7:30 p.m. The regular meeting of the Village Board of Trustees was called to order by Mayor Behnken. A roll call was answered aye by Wilson, Feder, Newbold and Politsch. Hamon and Geppert was absent. Sandy Stolte, Treasurer, Chris Remick, Superintendent of Public Works, and Andrew Green, Ambulance Director were also present.

Mayor Behnken asked for a motion to move public comments from number 5 to number 2.

Trustee Newbold made a motion, seconded by Trustee Politsch, to move public comments from number 5 to number 2. All voting aye, the motion carried.

VISITORS

Matt Ridlen and Nancy Ritter

READING OF THE JOURNAL (MINUTES)

Mayor Behnken asked for a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes.

Trustee Newbold made a motion, seconded by Trustee Wilson to dispense with reading of the minutes. All voting aye, the motion carried.

Trustee Newbold made a motion, seconded by Trustee Feder to accept the minutes as presented. All voting aye, the motion carried.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION

<u>MAYOR</u>

Nothing to report.

VILLAGE CLERK

Nothing to report.

TREASURERS TIME

Nothing to report.

POLICE CHIEF

Nothing to report.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS

Chris Remick reported there is an issue with a pump at the sewer plant lift station not seating properly.

Chris Remick received a price of \$327.63 from Coe Equipment for a tend claw to clean the sewer lines.

Trustee Politsch made a motion, seconded by Trustee Newbold to approve the purchase of a tend claw from Coe Equipment for \$327.63. All voting aye, the motion carried.

Chris Remick asked for approval to purchase a Topcon rotating laser. One can be purchased from Amazon for \$593.83 versus \$693.04 at Lowe's.

Trustee Newbold made a motion, seconded by Trustee Wilson to approve the purchase of a Topcon rotating laser from Amazon for \$593.83. All voting aye, the motion carried.

Chris Remick received a quote from American Tree to grind two stumps on South Benton Street for \$150 each.

Trustee Newbold made a motion, seconded by Trustee Wilson to approve to have two stumps ground down at South Benton Street for \$150 per stump by American Tree. All voting aye, the motion carried.

AMBULANCE SERVICE DIRECTOR

Nothing to report.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Streets and Alleys

Trustee Politsch is concerned about the truck traffic and damage to the street at the corner of Oakridge and East Street. Chris Remick to contact Ameren to make sure if the streets get damaged, they are repaired by KS, the subcontractor.

Finance and Audit

Trustee Newbold reported the committee met and reviewed the bills. The committee had questions regarding a couple of the bills.

Trustee Newbold made a motion, seconded by Trustee Feder to pay the bills as presented. All voting aye, the motion carried.

Trustee Newbold stated after last month's meeting he received several comments and objections about the Village paying the mayor's attorney fee. Trustee Newbold said the mayor should reimburse the Village for the attorney fees, so it keeps the fees as a private citizen separate from the capacity as mayor. Mayor Behnken stated he will make an unrestricted donation to the general fund and said to be clear he is not reimbursing the Village for an alleged error made by an employee as to not set a precedence.

A financial workshop will be held and open to the public to inform the public of where the Village stands, money wise.

Water and Sewer

The new meter reader program had a bug in it and will be corrected with the next update this fall. In the meantime, we switched back to the old hardware and software until the new software is updated.

Personnel, Public Safety/ADA

Trustee Politsch reported the committee met August 26th regarding the ambulance service and concerns with the number of EMT's they are losing. There have also been complaints of missed calls. The committee will meet again to discuss further how to recruit EMT's as well as meet with the fire department and the Village of Lenzburg regarding the annual contracts.

Trustee Politsch noted a committee meeting will be scheduled to hire a part-time public works employee.

Public Property and Parks

Trustee Newbold reported the committee met August 23rd to discuss with Bobby Wilson a self-defense course he wanted to hold at the park. Bobby Wilson did not show up at the meeting nor did Newbold hear from him again.

Trustee Newbold noted the Sparta Hospital Mobile Health Clinic was in town today. They plan to have an open house at the Fall Festival later this month.

The committee will meet September 14th to discuss the marina.

Cemetery

Nothing to report.

Improvements and Grants

Trustee Politsch scheduled a committee meeting September 14th to discuss the Metro East Parks Grant. The Lions Club wants to donate to the Village; this will also be discussed at the committee meeting.

SEPTEMBER 7, 2021 VILLAGE OF NEW ATHENS 905 SPOTSYLVANIA

Trustee Politsch was notified we were awarded the \$25,000 St. Clair County Park Grant but can't proceed until all the documents have been signed.

Ordinances

Trustee Politsch will schedule a committee meeting regarding sidewalks and discuss having Frank Heiligenstein review the whole ordinance book.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Nothing to report.

<u>COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDERS, AND ORDINANCES</u> Nothing to report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Behnken reported there are two boats left at the marina, one is to be demolished and one someone owns which needs to be moved.

Chris Remick noted Tim Pruett is drawing up the blueprints on the electric service for the marina.

Trustee Feder made a motion; seconded by Trustee Newbold to adjourn at 8:50 p.m. All voting aye, the motion carried.

Michelle Neff Village Clerk Joe Behnken Village President

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