

Regular Meeting  
July 3, 2014

The Village Board of Trustees met at 7:00 P.M., local time, in 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, Jones, Severins, and Youmans. Trustee Ehler arrived at 7:05.

Guests were Dave Atchley (MSA), Philip Kisubiks (Rantoul Press), John Blue with two gentlemen from Lifesaver Storm Shelter, Andy Keiser (Fehr-Graham), Susan Chavarria (RPC), and Eric Rademacher. Keiser was present to make a second pay request in the amount of \$90,040.61 for the water tower contractors. He said the generator is here and the electric has been roughed in. He has two more pumps ordered for about \$30,000. Insurance covered only one of the three high service pumps. Discussion followed regarding the pumps. He said he needed a change order in the amount of \$30,014 for the new pumps. Trustee Cler made a motion to accept a change order for the payment for the water tower in the amount of \$30,014. It was seconded by Trustee Baxter. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no). Keiser said the estimated date of completion is the end of August, if all goes accordingly. Discussion followed.

Susan Chavarria from the Regional Planning Commission was present to have the Trustees take action regarding the hearing that had been held prior to the regular meeting. Trustee Cler made a motion to accept Resolution #223 in support of application to the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity for a grant from the State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). These funds are to be used for a community development project that will include the purchase and installation of two warning sirens. The total amount of CDBG funds to be requested is \$25,125. The amount of CDBG funds proposed to be used for activities that will benefit low-to-moderate income persons is \$12,814. The Village of Gifford also proposes to expend \$8,375 in non-CDBG funds on the project, which will be derived from local funds. The motion was seconded by Trustee Youmans. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no).

John Blue and the men from Lifesaver Storm Shelters from Benton, IL explained their product, had a sample outside in the parking lot for the Board to view, and requested leaving one in town for area residents to see. They said the cost of a six person shelter would be about \$4,500. It was decided to set a shelter up at Rademacher's Building Center.

Dave Atchley said the site for the new water tower had been narrowed down to two locations along Ernray Drive. They had surveyed the elevations in that area, and could place it either north of the water treatment plant or east of the plant. After discussion, it was decided to place it east of the plant. Atchley said an environmental study at the Busboom property on Main Street would cost about \$4,800. If the soil was determined to be 'dirty' then it would have to be hauled to special landfill. After discussion, it was decided to have a special meeting to be held on August 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00, just prior to the regular monthly meeting to discuss design issues for the water tower and treatment plant.

Eric Rademacher said he had issued 43 building permits for new home construction since the tornado. He said there was an issue with the lot just west of the bank parking lot. There was discussion regarding a 10' utility easement for poles in that area, which was affecting determination of property lines between Frank Buck's property and David Cornwell's. It was decided to check for the property pins before making any decisions. Rademacher thanked Chris Duitsman for all his assistance in issuing building permits. He wanted to know if he could transition his job as Zoning Commissioner to Duitsman. After discussion, it was decided to talk to Duitsman to see if he would be interested in this added duty.

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 (6 yes, 0 no). Trustee Baxter made a motion to accept the minutes as read. It was seconded by Trustee Ehler. 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 dispense with the reading of the bills. It was seconded by Trustee Baxter. 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 Severins. 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 Youmans 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 (6 yes, 0 no). The balance in Village accounts as of May 31, 2014 was \$623,846.67. Total money received for the month of June 2014 was \$96,280.47, plus \$10.52 interest from CD #8170 and \$8.67 interest from CD #15399. Total expenses for the month were \$5,823.92, leaving a balance on June 30, 2014 of \$664,322.41. The balance in the Disaster Recovery Fund as of May 31, 2013 was \$833,680.48. There was no money received for the month. Total expenses for the month were \$51,278.51, leaving a balance on June 30, 2014 of \$782,401.97. The balance in the Tornado/WTP Construction Fund as of May 31, 2014 was \$75,635.98. There was no money received for the month. Total expenses for the month were \$4,031.00, leaving a balance on June 30, 2014 of \$71,604.98. The balance in the Tornado/Tower Construction Fund as of May 31, 2014 was \$5,567.06. There was no money received and no expenses for the month.

The Police Report was given by Trustee Severins as Chief Weary was absent. In Investigative Matters, there were 12 incidents and one report. In Traffic Matters, there were 49 incidents, 42 warnings, and four citations.

There was no water and sewer report, but Jess Childress said there had been a water/sewer break on West Street in front of the Rodgers' residence causing water to back up into their newly constructed home. Discussion followed regarding repairs. Childress said the old water tower is now in operation following repairs. He also said there have been delays in the construction of the water treatment plant.

### **STREETS AND ALLEYS REPORT**

Trustee Cler had received letters from the IDOT engineers stating the Village would be receiving \$33,650 for street signs, tree stump removal, etc.; \$106,617 for grading, seeding, sidewalks, etc; and \$226,898 for streets and alley repairs.

### **SANITARY AND STORM REPORT**

Trustee Ehler said some of the contractors have cut tiles in laying new basement construction and have not repaired them, causing serious issues with drainage, especially when it rains. After discussion it was decided it is the contractor's responsibility to repair and reroute tiles. There was discussion regarding policing construction work to make sure this does not continue to occur and discussion regarding water displacement since the tornado. Ehler suggested having Weary field some of these problems to allow Childress to work on the current issues. Ehler said people need to get their sump pumps tiled in. He also said that Tony McLain would like to help monitor the vacant lots, along with the Village Board and employees. One suggestion for some vacant lots was to get a back hoe in there and clean up the lots, removing the tree stumps and leveling off the ground. It was decided to have excavations inspected before proceeding with new home construction, using Weary to assist with that inspection. Ackerman said he would talk to Weary and have him contact McLain.

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

Trustee Severins said he talked to Ameren regarding the lot on Baker Court, where the customer had requested a "DD" light. He wasn't sure who would be responsible for paying the bill or how much it would cost each month. He said he would get that information and let the Board know at the next regular meeting. Trustee Baxter said he has a pole and street light missing from in front of his home after the tornado. Severins said he has been trying to locate all missing lights and poles since the tornado and will probably learn more as people start moving back into their homes.

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

Trustee Baxter said he had sent grant information to our auditor and then we could get our reimbursement from the state of Illinois for the OSLAD grant. He had gotten the bags sets installed and completed all other construction. He said the Lion's Club wanted to make a donation to pay for the electric to the scoreboard at the park, so the Village needs to send a thank you card. He said the Elk's Club in Tolono has donated \$1,000 to pay for the military signs and brackets along Main Street. Baxter also had a photo of a welcome sign that Border Magic has offered to put together for the Village as a donation.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

President Ackerman presented Ordinance #326 in regards to Prevailing Wages. Trustee Cler made a motion to accept Ordinance #326 for Prevailing Wages. It was seconded by Trustee Severins. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no-Trustee Ehler had to leave at 8:20).

President Ackerman had received a copy of the golf cart ordinance used by the Village of Royal. Discussion followed. Ackerman decided to send a copy of an ordinance from the Village of Tolono, which had been approved by several Gifford Village Board members, to our attorney to view and get a proposed ordinance written for our Village.

President Ackerman said the Board had received a thank you card from Bev Heiden for all their hard work, especially since the tornado. She also sent us cookies and seasoned pretzels for us to enjoy during our meeting.

Treasurer Duitsman said Mike Graham, who has completed the annual audits for the Village for the last 33 years, is retiring. Duitsman asked if we could send him a small gift. He also said Graham gave us a recommendation for future audits with the firm of Bray, Drake, Lyles, and Richardson LLP. Trustee Cler made a motion to hire Curtis Lyles as our new auditor. It was seconded by Trustee Baxter. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no). Duitsman said he would arrange a meeting with Mr. Lyles.

Trustee Severins moved the meeting be adjourned. It was seconded by Trustee Youmans. All Trustees concurred in a voice vote. The meeting was properly adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

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Village Clerk

Approved by me this 7<sup>th</sup> day of August 2014.

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President of the Board