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, Wilson, Geppert and Feder. Also present were Chris Remick, Superintendent of Public Works and Sandy Stolte, Village Treasurer.

VISITORS

Devin Brown and Jake Renner were present for observation.

READINGOF THE JOURNAL(MINUTES)

The minutes from the January 16, 2023 board meeting had been distributed for approval. There was one spelling error noted.

A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Feder, to approve the minutes from the January 16, 2023, board meeting with the noted correction. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION

MAYOR

A list of regular board meetings for 2023 was presented to the board for approval.

A motion was made by Trustee Politsch, seconded by Trustee Newbold, to approve the 2023 regular board meeting list. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

Amy Ohlendorf was interviewed for the Village Clerk/Collector positions and the mayor is recommending that she be appointed for those positions.

A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Politsch, to approve the mayor's appointment of Amy Ohlendorf as Village Clerk/Collector. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

The mayor is recommending the appointment of Andy Fauth as Village Treasurer.

A motion was made by Trustee Feder, seconded by Trustee Newbold, to approve the mayor's appointment of Andy Fauth as Village Treasurer. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

There was a request to extend Leo Simburger's medical leave for the month of February. It was suggested that this discussion be held in executive session towards the end of the meeting.

A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Feder, to go into executive session towards the end of the regular meeting to discuss Leo Simburger's medical leave. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

It was mentioned that an interim police chief would need to be assigned until Leo Simburger could return to work. It was decided that the discussion for this matter should take place in executive session.

A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Feder, to move the discussion for assigning an interim police chief into executive session towards the end of the regular meeting. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

The board interviewed for a full-time police officer position. It was recommended to hire Aaron Stories as a full-time police officer effective 02/21/2023.

A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Politsch, to hire Aaron Stories as a full-time police officer. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

VILLAGECLERK

The Deputy Clerk had nothing to report.

TREASURER’STIME

The Treasurer had nothing to report.

POLICECHIEF

Chief Simburger was not present.

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS

A proposal for five portable radios for the public works department was received from St. Louis Electronics in the amount of $2,300.00. A five-year warranty for all five radios would be an additional $325.00.

A motion was made by Trustee Geppert, seconded by Trustee Politsch, to approve the purchase of five portable radios for the public works department from St. Louis Electronics in the amount of $2,300.00 with the five year warranty on all five radios for $325.00. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

Three trees behind Lehr's Meat Market need to be removed. Chris Remick received a quote from American Tree for $2,000.00. This would be for the removal of the trees only. Remick stated that the stumps will stay, and the village will clean up the debris. Remick said the owner of Lehr's would pay for half of the cost.

A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Geppert, to have American Tree do the removal of three trees behind Lehr's Meat Market in the amount of $2,000.00 with the understanding that the village will clean up the debris and Lehr's would pay for half the cost. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

The mayor asked on status of the campground. Remick stated that he is hoping to have it ready by May 1st.

AMBULANCE SERVICE DIRECTOR

Director Green was not present.

REPORTOFSTANDINGCOMMITTEES

STREETS AND ALLEYS

Nothing to report.

FINANCE AND AUDIT

The Audit Committee reviewed the monthly bills and recommended they be approved as presented.

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

WATERANDSEWER

Reliable Sanitation has increased the monthly trash rate 4%. It was recommended to increase our rate 4% as well which would make the monthly trash fee go from $17.53 to $18.24 per month.

A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Geppert, to increase the monthly trash fee to $18.24 per month due to the 4% increase by Reliable Sanitation. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

Volkert Engineering needs the board's approval to advertise for bids for the IGD Sewer Replacement.

A motion was made by Trustee Feder, seconded by Trustee Politsch, to authorize the advertisement for bids for the IGD Sewer Replacement. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

PERSONNEL

The board will go into executive session towards the end of the meeting.

PUBLIC PROPERTY AND PARKS

The mayor noted that a public hearing will be held on February 27th regarding vacating property.

CEMETERY

Trustee Newbold stated that he will reach out to Countryside Lawn Care to see if they will be interested in mowing the cemeteries this year.

ORDINANCE

Nothing to report.

IMPROVEMENTS AND GRANTS

Trustee Politsch noted that the Tree Board met two weeks ago regarding being designated in Tree USA. She requested a budget of $2,500.00 for the Tree Advisory Board to use for tree maintenance.

A motion was made by Trustee Politsch, seconded by Trustee Geppert, to give the Tree Advisory Board a $2,500.00 budget. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

PUBLIC SAFETY/ADA

A proposal was received from Warner Communications for a pager for the ambulance service in the amount of $896.40. A proposal was received from Motorola Solutions for 2 portable radios for the ambulance service in the amount of $5,455.22.

A motion was made by Trustee Geppert, seconded by Trustee Politsch, to approve the purchase of a pager for the ambulance service from Warner Communications in the amount of $896.40 and two portable radios for the ambulance service from Motorola Solutions in the amount of $5,455.22. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

MARINA

Nothing to report.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Nothing to report.

COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDERS AND ORDINANCES

The mayor presented the board with RESOLUTION No. 2022-07, naming him as the authorized agent for IMRF. There was a brief discussion addressing this as currently, the Deputy Clerk can do the monthly reports and the new Village Clerk will be doing it once she starts.

A motion was made by Trustee Feder, seconded by Trustee Geppert, to table approving RESOLUTION No. 2022-07, naming the mayor as the IMRF Authorized Agent. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

The mayor presented the board with RESOLUTION No. 2022-08, for the set up of a separate sub account for the business tax income.

A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Politsch, to approve RESOLUTION No. 2022-08, to set up a separate sub account for the business tax income. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

RESOLUTION No. 2022-09 was presented to the board to proceed with the 2023 CDBG grant. There was some discussion regarding the project, which would be placement of sidewalks.

A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Feder, to approve RESOLUTION No. 2022-09, proceeding with the 2023 CDBG grant. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Nothing to report.

A motion was made by Trustee Geppert, seconded by Trustee Newbold, to enter into executive session regarding personnel at 7:24 p.m. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

The meeting returned to regular session at 8:30 p.m.

The board discussed extending Leo Simburger's medical leave and that he is not to be paid his regular salary for this time off. He may use any sick or vacation time he has.

A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Geppert, to approve Leo Simburger's medical leave without his regular salary. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

It was discussed to table assigning an interim chief at this time.

A motion was made by Trustee Newbold, seconded by Trustee Geppert, to table assigning an interim chief at this time. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

There being no further business, a motion was made by Trustee Geppert, seconded by Trustee Newbold, to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

Joe Behnken, Village President

Nancy Ritter, Deputy Clerk