

Regular Meeting February 5, 2015

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, Jones, Severins, and Youmans.

Guests were Adam Pannbacker, Greg Crow (MSA), Diane Baker, Andy Keiser (Fehr-Graham), Tony McLain, and Philip Kisubiks (Rantoul Press). Crow had a few updates for the Village regarding water tower construction and streets and sidewalk repairs. He said they now have a schedule for the water tower construction and streets and sidewalk repairs will begin in the spring.

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 Jones. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (4 yes, 0 no). Trustee Severins made a motion to accept the minutes as read. It was seconded by Trustee Baxter. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (4 yes, 0 no)

As each Trustee and Officer had been given printed copies of the bills to be considered for payment, Trustee Jones made a motion to dispense with the reading of the bills. It was seconded by Trustee Youmans. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (4 yes, 0 no). Trustee Baxter made a motion to pay the bills. It was seconded by Trustee Severins. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (4 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 Youmans. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (4 yes, 0 no). The balance in Village accounts as of December 31, 2014 was \$640,596.03. Total money received for the month of January 2015 was \$54,711.61, plus \$10.53 interest on CD#8170 and \$8.69 interest on CD#15399. Total expenses for the month were \$39,990.78, leaving a balance on January 31, 2015 of \$655,336.08. The balance in the Disaster Recovery Fund as of December 31, 2014 was \$693,622.64. There was no money received for the month of January 2015. Total expenses for the month were \$50,394.50, leaving a balance on January 31, 2015 of \$643,228.14. There was no activity in the Tornado/WTP Construction Fund or the I.D.O.T. Construction Fund. The balance in the Tornado/Tower Construction Fund as of December 31, 2014 was \$24,713.87. There was no money received for the month of January 2015. Total expenses for the month were \$10,350, leaving a balance on January 31, 2015 of \$14,363.87.

There was no Police Report, since Chief Weary has a broken ankle. President Ackerman said the County has been on call to respond to any reports.

WATER AND SEWER REPORT

Childress did not have a printed report, but stated that the water plant is now operational. He said Gasvoda will be coming to check out the lift station for a repair.

POWER LIGHTS AND TELEPHONE REPORT

Trustee Severins said he has to report a street light out north of Rademacher Building Center. Childress had a customer on the circle drive at the south end of West Street request a light placed in that area. There was discussion regarding the proposed lights along the east side of Main Street in the business area that would match the decorative lights along the west side of the street.

FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE REPORT

Trustee Baxter said he has two more military signs to install and had an inquiry for another person. Discussion followed. McLain asked if the Village had an area designated to place a Memorial Park. The Gifford Tornado Relief Fund would purchase the property and set up a small park, but would like it to be centrally located. There also was discussion regarding placement of a 'Welcome to Gifford' sign. McLain suggested talking to Hicksgas about using the north corner of their lot. McLain said the bank is also investigating the purchase of the lot north and east of Hicksgas to place a drive up ATM. There was discussion regarding filling in the ditches and placing culverts in their place in that area.

OLD BUSINESS

President Ackerman said Earl Smith presented him with an estimate of \$1,337.66 to frame the flag that used to fly over the Post Office before the tornado. After discussion it was decided to hang it in the Village Hall, but needed to get more estimates as that estimate seemed rather high.

Trustee Baxter said the Village Hall remodel is about three weeks ahead of schedule.

Trustee Severins said the Board needs to define what vehicles will be allowed in the proposed golf cart ordinance; what the fines would be; how much to charge for permits. Discussion followed. He will check with our attorney and get that finalized for the next meeting.

President Ackerman said there had been discussion regarding changing the zoning at Eagle Prairie back to R-1, since there was such an issue with rezoning to R-2 and allowing multi-family housing. Ackerman said it would be costly and time consuming to change it back, having the Village rezone it. After discussion regarding who would be responsible for those costs, it was decided to talk to Justin Fullenkamp and our attorney.

Trustee Severins had a \$4,000 estimate for a 16,000 watt generator with a transfer switch for the Village Hall. Discussion followed. It was decided to place on the agenda next month for a final decision.

NEW BUSINESS

Treasurer Tracy Childress said she was told the Board would need to do an environmental needs review before filing the quarterly reports for the sirens. Keiser said he could be of assistance with that. She also needed to know if the installation of the sirens was included in the costs. After discussion it was decided to talk to Dave Bletscher. It also was mentioned that Sheri Lannon of the USDA Rural Development could assist with that report.

Trustee Baxter said he talked to Neil Baker about the possibility of renting out the ball diamond at the park to raise money for improvements. Discussion followed regarding fees and when/whom to charge.

President Ackerman said John Shimkus will be at the bank at 10:00 on Friday February 6 to present a flag to the Village. This particular flag had been flown over the U.S. Capital on November 17, 2014 on the one year anniversary of the tornado. Ackerman asked if any of the Board members could be there at the reception.

Trustee Severins brought up a discussion regarding cars, trucks, and trailers parking in alleys and the difficult time Childress has when plowing snow. It was decided to talk to those people.

Trustee Youmans moved the meeting be adjourned. It was seconded by Trustee Severins. All Trustees concurred in a voice vote (4 yes, 0 no). The meeting was properly adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Village Clerk

Approved by me this 5th day of March 2015.

President of the Board