

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 Trustees Wilson, Geppert, Feder, Newbold, Politsch, and Kearns. Also present were Leo Simburger, Chief of Police and Chris Remick, Superintendent of Public Works.

VISITORS

Kim and Lydia Simburger were present for the swearing in of Lydia Simburger as a New Athens Police Officer. Officer Brad Penet was present for observation. Justin Majzel was in attendance to discuss the upcoming New Athens Homecoming.

READING OF THE JOURNAL (MINUTES)

The minutes from the previous board meeting had been distributed prior to the meeting for approval.

A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Feder, to approve the May 02, 2022 board minutes as presented. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION

MAYOR

Nothing to report.

VILLAGE CLERK

Village Clerk Benwell reported a request from resident Christina Tucker to host a car wash on the village owned parking lot at 1002 Spotsylvania. A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Wilson to approve the car wash on June 04, 2022.

TREASURER'S TIME

Mayor Behnken stated that the Treasurer's Financial Report for eleven of twelve months of the fiscal year would be presented at the May 16, 2022 board meeting, as well as the April Treasurer's Report.

POLICE CHIEF

Chief Simburger reported that the LESO (Law Enforcement Support Office) audit will be occurring one day in May and another day in June. Chief Simburger introduced Lydia Simburger, who will begin the Police Academy on May 04, 2022. Clerk Benwell swore Lydia Simburger in as a full-time police officer.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS

Superintendent Remick presented the board with a request to order twenty-four new water meters to replace old broken meters within the village. Trustee Feder made a motion, seconded by Trustee Kearns to purchase twenty-four water meters from Core & Main for \$3480.00. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

Superintendent Remick requested permission to order a “shelf spare” computer for the Waste Water Treatment Plant, as the current SBRC unit is showing signs of failure. In addition, troubleshooting services to repair the current SRBC unit at a rate of \$125.00/ hour for a minimum of four hours was requested. A motion was made by Trustee Feder, seconded by Trustee Geppert to approve the order of the “shelf spare” SBRC unit from Integrated Controls Incorporated for \$1252.00, as well as the troubleshooting service for \$125.00/ hour for a minimum of four hours. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

A quote from HDSFM D/B/A USABLUEBOOK was presented to the board for informational purposes concerning the replacement of the Dissolved Oxygen Sensors at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Three DO Sensors would cost \$7358.19. Superintendent Remick plans to pursue energy use grant funding in the fall to make the purchase.

AMBULANCE SERVICE DIRECTOR

Director Green was not present.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

STREETS AND ALLEYS

A resident at 104 N. Johnson requested the village cut down or trim a tree that they feel falls on village property. The board will research the matter and reconvene on the subject.

FINANCE AND AUDIT

The monthly bills were reviewed by the Audit Committee prior to the regular board meeting. A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Geppert to approve payment of the bills as presented. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

An Investment Performance Comparison was distributed to the board prior to the meeting. The village’s current investment portfolio consists of Certificates of Deposit. The current average annual return on the portfolio is 0.71%. If the village would invest surplus funds in laddered U.S. Treasury Bills, the return would be 2.5%. The current earnings on CDs are \$6,000.00 annually, while the potential earnings on U.S. Treasury Bills would be \$19,019.00 annually. The board wished to further discuss the investment portfolio at the next board meeting.

WATER AND SEWER

Nothing to report.

PERSONNEL

A recommendation was made to hire Alex Davis as an EMT. A motion was made by

Trustee Politsch, seconded by Trustee Newbold to hire Alex Davis effective immediately. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

The Personnel Committee met April 25, 2022. It was decided that four full-time police officers and a roster of part-time officers would be the course of action for staffing the police department. Resolution No. 2021-19 was presented, establishing wages for Village Employees. Effective May 01, 2022, the wage for part-time police officers will increase to \$24.00 per hour. A motion was made by Trustee Politsch, seconded by Trustee Newbold to approve Resolution No. 2021-19. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

PUBLIC PROPERTY AND PARKS

A walking trail was discussed by the board. It was noted that little effort on the village's part would be needed to make an existing trail near the rock pile in the cemetery usable. Trustee Politsch inquired about the cost of finishing the Ameren project at the Marina and expressed an interest in pursuing grant opportunities for funding the parks projects.

CEMETERY

Trustee Newbold reported that the lawn at the cemetery looked nice.

ORDINANCES

The Ordinance Committee made the recommendation to utilize Municode for the online codification project. Trustee Politsch made the motion, seconded by Trustee Feder, to approve the purchase of recodification services from Municode in the amount of \$16,350.00. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

IMPROVEMENTS AND GRANTS

Trustee Politsch reported that the village was able to request an extension for the DCEO Sidewalk grant, as well as a revised scope of work. Trustee Kearns obtained a bid from Huebner Concrete in the amount of \$41,385.00. Originally 4,000 linear feet were planned, while the revision would be for 1,335 linear feet of sidewalk from Hanft St. to Elizabeth St. The grant was for \$50,000.00. The village has spent \$1500.00 and will need to spend \$3,000.00-\$4,000.00 for engineering fees.

Trustee Politsch reported that the Arbor Day/Tree City USA event was a success. Thirty-eight trees were planted at the Marina Campgrounds on Saturday, April 30, 2022. Twelve more trees will be planted at the park at a later date.

PUBLIC SAFETY, AMBULANCE & ADA

Nothing to report.

MARINA

Trustee Newbold and Clerk Benwell will publish an advertisement and Request for Information/Proposal welcoming interested parties to submit proposals for the Marina Development. Trustee Feder and Trustee Newbold will meet with Public Works to work

on the ball fields.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Nothing to report.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDERS AND ORDINANCES

Nothing to report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Public Property

Marina

Chief Simburger sent the contract to the boat owner as well as an invoice for the first month's rent at the Marina. The owner has not returned the contract and is not paying rent. Chief Simburger spoke to the owner, who indicated through sale of real estate, he will now have the funding to move the boat and pay-back owed rent.

The electrical outlet and structure renovation is two-thirds completed at the Marina. An electrician has been contracted.

Trustee Newbold and Clerk Benwell will advertise for RFI/P for Marina Development. The next step will be to invite qualified applicants to quote on the business.

Streets & Alleys

Sewer Cleanout Project- Eight blocks completed as of 10/04/21. Eighteen blocks completed as of 11/01/2021. Twenty-three blocks completed as of 01/03/2022. Twenty-four blocks completed as of 02/07/2022. Twenty-six blocks completed as of 03/21/2022. Visu Sewer is working on the lining project.

Trustee Feder purchased the pipe needed to repair the water line collapse at 108 North Market. He will attempt to install it.

PUBLIC PROPERTY & PARKS

Matt Heet, a local drainage contractor, has offered to install a complete drainage system, when the soccer season is over, at Okaw Valley Park.

OTHER

Trustee Feder and Superintendent Remick will verify the contour of the terrain for the Klopmeier drainage complaint.

Motion to Adjourn

There being no further business, a motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Wilson, to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 p.m. A vote was answered aye by all

MAY 02, 2022

VILLAGE OF NEW ATHENS

members present.

Amy Benwell, Village Clerk
Joe Behnken, Village President