

6:30 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 Newbold, Politsch, Kearns, Fitzgerald, Geppert and Feder. Also present were Chris Remick, Superintendent of Public Works, and Andrew Green, Ambulance Director.

4.2

**VISITORS**

Mark Schreder, John & Mary Haubrich, Erin Wilson, Jason Bohannon and Kacey White

**READING OF THE JOURNAL (MINUTES)**

The board minutes from the September 18th regular board meeting had not been submitted to the board.

It was decided that the minutes from the regular board meeting on September 18<sup>th</sup>, as well as the Committee of the Whole minutes from September 12<sup>th</sup> and September 25<sup>th</sup>, and the regular board meeting from this meeting, would all be approved at the next regular board meeting on October 16<sup>th</sup>.

**REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION**

**MAYOR**

Mayor Behnken stated that the next Committee of the Whole meeting would be held on October 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. and a Special Board meeting would be held on that same date at 6:00 p.m. He stated that the Village Attorney would be present at the Special Board meeting to discuss litigation.

**VILLAGE CLERK**

The Village Clerk was not present.

Mayor Behnken suggested that the Village Hall be closed every Friday at 3:00 pm. so that the office staff can complete administrative duties without interruptions. This change would go into effect immediately.

A motion was made by Trustee Fitzgerald, seconded by Trustee Kearns, to approve the closure of Village Hall on Fridays at 3:00 p.m. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

**TREASURER'S TIME**

The Treasurer was not present.

**POLICE CHIEF**

Chief Buehler submitted the police activity log.

Buehler noted that he still has not received any applications for police officers. It was suggested to place an ad in other newspapers.

**SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS**

Superintendent Remick received a quote from Edwards Equipment for a 14,000 lb trailer in the amount of \$5685.00.

A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Politsch, to approve the purchase of a 14,000 lb trailer from Edwards Equipment in the amount of \$5685.00. A vote was answered aye by all members present, except for Trustee Feder, who voted nay.

Remick also received a quote from Vermeer Midwest for a mini excavator in the amount of \$65,430.00. This is the cost after a \$3,000.00 rebate.

A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Kearns, to approve the purchase of a mini excavator from Vermeer Midwest in the amount of \$65,430.00. A vote was answered aye by all members present, except for Trustee Feder, who voted nay.

**AMBULANCE SERVICE DIRECTOR**

Director Green stated that the waiver for the EMR's has been approved by the State of Illinois. The waiver is good until March 27, 2024, at which time it will be reevaluated.

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

**STREETS AND ALLEYS**

Nothing to report.

**FINANCE AND AUDIT**

The monthly bills were submitted for review and approval.

A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Geppert, to approve the payment of the monthly bills as submitted. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

The mayor noted that the Board would need to approve a transfer in the amount of \$20,000.00 from the Water & Sewer Account to the General Account.

A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Fitzgerald, to approve the transfer of \$20,000.00 from the Water & Sewer Account to the General Account. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

**WATER AND SEWER**

Nothing to report.

**PERSONNEL**

Nothing to report.

**PUBLIC PROPERTY AND PARKS**

Nothing to report.

**CEMETERY**

Trustee Newbold noted that the cemetery ordinance was reviewed regarding the rules of the cemetery and found that there were no changes needed with the ordinance. He stated that the current rules and regulations need to be enforced.

**ORDINANCE**

Nothing to report.

**IMPROVEMENTS AND GRANTS**

Trustee Politsch is working on several grants. One of the grants that she is working on is due this week and the Metro East Grant needs two proposals.

**PUBLIC SAFETY/ADA**

There was a discussion regarding raising the billing rates for the ambulance runs. It was noted that the last time the rates were increased was in 2017. Director Green is to find out the process of how to go about increasing the rates.

**MARINA**

The Board had previously discussed charging a rate for non-commercial rental of the pavilion at the campground. It was discussed to charge a fee of \$100.00.

A motion was made by Trustee Politsch, seconded by Trustee Newbold, to charge a rental fee of \$100.00 for the pavilion at the campground for non-commercial use. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

There was a brief discussion regarding whether the campground should be opened all year or not. It was decided to discuss this matter later.

It was mentioned that the current rates for the campground will need to be reviewed as well.

Superintendent Remick stated that he is having Total Eclipse make four different renditions of signs for the campground for the Board to review. He will have them at the next board meeting.

**REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

Nothing to report.

**COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDERS AND ORDINANCES**

Resolution 2023.08 was prepared for approval regarding the authorization of the CDBG Project PY2022.

A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Fitzgerald, to approve **RESOLUTION 2023-08**, regarding the authorization of the CDBG PY2022. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

Resolution 2023.09 was prepared for the continuation of the ambulance service.

A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Feder, to approve **RESOLUTION 2023-09**, for the continuation of the ambulance service. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

The Sparta Community Hospital Mobile Clinic would like to provide another day of the week in New Athens. In addition to their current day, Tuesdays, they would like to come on Thursdays from 7:30 a.m. through 11:00 a.m. beginning October 12th.

A motion was made by Trustee Politsch, seconded by Trustee Newbold, to allow Sparta Community Mobile Clinic to provide medical services in New Athens on Thursdays, from 7:30 a.m. through 11:00 a.m. beginning October 12th. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

The New Athens High School has asked if the Village would like to place an ad in their yearbook. The Village has purchased a \$30.00 ad in the past. The fee is due by November 3rd.

A motion was made by Trustee Kearns, seconded by Trustee Feder, to purchase an ad for \$30.00 for the New Athens High School yearbook. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

**Motion to Adjourn**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Trustee Kearns, seconded by Trustee Fitzgerald, to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

Joe Behnken, Village President

Nancy Ritter, Deputy Clerk