

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 Newbold, Politsch, Kearns, Wilson, Geppert and Feder. Chris Remick, Superintendent of Public Works and Leo Simburger, Chief of Police were also present. Treasurer Sandy Stolte was absent.

VISITORS

Brian Otten was in attendance from Scheffel Boyle to present the Annual Audit Report.

MOTION TO MOVE FINANCE AND AUDIT

The Mayor invited a motion to reorder the agenda, moving Finance and Audit to immediately after the Visitors section. A motion was made by Trustee Feder, seconded by Trustee Newbold to approve moving Finance and Audit to immediately after the Visitors section. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

FINANCE AND AUDIT

Brian Otten of Scheffel Boyle, Certified Public Accountants, presented the Annual Audit Report. Mr. Otten discussed the village's fund accounts and reported that two loans had been paid off in the last year. Mr. Otten further indicated that the IMRF pension was healthy and that all things appeared in order based on the village's cash basis of accounting. Due to the small size of the village, Scheffel Boyle prepared the annual financial statements, which were reviewed by Mayor Behnken and Village Collector Benwell. Mr. Otten said it is Scheffel Boyle's opinion that the financial statements are correct as of April 30, 2022. A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Politsch to approve the Annual Financial Audit. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

A list of fund-to-fund transfers prepared by Mayor Behnken had been distributed prior to the meeting for approval. Trustee Politsch requested more detail be added to the spreadsheet. Clerk Benwell said she would send a detailed memo regarding the transfer information to the board in the future. A motion was made by Trustee Politsch, seconded by Trustee Newbold to approve the transfers. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

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 Geppert, to approve the September 06, 2022, board minutes. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION

MAYOR

The Mayor presented the August and Year to Date Financial Report. He expressed concern for the ongoing water loss. The water purchase continued to exceed the budget. The Mayor reported that one issue was the broken water line that had recently been repaired. He stated the cost of deferred maintenance during the next few years

will be expensive. A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Politsch to approve the August and Year to Date Financial Report. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

The Mayor discussed his ideas for creating a preventive maintenance and capital replacement reserve. He would like to utilize \$840,000.00 in United States treasury bills and brokered certificates of deposit to earmark the money by fund for capital replacement, deferred maintenance, and community improvements.

VILLAGE CLERK

Clerk Benwell previously distributed the Building Permit Report to the board prior to the meeting. The Building Permit Report was reviewed by the Building Commissioner, Chris Remick and will be presented at regular board meetings quarterly.

TREASURER'S TIME

Mayor Behnken presented the August and Year to Date Financial Report during the Mayor's time.

POLICE CHIEF

Chief Simburger requested permission to order two portable police radios and four car radios at a 47% discount from Motorola for \$12,764.75. Two car radios are completely inoperable in the police fleet currently. The others are obsolete at over eight years old. The two portable radios will be made available for use by the Emergency Services and Disaster Agency in the event of an emergency. A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Feder to approve the purchase of two portable radios and four car radios for \$12,764.75 from Motorola. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS

Superintendent Remick requested permission to order a booster pump for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The booster pump is used to force water through the fine grit screen while collecting rags. The booster pump is another deferred maintenance item. A motion was made by Trustee Feder, seconded by Trustee Politsch, to approve the purchase of a Baldor Motor Booster Pump through Alpha Supply Corp. for \$1201.10. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

Superintendent Remick provided the board with an estimate from Liquid Engineering for water tower cleaning and inspection, which is recommended every three to five years. It has been just over three years since the last cleaning and inspection. A motion was made by Trustee Feder, seconded by Trustee Newbold to approve a contract with Liquid Engineering to provide the cleaning and inspection for \$3905.00. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

Superintendent Remick provided the board with a quote from Vandevanter Engineering for either repair or purchase of a lift station pump. The repair would be \$31,290.00. A new pump would be \$28,452.00. Superintendent Remick will investigate variable

frequency drives as well.

The Department of Public Works has been working on street sweeping, culvert installations, alley maintenance, sewer jetting and ditch maintenance. Trustee Feder asked if the sewers could have a camera ran through prior to jetting. Superintendent Remick discussed a grouting procedure that could help tree root infiltration into the sewer system.

AMBULANCE SERVICE DIRECTOR

Director Green was not present.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES

STREETS AND ALLEYS

Trustee Kearns reported that he had reached out to Huebner Concrete, but they had not returned his calls.

WATER AND SEWER

Nothing to report.

PERSONNEL

Nothing to report.

PUBLIC PROPERTY AND PARKS

The dentist has returned the signed lease addendum for the medical building. Clerk Benwell will follow up with the chiropractor.

CEMETERY

Nothing to report.

ORDINANCES

Superintendent Remick discussed the need for a solar panel ordinance due to the increased interest in solar panels.

IMPROVEMENTS AND GRANTS

Trustee Politsch reported that she submitted the Tree City USA application last week. The village should have their designation as a Tree City USA soon. Mayor Behnken and Trustee Politsch had a zoom meeting with Heartlands Conservancy to discuss community planning, trails, and parks. Trustee Politsch and Clerk Benwell are still working on implementing an online payment option for residents.

PUBLIC SAFETY, AMBULANCE & ADA

Nothing to report.

MARINA

Superintendent Remick reported that Ameren is still four weeks out from connecting power at the Marina.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Nothing to report.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDERS AND ORDINANCES

The Day of Service held September 12, 2022 by New Athens High School was discussed. The board and Mayor would like to extend their gratitude for the students and organizers of the event.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Marina

Chief Simburger updated the board on the status of the remaining boat during the Police Chief's time. Ameren advised Superintendent Remick that it will be around October 19, 2022 when the power is connected at the Marina Campgrounds.

Streets & Alleys

Superintendent Remick will be retrenching the ditch for Dan Stevens on North East Street to address drainage concerns.

Water & Sewer

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. Thirty-eight blocks completed as of 9/19/22. Mayor Behnken requested an updated sewer map.

Motion to Adjourn

There being no further business, a motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Wilson, to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 p.m. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

Amy Benwell, Village Clerk
Joe Behnken, Village President