was seconded by Trustee Jones. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no). Trustee Jones made a motion to pay the bills. It was seconded by Trustee Cler. 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 Baxter. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no). The balance in Village accounts as of December 31, 2013 was \$688,332.93. Total money received for the month of January was \$55,490.20, plus \$10.52 interest from CD #8170 and \$15.37 interest from CD #15399. Total expenses for the month were \$101,168.52, leaving a balance on January 31, 2014 of \$642,680.50.

The Police Report was given by Chief Weary. In Traffic Matters, there were 23 incidents, 17 warnings, and two citations. In Investigative Matters, there were 13 incidents and three reports. There was discussion regarding the debris around the village. Childress said he could sort through some of the piles for those things that can be burned, and haul the rest to Danville. Chief Weary said all but a couple of residents have a plan for demolition and construction.

There was no Water and Sewer Report, but Childress said he has been busy plowing snow and fielding complaints regarding the water. He also suggested the Board pass an ordinance to enforce the snow removal signs in the downtown parking area.

SANITARY AND STORM REPORT

Trustee Ehler suggested the personnel committee should meet with the full time employees before the annual budget meeting in April.

POWER LIGHTS AND TELEPHONE REPORT

Trustee Severins said that five lights had been repaired, and the light pole in front of Mark Billing's house had been broken by a semi. He will call to get it repaired.

OLD BUSINESS

President Ackerman said the Board had a couple variances from the zoning board to be reviewed. Paul Severins had requested a 6' larger garage to be built after the tornado damaged his old garage. The Zoning Board had approved the request. Trustee Ehler made

a motion to approve the variance request. It was seconded by Trustee Jones. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no). Willie Heimburger also lost a shed after the tornado and requested constructing a smaller shed in its place. The Zoning Board had approved the request. Trustee Baxter made a motion to approve the variance request. It was seconded by Trustee Cler. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no).

President Ackerman said he had talked to our attorney regarding Casey's request for a hard liquor license, which would be a Class B license. After discussion, Trustee Severins made a motion to have our attorney draw up an ordinance allowing a Class B license to Casey's General Store. It was seconded by Trustee Jones. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no).

President Ackerman said the Green Machine had been damaged in the tornado. Costs to repair would be \$14,000. The insurance company had given the Village \$16,000 for a new one, which would cost about \$30,000. After discussion, it was decided to return the \$16,000 check and have insurance pay for repairs on the old machine.

President Ackerman suggested having our attorney draw up an ordinance to enforce the no parking signs after 2" snowfall in the downtown parking areas. After discussion, it was decided to have Susan Chavarria draw that up for the Village.

President Ackerman said the estimate from Charles Gehrt to repair the roof at the lift station was \$3,800.

Eric Rademacher said the Board needs to review Village ordinances to see if anything gives a time frame for completion of home construction. He said he would also like to know who owns the lots damaged by the tornado, who plans to rebuild and who doesn't. He also asked about water and sewer hook up fees for new home construction. Childress said we had not been charging for that for a few years. Discussion followed. Rademacher also suggested doing away with the contractor certification fee, as he doesn't want to be responsible for collecting those fees.

NEW BUSINESS

President Ackerman presented Ordinance #319 to annex building property for the water treatment plant. Trustee Cler made a motion to accept Ordinance #319 annexing property for the water treatment plant on W. North Street. It was seconded by Trustee Baxter. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no). Ackerman also presented Ordinance #320 to authorize execution of the annexation agreement with Jeffrey and Nicole Bullington's property on W. Center Street. Trustee Severins made a motion to accept Ordinance #320 authorizing execution of the annexation agreement of Jeffrey and Nicole Bullington's property. It was seconded by Trustee Ehler. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no). Ackerman presented Ordinance #321 to authorize execution of the annexation agreement with James and Carol Scott's property on W. Center Street. Trustee Cler made a motion to accept Ordinance #321 authorizing execution of the annexation agreement of James and Carol Scott's property. It was seconded by Trustee Baxter. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no).

Trustee Severins asked about the designation of N. New Street. Rademacher said it goes to the Methodist church parking lot and had been vacated.

Trustee Baxter moved the 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.

Village Clerk

Approved by me this 6th day of March 2014.

President of the Board