

Regular Meeting March 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, Severins, and Youmans.

Guests included Greg Crow and Dave Atchley from MSA, Tom Kacich from News-Gazette, Joni Hammond, Steve Griswold, Eric Rademacher, Andy Keiser from Graham-Fehr, Jim and Debbie Cleary, Dave Bletscher, and Ryan Latvaitis from Rantoul Press. Bletscher was present as EMA coordinator for Gifford. He wanted to thank the Board for help with funding for the radios and equipment for ESDA. He said they tested the warning sirens and they did not work. We did have three sirens, but lost the one located at the old fire department building in the tornado. He had a tech come work on the radios and transmitters and hopes to have the problem fixed. They now plan to test the sirens next Tuesday, but need to get that information out to the community. There was discussion regarding technology changes and updating the receivers at a cost of about \$2000 per siren. The Board requested price quotes for all updates, service agreements, etc and present to a future meeting. There was discussion regarding grant requests.

Rademacher said the Zoning Board met to discuss three requests for variances. The first was for Walter and Samantha Smith in Baker Ct. They lost their home in the tornado and want to rebuild, but their home had been close to the road before, and they wanted to rebuild in the same location. Rademacher said the Zoning Board approved their request. Trustee Cler made a motion to approve the variance request by Walter and Samantha Smith. It was seconded by Trustee Ehler. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no). The second request was from Steve Cunningham to rebuild his pole barn/home that had been lost in the tornado on lot #9 in Ernray Drive. The Zoning Board and neighbors had approved the request. Trustee Severins made a motion to approve the variance request from Steve Cunningham. It was seconded by Trustee Youmans. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no). The third request was from Tom and DaVeda Reitz to add an 8x24 covered porch area between his pole building and detached garage. The Zoning Board had approved the request. Trustee Youmans made a motion to approve the variance request from the Reitz's. It was seconded by Trustee Baxter. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no).

Jim Cleary was curious about the lot next to his on Summit Street. Nothing has been done to clean it up after the tornado and he wanted to know the status on that property. President Ackerman said he had talked to the contractor who is supposed to begin demo work, but he has not been officially contracted. Ackerman said if the Village did not get a more specific plan soon, we would fine the property owner. Discussion followed.

Andy Keiser said the water treatment plant construction has been awarded to A & R Construction. There was discussion regarding water concerns and trying to use various chemicals to correct water color. He said FBI hopes to begin building construction for the

plant around April 1st and will take about three weeks. Then the electricians will get in and do their work, completing the job sometime in June.

Greg Crow said he has not heard anything back regarding the USDA grant applications for \$500,000 for the water treatment plant and for \$150,000 for the water tower. He presented a spreadsheet similar to the FEMA assessment, which he planned to distribute around Springfield to allow our needs to help determine assistance. There was discussion regarding potential funding from insurance and grants.

Dave Atchley presented the MFT resolution for street maintenance for 2013 in the amount of \$3,223.08. Trustee Ehler made a motion to accept Resolution #221 for MFT for 2013 in amount of \$3,223.08. It was seconded by Trustee Severins. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no). Atchley said the jurisdictional transfer is almost complete.

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 Ehler. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no). Trustee Cler made a motion to approve the minutes as read. 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 bills to be considered for payment, Trustee Cler made a motion to pay the bills. It was seconded by Trustee Severins. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no). Trustee Ehler made a motion to pay the bills. It was seconded by Trustee Baxter. 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 Jones made a motion to dispense with the reading of the Treasurer's report, except for the summary. It was seconded by Trustee Youmans. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no). The balance in Village accounts as of January 31, 2014 was \$642,897.27. Total money received for the month of February was \$39,932.07, plus \$10.52 interest from CD # 8170 and \$15.37 interest from CD #15399. Total expenses for the month were \$43,371.89, leaving a balance on February 28, 2014 of \$639,483.34. The balance in the Disaster Recovery Account as of January 31, 2014 was \$10,466.59. Total money received for the month of February was 924,170.89. Total expenses for the month were \$30,379.55, leaving a balance on February 28, 2014 of \$904,257.93.

The Police Report was given by Chief Weary. In Traffic Matters, there were 23 incidents, 18 warnings, and two citations. In Investigative Matters, there were 15 incidents. Weary also presented a Law Enforcement Alarm System, which is a mutual aid agreement with other law enforcement agencies. The annual fee is \$60 and we can opt to assist other agencies in an emergency or they can also assist us in case of an emergency. After discussion, Trustee Ehler made a motion to join the Law Enforcement Alarm System for \$60 a year. It was seconded by Trustee Youmans. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no).

Childress did not have a water and sewer report, but had been very busy with disaster recovery and snow removal.

STREETS AND ALLEYS REPORT

Trustee Cler said he would investigate a dip in the road that has appeared on Park Street.

SANITARY AND STORM REPORT

Trustee Ehler said everything seems to be draining well with the melting snow and recent rains.

POWER LIGHTS AND TELEPHONE REPORT

Trustee Severins said we would report the light pole repair by Mark Billings on Main Street.

RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT

Trustee Youmans said we need to inform the public of the upcoming siren testing.

OLD BUSINESS

President Ackerman said we had not received a new ordinance from our attorney for Casey's liquor license.

Chief Weary asked how the Village handles a situation where the property owners did not remove the basement and foundation, but plan to sell it as is. He said it will be vacant until it is sold, and can be a hazard if anyone fell in. It was decided to have the owner cordon off the lot to keep trespassers out.

NEW BUSINESS

Steve Griswold said he had heard that the Gifford State Bank had received \$100,000 and he wanted to know how that money was being dispersed. Trustee Ehler explained that it went to the Tornado Relief Fund and the committee will be sure to distribute the funds in a fair manner.

President Ackerman suggested the Village join Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network (IPWMAN). It costs \$100 a year and would enable us to recover some of our expenses from FEMA in the future. We would not be obligated to assist, but encourage us to help others when needed. Trustee Ehler made a motion to join IPWMAN for \$100 a year. It was seconded by Trustee Youmans. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no).

Treasurer Duitsman said we need to cash in CD #15399 in the water fund for \$22,606.87 to pay a bill. After discussion, Trustee Cler made a motion to have Duitsman cash in CD #15399 from the water fund for \$22,606.87. It was seconded by Trustee Severins. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no). There was also discussion regarding ordinances from other Villages that can generate income.

Trustee Ehler said there will be a tree drive on April 5th with the Farm Bureau offering up 350 trees for Champaign County. They are about 8'-12' tall and 2"-3" in diameter.

Treasurer Duitsman presented a budget analysis to date. Discussion followed.

President Ackerman presented Ordinance #122 to annex the Scott and Bullington properties on West Center Street. Trustee Ehler made a motion to accept Ordinance #122 to annex the Scott and Bullington properties on West Center Street. It was seconded by Trustee Cler. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no).

Trustee Ehler moved the meeting be adjourned. It was seconded by Trustee Severins. All Trustees concurred in a voice vote. The meeting was properly adjourned at 9:45 P.M.

Village Clerk

Approved by me this 3rd day of April 2014.

President of the Board