

4.1
/

6:30 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance, the regular meeting of the Village Board of Trustees was called to order by Mayor Behnken. A roll call was answered aye by Trustees Feder, Newbold, Kearns, Politsch, and Geppert. Trustee Fitzgerald was absent. Also present were Chris Remick, Superintendent of Public Works and Tim Buehler, Chief of Police.

VISITORS

Jason Bohannon was present to observe.

READING THE JOURNAL (MINUTES)

The minutes from the February 3, 2025 Regular Board Meeting was presented to the Board for approval.

Trustee Newbold had some questions regarding dates of a previous special board meeting and a committee of the whole meeting from last month. He thought the dates were reversed.

Trustee Politsch requested, under the clerk's time on these minutes, that it be mentioned about the on-line payments as well.

A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Politsch, to approve the minutes from the February 3, 2025 Regular Board Meeting, with the noted corrections as needed. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

The minutes from the January 27, 2025 Committee of the Whole meeting was presented for approval.

A motion was made by Trustee Politsch, seconded by Trustee Newbold, to approve the minutes from the January 27, 2025 Committee of the Whole Meeting. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION

MAYOR

Mayor Behnken advised the Board that Reliable Sanitation will be increasing the trash rate by 3%. The current trash rate on the utility bills is \$18.97 and it will increase to \$19.54. This will be effective on the next water bills.

A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Politsch, to approve the rate increase for the trash from \$18.97 per month to \$19.54 per month. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

VILLAGE CLERK

Nancy advised the board that the on-line payment system is up and going. She also mentioned that the direct deposit for payroll is up and going as well.

TREASURER'S TIME

Treasurer Fauth submitted the monthly Treasurer's Report.

A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Feder, to approve the monthly Treasurer's Report as submitted. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

POLICE CHIEF

Chief Buehler submitted the activity log for the first half of February.

The Police Department would like to purchase two Mossberg Maverick 88 security shotguns that discharge bean bags. The cost is \$249.97 each, which would be paid for from the restricted police account.

A motion was made by Trustee Feder, seconded by Trustee Newbold, to approve the purchase of two Mossberg Maverick 88 security shotguns with bean bag discharge in the amount of \$249.97 each and to be paid for from the police restricted account. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS

Chris Remick noted that the grit classifier is back and working. The cost for the repairs was around \$3,500.

Remick mentioned that the Illinois EPA was scheduled to do an inspection of the wastewater treatment plant today but it has been rescheduled to next week due to the weather.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

STREETS AND ALLEYS

Nothing to report.

FINANCE AND AUDIT

A transfer from the ambulance account to the water & sewer account was made in December in the amount of \$15,000.

A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Feder, to approve the transfer that was made in December of \$15,000 from the ambulance account to the water & sewer account. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

WATER AND SEWER

There was a discussion regarding purchasing three fire hydrants by the school and using TIF funds to pay for them. Chris Remick received two quotes, one from Schulte Supply in the amount of \$12,523.08 and the other from IMCO in the amount of \$13,974.00. Muni-Work would do the installation for a charge of \$7,050.00.

Mayor Behnken thought there was going to be a request for assistance with fire hydrants from the fire department. Trustee Feder stated that he tried to get hold of a few of them but has not been able to have that discussion with them yet.

The Clerk mentioned that some municipalities charge a rental fee to their fire departments for the hydrants. She suggested that it would be something to investigate.

There was some concern about whether the use of TIF funds was legal. Trustee Politsch had secured a document from Moran Development that suggests it was acceptable.

A motion was made by Trustee Politsch, seconded by Trustee Newbold, to approve using TIF funds to purchase three fire hydrants from Schulte Supply in the amount of \$12,523.08 and the installation charge of \$7,050.00 for Muni-Work to install, for a total cost of \$19,573.08. A roll call vote was answered aye by all members present.

PERSONNEL

Nothing to report.

PUBLIC PROPERTY AND PARKS

Nothing to report.

CEMETERY

Nothing to report.

ORDINANCE

Nothing to report.

IMPROVEMENTS AND GRANTS

Mayor Behnken advised the board that the deadline to have the sidewalks complete per the CDBG 2023 grant, is June 30th. If the project is not completed by that time, we will not receive the funds. He stated that there will be no extensions.

Chris Remick stated that his department can do some of these sidewalks when they have time. The mayor suggested that Remick get some cost estimates per linear.

It was suggested that the board vote not to proceed with this grant due to significant expenditures.

A motion was made by Trustee Feder, seconded by Trustee Newbold, not to proceed with the CDBG 2023 due to significant expenditures. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

Trustee Politsch stated that she is going to send a letter to the businesses in town and to local organizations, as well as state leaders, to seek pledges for the T-Mobile Hometown Grant. She stated that the cost for the ballfield upgrades would be over \$83,000 and the grant is for \$50,000. We would need help with offsetting the Village's share as well as getting letters of support.

PUBLIC SAFETY/ADA

Trustee Geppert requested ESDA be put on the agenda for the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

MARINA

Trustee Kearns wanted to know the progress of the marina cleanup. He was concerned about getting it finished before the next flood waters come.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Nothing to report.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDERS AND ORDINANCES

Nothing to report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Trustee Newbold stated that Jen Schneider, a schoolteacher within the middle school here, is requesting a sign to be posted regarding the middle school ranking 60th out of 2,557 middle schools. He suggested we post something on the Village's website and get Mr. Marlow, from the grade school, involved with this. It was mentioned to discuss further at the next Committee of the Whole Meeting.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Politsch, to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 p.m. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

Joe Behnken, Village President

Nancy Ritter, Village Clerk