

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, Feder, Newbold, Politsch, and Kearns. Trustee Geppert was absent. Chris Remick, Superintendent of Public Works, was also present.

VISITORS

None.

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 Feder, seconded by Trustee Wilson, to approve the June 20, 2022 board minutes with correction. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION

MAYOR

Nothing to report.

VILLAGE CLERK

Village Clerk Benwell reported that the annual audit was going well. The on-site portion is complete and the final report will be available in late August.

TREASURER'S TIME

Mayor Behnken communicated that the June Treasurer's Report would be presented at the next board meeting.

POLICE CHIEF

Chief Simburger was not present.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS

Superintendent Remick reported that the oil and chip project will begin August 10, 2022. He also updated the board on campground construction.

AMBULANCE SERVICE DIRECTOR

Director Green was not present.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

STREETS AND ALLEYS

Trustee Politsch received a response from Huebner Concrete regarding the sidewalk project. They stated that the project would not begin until after September. Trustee Kearns will follow up. Trustee Kearns also requested the branch hanging down at

Village Hall be cut down prior to homecoming.

FINANCE AND AUDIT

The Finance and Audit Committee met prior to the meeting to review the monthly bills. A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Feder to approve payment of the monthly bills. Provisional approval was granted for payment of the WWTP Sludge Permit contingent upon verifying the invoiced amount of \$5,000.00. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

WATER AND SEWER

Nothing to report.

PERSONNEL

The Ambulance Service is still struggling with staffing. The closure of the New Athens Home for the Aged is a concern as well.

PUBLIC PROPERTY AND PARKS

The contracts for the chiropractor and dentist were up for renewal in June. Trustee Newbold will look into the contracts.

CEMETERY

Trustee Newbold indicated that he had checked on the cemetery and it looked nice. Signs have been ordered reminding residents to clean up after their pets and maintain cemetery decorations.

ORDINANCES

Trustee Politsch requested that the Village's banking ordinance be updated. An ordinance for the Tree City USA program needs to be written as well. Clerk Benwell is continuing to work with Municode on the online codification project.

IMPROVEMENTS AND GRANTS

Trustee Politsch and Trustee Geppert will participate in a webinar July 06, 2022 regarding a new outdoor warning system through the county. St. Clair County is hoping to obtain a grant to cover the cost of the new system countywide.

Trustee Politsch expressed interest in pursuing a Metro East Parks Grant. The grant would provide opportunities for the Village to invest in trails, parks, or community planning. Heartlands Conservancy works in conjunction with the grant. The grant covers up to 40% of project costs, with ranges between \$100,000.00-\$300,000.00. Trustee Newbold expressed concern about decreased sales tax revenue on consumables. He would prefer to hold off on any large projects until the Spotsylvania Resurfacing Project is complete.

Trustee Politsch also reported that she had been in communication with Payment Support Network to inquire about online payment options for residents. Clerk Benwell has a WebEx scheduled with FirsTech on July 12, 2022 to have a discovery session

about their online payment system. Trustee Politsch and Clerk Benwell will collaborate on their research into the feasibility of implementing an online payment option for residents.

PUBLIC SAFETY, AMBULANCE & ADA

EMT Josh Dietz requested approval for an additional ambulance crew both nights of the Homecoming. A motion was made by Trustee Feder, seconded by Trustee Politsch to approve one additional two-person crew from 5 p.m.- 12 a.m. Friday, July 15, 2022 and Saturday, July 16, 2022. A vote was answered aye by all members present. Clerk Benwell will discuss with Trustee Geppert the process for charging the Homecoming for the ambulance service.

MARINA

The previous contract for the Marina lease was shared with the board prior to the meeting. A workshop is scheduled for Thursday, July 7th, 2022 with one potential developer.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Clerk Benwell requested, in the absence of Trustee Geppert, approval to sponsor the Banana Bike Brigade for the homecoming parade. A motion was made by Trustee Feder, seconded by Trustee Newbold to approve the associated fee of \$500.00. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDERS AND ORDINANCES

Resolution No. 2022-02: Establishing Wages was presented, increasing special event pay for officers to \$24.00 per hour. A motion was made by Trustee Politsch, seconded by Trustee Newbold to approve Resolution No. 2022-02 Establishing Wages. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

Resolution No. 2022-03: Authorizing the Mayor to Invest Proceeds from Matured CDs 05/22/22, 06/12/22, and 06/22/22 in Obligations of the United States and Other Investments Insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation was presented. A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Politsch, to approve the investment policy. A vote was answered aye by Trustees Feder, Kearns, Politsch, and Newbold. Trustee Wilson replied nay. The motion passed.

Resolution No. 2022-04: Authorizing Fidelity Brokerage Services LLC as Investment Broker was presented. A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Politsch, to authorize Fidelity as the Village Investment Broker. A vote was answered aye by Trustees Feder, Kearns, Politsch, and Newbold. Trustee Wilson replied nay. The motion passed.

Ordinance No. 2022-01: Annual Appropriations Ordinance was presented. A motion was made by Trustee Politsch, seconded by Trustee Newbold, to approve the annual appropriations. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Public Property

Marina

The electrical outlet and structure renovation is two-thirds completed at the Marina. An electrician has been contracted. The contractor ordered a 400-amp panel. There is currently not power at the Marina. The plan is to run power lines underground. Superintendent Remick is waiting for Ameren's approval. Mr. Gilbert has been in contact with Ameren as well.

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. Thirty-one blocks completed as of 05/16/22.

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

Mayor Behnken inquired about the drainage ditch issue at 404 North East Street. Superintendent Remick has not found a solution to the issue. He expressed to the board that there is an ongoing list of work orders to be completed for residential issues. Due to a workforce shortage, cases are being managed as time allows.

PUBLIC PROPERTY & PARKS

Trustee Feder and Trustee Newbold talked to Matt Heet, a local drainage contractor. They discussed installing a complete drainage system, when the soccer season is over, at Okaw Valley Park.

Trustee Feder and an associate applied a solution to the areas that had mold at the medical building. A dehumidifier has been purchased.

OTHER

Trustee Feder and Trustee Kearns, along with Superintendent Remick plan to verify the contour of the terrain at the Klopmeier residence to address the drainage complaint.

Motion to Adjourn

There being no further business, a motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Politsch, to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

Amy Benwell, Village Clerk
Joe Behnken, Village President