

Regular Meeting November 5, 2015

The Village Board of Trustees met at 7:00 p.m., in the Gifford Village Building, to hold their regular monthly meeting. Officers and Trustees present were President Ackerman, Clerk Baker, and Trustee Carpenter, Ehler, Jones, McFadden and Pannbacker. Police Chief Weary, Water/Maintenance Childress and Treasurer Tracy Childress also present. Trustee Severins was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance and roll call.

Guests were Philip Kisubiks (Rantoul Press), Dave Atchley and Jason Miller (MSA), Mr. & Mrs. Goldenstein, Chad Hoover and Christie Huls.

Mr. & Mrs. Goldenstein were present and wanted to thank the board for fixing the ditch by their storage building on Main St.

Bray, Drake, Liles & Richardson LLP, and the Village Auditor was present to briefly go over and hand out the final audit for the year ending March 31, 2015. The audit was good, no major issues to report.

Dave Atchley and Jason Miller from MSA were present to talk about the Water main/looping project, streets, sidewalks and the nitrate issue. The water tower/looping project is 80% complete and the streets and sidewalks are completed. The revised permit will be complete on 11/9/2015 regarding nitrate limits in the water and testing for such. Adding on to current system or building a new water system would be costly. If we do not comply there could be large fines for noncompliance. There is a timeline for a plan to be in place and MSA will not do this without the village involvement. After a plan/design is in place we could then apply for federal assistance, the design process is also costly. The chance for federal money could be good beings we are strapped for money and we are being forced to comply. Timeline for all this is 4 years starting 11/9/2015. Jess Childress is taking samples at this time. Mayor Ackerman said the board would have to think about all of this information and make a decision on how to move forward.

Each Trustee and Officer had been furnished printed copies of the minutes of the last regular meeting, Trustee McFadden made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. It was seconded by Trustee Carpenter. All trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no). Trustee Pannbacker made a motion to accept the minutes as read. It was seconded by Trustee Ehler. All trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no).

Each Trustee and Officer had been furnished printed copies of the bills to be considered for payment, Trustee Carpenter made a motion to dispense with the reading of the bills. It was seconded by Trustee Ehler. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no). Trustee Ehler made a motion to pay the bills. It was seconded by Trustee Pannbacker. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no).

Each Trustee and Officer had been furnished printed copies of the Treasurer's Report, Trustee Ehler made a motion to dispense with the reading of the Treasurer's Report, except for the summary. It was seconded by Trustee Pannbacker. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no). The balance in Village accounts as of October 31, 2015 was \$787,256.73. Total money received for the month of October 2015 was \$60,715.77, plus \$8.43 interest from CD#15399 and \$10.20 interest from CD#8170. Total expenses for the month were \$57,768.48, leaving a balance on September 30, 2015 of \$790,219.65. The balance in the Disaster Recovery Fund as of October 31, 2015 was \$192,808.21; money received \$7,549.98 and paid out \$36,291.00. The balance in the Tornado/Tower Construction Fund as of October 31, 2015 was \$12,014.66; money received \$11,250.00 and paid out \$00.00. The balance in the IDOT Construction Fund as of October 31, 2015 was \$325,895.32; money received \$00.00 and paid out \$00.00. The balance in the Water Main Improvement Fund as of October 31, 2015 was \$28,641.00; money received \$28,641.00 and paid out \$00.00. Treasurer Tracy Childress also had a copy of the Levy for 2015-2016.

Trustee Ehler made a motion to accept the Levy as presented. It was seconded by Trustee Jones. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no).

POLICE REPORT

The Police Report was read by Chief Weary. In investigative matters there were 30 incidents, 19 reports and 13 arrests. In traffic matters there were 39 incidents, 36 warnings, 2 citations and 0 arrests. Chief Weary talked to the builder's working at Derald Mennenga's house and they fixed the catch basin and tile they had broken.

WATER AND SEWER REPORT

Trustee Jones reported activity for the month of October, 2015. Total gallons of water pumped for October, 2015 was 2,354,000 gallons. The average daily consumption of water for the month was 76,000 gallons. Childress reported he tapped in new water and sewer service to Farm Town Storage on Main Street, repaired broken water service cut by boring crew on Center Street, re-cut ditch going from Main Street to Park Street, took all water and wastewater samples and sent them to the EPA lab in Springfield. Removed all trees from the old Emord property on Main Street, cleaned up trees and debris piled up at the end of New Street, dug up and removed old water service on the property the bank purchased along 136, filled new tower and took two sets of samples to the lab in Decatur. Both lab samples passed. Sent out 19 letters for non-payment of water and wastewater bills, discontinued 4 services for non-payment of water and sewer bills, logged all water bill receipts and made all the deposits, backwashed all pressure filters at the water treatment plant and the cathodic protection for the tower was installed this week and working just fine. Jess Childress also brought up weather or not Christmas lights would be put up this year in the Village. He met with John Kizer from Ameren and it would be a cost, but his time he will donate. Trustee Jones made a motion to put the wreaths and lights up in the Village. It was seconded by Trustee Pannbacker. The motion passed in a roll call vote (3 yes, 2 no).

STREET AND ALLEY REPORT

Trustee Pannbacker reported that the siren has been installed. There will be an Intergovernmental agreement to sign.

SANITARY AND STORM REPORT

Trustee Ehler had nothing to report at this meeting.

POWER LIGHTS AND TELEPHONE REPORT

Trustee Severins was absent, no report.

RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT

Trustee Carpenter brought pictures of the signage for the Village Building and door for all the Trustees to see. Trustee Jones made a motion to do signage for both the building and the door. It was seconded by Trustee McFadden. The motion did not pass in a roll call vote (2 yes, 3 no). Trustee Pannbacker made a motion to go with just the signage for the door. It was seconded by Trustee Carpenter. The motion passed with a roll call vote (4 yes, 1 no).

FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE REPORT

Trustee McFadden reported he would set up an account at Tepper's Electric to get the lights for outside and for the rock. He is also getting a box to set in place for the water bills. Brian Hesterberg did not get back to him about a box for Frontier.

OLD BUSINESS

MSA took care of the paint drifting from the painting of the water tower.

Mayor Ackerman reported that Marshall Huls is willing to take the position as the new zoning commissioner. Trustee Ehler made a motion for Marshall Huls as Zoning Commissioner. It was seconded by Trustee Pannbacker. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no).

NEW BUSINESS

A house was moved into town and placed on a lot on New St. It was questioned if they had gotten a permit to move it into town. Chief Weary will contact Marshall Huls and Robin Clements about a permit.

Tracy Childress had a request come in for the Village to give a donation to the Armstrong High School Yearbook Committee. All trustees were okay with donating \$50.00.

Tracy Childress resigned as Village Treasurer at last month's meeting. Christie Huls has been working with her and is interested in the position. Discussion about the two positions Treasurer and Billing for Water was discussed. Tracy Childress was doing both jobs. Trustee Carpenter made a motion to hire Christie Huls as the Village Treasurer. It was seconded by Trustee Pannbacker. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no). Trustee Jones made a motion to keep Tracy Childress on to do the water bills until the end of this fiscal year and then relooking at the two positions at the end of this timeframe. It was seconded by Trustee McFadden. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (5 yes, 0 no)

Chad Hoover who was present for the entire meeting thanked the board for all of their work. He also asked if it would be possible to increase patrol hours at night and on the weekends due to an increase in some break ins this last month. Trustee Ehler said it was a good idea to look into this.

Trustee Carpenter moved the meeting be adjourned. It was seconded by Trustee Ehler. All Trustees concurred in a voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Approved this 3rd day of December, 2015
