

Committee of the Whole Minutes with Special board Meeting

June 24, 2024

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm by Mayor Joe Behnken. In attendance were Board Members John Feder, Arlene Geppert, Debby Politsch, Rich Fitzgerald and Steve Newbold. Visitors present were Devin Brown, Jason Bohannon and Ashley Floyd.

3. Streets and Alleys

3.1 Discussion of tree removal process 104 North Johnson. Ashley Floyd is requesting a tree to be removed due to its causing damage to her roof. The tree is on Village easement. She is not interested in having the offending branch trimmed/removed. According to the Ordinance, she is required to pay half of the cost to which she is agreeable. Supt. Chris Remick will be instructed to obtain bids in order to begin the process.

3.2. Vote to approve the Construction Engineering Contract for the Spotsylvania Project. There is a shortfall of \$170,000-\$210,000 to complete covering the cost for the Project. This is due to the sums of the grants vs. the increase in material, labor and engineering costs differential. This is beyond the Village's control. The Village can use MFT, TIF and Business District funds to make up the difference. The Village is not bound by anything at this point but time is of the essence in order for timely submission for the August 2nd bid letting. Joe is inquiring about a loan from FNBW based on tax income to be used if needed.

Motion to approve Construction Engineering Contract made by Politsch and seconded by Newbold.

Roll Call vote

Feder- Yes, Fitzgerald- Yes, Geppert- Yes, Newbold-Yes, Politsch-Yes. Motion carried.

5. Water and Sewer

5.1. Discussion of request for water late payment penalty waiver. Motion to not grant the waiver and follow the past practice procedure made by Newbold and seconded by Feder. All voted Aye, motion carried.

5.2 May 2024 Water purchase/sold report. The Mayor is proposing the purchase of approximately 500 new water meters in order to get the usage/sold to 110%. Currently it is around 120%. Meters are being replaced in a systematic process that seems to be improving the discrepancy without involving a large cash outlay. The plan is to continue to monitor.

6. Personnel

Executive Session.

7. Public Property and Parks

7.1 Ball Diamond maintenance at Okaw Valley Park. The Board feels that this is still the Village's responsibility and not the Little League's. Problem with the T-Ball diamond is better thanks to the Village workers. Debby to look into a Park's Grant and John is going to get bids/proposals to work with Debbie.

11. Public Safety. Two new sites have been chosen by St. Clair County for sirens to improve notification.

12. Marina. Removal still pending. John states the buildings will be removed and determined if the substructure is still useful. No evidence of the buildings being occupied by homeless persons. Still plans to move the boat slips to the other side for use by campers.

13. Other Business

13.1. Pay Policeman for personal day due to shortage of police officers. Due to an officer being out, Chief Buehler and Officer Barry have pulled extra coverage duty and have requested a personal day. Rich motioned to allow 1 personal day, for Tim and Jason only, to be used within a 90 day period. John seconded. Motion carried

13.2 ESDA/EMA use of surplus police car. Devin Brown is requesting the use of the Impala for ESDA use in traffic control, damage assessments, training and shelter transport. The vehicle will be modified as needed. Motion by Newbold and seconded by Debby. Motion carried with Arlene abstaining.

13.3. Other business. None at this time

13.4. Discussion on specifics of the online payment plan. Tabled, pending the installation of the new computers, LOCIS and EPay system.

14. Motion to Adjourn made by Arlene and seconded by Rich. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

Minutes submitted by Steve Newbold