

## Regular Meeting January 8, 2015

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

Guests included Larry Hethke, Dave Atchley and Greg Crow from MSA, Philip Kisubiks from Rantoul Press, Eric Rademacher, Eldon Hesterberg, Adam Pannbacker, Steve Griswold, Earl Smith, Lori Bednarz, Callie and Cale Heidbreder, Kurtis Johnson, Nicole Anderson, Gary Duden, Doug and Teri Caraker, Ryan Ihnen, Kate Youmans, Justin Fullenkamp, Jim Hannagan, Brad Evans, and Tony McLain. Hesterberg gave an update on the remodel of the new Village Hall. He said the building had been vacated and demolition had begun. He currently had a cleaning crew working in there cleaning the walls and ceilings. Next week he will begin office construction.

Rademacher had a variance request from Steve Griswold to construct a garage that would be an additional four feet larger than the current ordinance allows and at a height of just over nine feet. The Zoning Board approved the request and there had not been any opposition to the request. After discussion, Trustee Cler made a motion to approve the variance request as presented by Eric Rademacher. It was seconded by Trustee Baxter. In a roll call vote there were four yes votes and one no vote. Motion carried.

Smith asked when the Village would be taking possession of the old Spreader building so he can begin the paperwork for the tax exempt status. He also requested the Village lay some crushed rock in the alley behind his home.

Hethke asked about the rezoning at Eagle Prairie that changed to multi-family housing and allowed low income housing to be constructed. He expressed concern for that type of housing for the Village. He said he isn't opposed to multi-family housing, but is opposed to rental units and subsidized housing. Discussion followed. Fullenkamp tried to explain the housing authority and how the rentals would be filled; how they would be maintained; how it could affect property values and taxes; how it would be constructed. He said it would most likely be a single unit, with 11 residences across five lots. Each residence would be 900 square feet, with one bedroom. Discussion continued with several in attendance expressing their concerns.

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 Baxter. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no). Trustee Ehler made a motion to accept the minutes as read. 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 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 (5 yes, 0 no). After discussion it was decided to not pay the bills from Fehr Graham except for those for the well. It was also decided not to pay the bill from A&R Mechanical. The Village would pay all those bills once the water treatment plant construction is completed. Trustee Baxter made a motion to pay all bills except for those to Fehr Graham for the water treatment plant and A&R Mechanical. It was seconded by Trustee Ehler. 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 Cler 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 November 30, 2014 was \$653,379.06. Total money received for the month of December 2014 was \$52,062.85, plus \$10.19 interest from CD #8170 and \$8.40 interest from CD#15399. Total expenses for the month were \$64,864.47, leaving a balance on December 31, 2014 of \$640,596.03. The balance in the Disaster Recovery Fund as of November 30, 2014 was \$611,264.04. Total money received for the month was \$82,950. Total expenses for the month were \$400, leaving a balance on December 31, 2014 of \$693,814.04. There was no activity in the Tornado/WTP Construction Fund, Tornado/Tower Construction Fund, or the I.D.O.T. Construction Fund.

The Police Report was read by Chief Weary. In Traffic Matters, there were 27 incidents, 25 warnings, and two citations. In Investigative Matters, there were 10 incidents. Weary further stated that the demolition/burning of the home owned by Paul Buenting at the corner of Park and North Streets was still waiting for a permit and asbestos testing. There was discussion regarding costs and neighbor approval, which had been Okayed.

#### **WATER AND SEWER REPORT**

Trustee Jones said Childress had no report but he had been very busy with the construction of the water treatment plant. Childress said he had an offer from Kenny Warner of \$500 for the old generator. After discussion, it was decided to sell it to Warner for \$500. Childress also said the last water samples he sent to the State for inspection froze in transit and were not approved, so he will have to resend them.

#### **SANITARY AND STORM REPORT**

Trustee Ehler said Kalin Kocher repaired the tile at the corner of Main and North Streets going east to Park Street. Childress said they next plan to do some drainage work on Park Street near John Stalter's home at the corner of Park and Plumb Streets.

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

Childress said he had received a light request on South West Street around the curve. President Ackerman said the bank would like to help install lights along the east side of Main Street to match those on the west side of the street in the business district.

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

Trustee Baxter said the Village Hall renovations are going well. They had made a decision to install a generator. They also had to repair the garage door opener at a cost of \$200. He said he also has two more military signs to install.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Trustee Baxter said the burning of the debris on south New Street went well. There were no real complaints and most people were happy to see it disappear.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Dave Atchley said there was going to be a pre-construction meeting for the water tower next Wednesday at 2:00 for any Board members that would like to attend.

Greg Crow presented ideas for and sales tax analysis of business district improvements with a 1% business district tax increase. After discussion, it was decided to think it over and discuss at the next monthly meeting.

President Ackerman had received a letter requesting a donation to the Mahomet Aquifer. After discussion, it was decided to donate the same amount as we had last year.

Tracy Childress informed the Board of the passing of Maynard and Joanne Duitsman's grandson. She asked if the Village should send a memorial. After discussion, it was decided to send a \$100 memorial.

Trustee Youmans moved the meeting be adjourned. It was seconded by Trustee Cler. All Trustees concurred in a voice vote (5 yes, 0 no). The meeting was properly adjourned at 8:46 P.M.

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Village Clerk

Approved by me this 5<sup>th</sup> day of February 2014.

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President of the Board