

VILLAGE OF MANSFIELD
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
February 3, 2020

The Village of Mansfield Board of Trustees met at the NPPFD meeting room on Washington St. in Mansfield at 7:00pm with Andy Stiger presiding. Roll was taken with April Manning, Lucas Gilbert, Ron Konen, Todd Jones, Jessica Bartley and Don Deffenbaugh physically present. Bill Hardy was also present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES, BILLS PAYABLE

Stiger requested a motion to approve the regular minutes of January 6, 2020. **Gilbert moved, Konen seconded to approve the January 6, 2020 regular meeting minutes. Roll call: ALL YES. Motion carried 6-0.** Stiger requested a motion to approve the Special Projects Committee meeting minutes of January 20, 2020. **Gilbert moved, Manning seconded to approve the January 20, 2020 Special Project Committee meeting minutes. Roll call: ALL YES. Motion carried 6-0.** Stiger requested a motion to approve the Bills Payable for February 2020. Clerk Place said there was now more detailed bills coming from Fehr-Graham. Gilbert mentioned that the attorney fees so far this fiscal year total about \$12,000. **Konen moved, Gilbert seconded to approve the Bills Payable for January 2020. Roll call: ALL YES. Motion carried 6-0.**

TREASURER'S REPORT

There was not a Treasurer's Report since there was no bank statement received yet. It will be available next month.

OLD BUSINESS

Village Easter Event

Manning said the Easter Egg Hunt will be April 4, with April 11 as a rain date, and it will be at 11am. The First Mid bank will be donating \$250 and Deena Carico donated a bag of candy. Manning said the Mahomet IGA will donate a \$25 gift card and she will buy hot dogs with this. She said Sherman's Small Engine will also be donating. She has asked Mansfield Winksmart and has not heard back on a donation from them yet. Gilbert said Apex Energy has grants available to apply for and that money could be used for the Easter event. Manning said she is not interested in asking them for help. Audience member Melissa Godbee said she would make a donation so no one will have to ask Apex for money. Stiger said he will see if he can get the hot dogs donated. There was discussion about a bounce house from a company in Bloomington this is cheaper than Action Inflatables but they don't provide staff to stay and supervise the bounce house.

Circus

Gilbert said the Village has missed out on the circus for 2020 but he will look at getting on their calendar for 2022.

Water Committee

Konen said he would like to have a Water Committee meeting this month. It was decided it would be Monday, Feb. 24 at 6:30pm at the fire station. Tom Overmyer said he is ready to submit the permit application to the railroad for the West Street crossing licensing agreement. He will need a check for \$12,000 later for that license.

Motor Fuel Tax / Streets/Drainage Committee

Overmyer said he has the MFT closeout paperwork. He wants to get the 2020 program set up at the March meeting. Stiger requested the Streets/Drainage Committee set up a meeting to be ready for the MFT roadwork. It will be Feb. 24 at 7pm at the fire station.

Water Main Replacement Project Update

Fehr-Graham gave an update on the project. They said the Village's adopted water rate increase will get funds in line to be \$30/month by 2023. They explained Village finances over the next few years, showing things look very good and stable. Deffenbaugh asked about a start date. Fehr-Graham answered that the time table looks to be the same as projected, with a start about July 2020. Konen asked when the board will find out the status of the loan and the answer was "not until the bids are in hand." Everything has been sent to Springfield and the outcome should be known sometime April through June. They explained the State has nearly run out of money for the current year projects and Village money awarded would come out of the next fiscal year's budget, which starts July 1. Overmyer said the \$12,000 needed for the railroad will be paid out before the outcome of the loan is known, but that money is good forever, for whenever the project is completed.

Water Tower Cleaning

Deffenbaugh asked if there is a date set for water tower interior cleaning and Konen said not yet.

Hurley Property

Deffenbaugh asked where the Board is at with the Hurley property. Stiger said he had until February 15 to get the buses moved out of sight, but he also thought it had not been dry enough and was too muddy to make that happen yet.

210 W. Short

Amy Rupiper has had no luck serving the owners with papers but she can publish them in the paper instead. She had a notice that the property will be sold for taxes soon, which is in the Village's favor. It could be about 3 months to get an order for demolition.

150th Birthday Celebration

Deffenbaugh said his availability for the committee would be limited in the Spring due to work. Gilbert said he looked back at old papers from the previous celebration and there was not a lot of events that would transfer to today - a queen pageant and people growing beards out and paying fines.

NEW BUSINESS

Providing a Link for Meetings on Facebook

Manning said she would like a link added to the agenda posting on Facebook so people could find the live feed for meetings easily. Some board members commented on how easy they were able to find the live stream without having a link. **Manning moved, Konen seconded to add a link to YouTube to the posting about the agenda to Facebook. Roll call: ALL YES. Motion carried 6-0.**

Dog Park

Gilbert mentioned an idea he had about putting in a dog park in the Village. He thought it could possibly go in at 210 W. Short when that property is cleaned up. There could even be a fundraiser to help with the cost of installing fence, benches, a double gate, dog clean-up station, and more. Gilbert suggested a 4-6 foot tall fence and Deffenbaugh asked about lights being added. Gilbert thought being open just dawn to dusk would eliminate the need for lights.

Treasurer Position

Konen said he wanted the board to consider either changing the Treasurer position to elected or to get rid of the position and add it to the Clerk's job to make it one position of Clerk/Treasurer. Rupiper said nothing forbids the clerk from being the Treasurer also and she listed several towns that do that very thing. Rupiper said the ordinance would have to change and the bond for the position may have to be changed with insurance. Gilbert did not like the idea of combining and wanted to keep two positions. Deffenbaugh said the board would have to think about a pay scale for this job, if it did become one. Stiger asked Konen if he had talked to the Finance Committee about this yet and Konen said he had not. Stiger said Tom Gilbert would be getting the board the reports they wanted next month so the Treasurer Reports could be approved. Konen discussed the standard of bringing things to Committees before they came to the Board. Stiger thought this was a big enough item, a lot of thought would need to go into it ahead of time, unlike items like a dog park. **Konen moved, Jones seconded to authorize Amy Rupiper to look into what has to happen to combine the clerk and Treasurer jobs. Roll call: Gilbert and Deffenbaug NO. Manning, Konen, Jones, and Bartley YES. Motion carried 4-2.** Rupiper said she would report back to the Board and Stiger asked for a Finance Committee meeting to be held once that report was received.

FY19 Audit Report

Clerk Place passed out the FY19 audit report from Feller & Kuester. She shared what Neil Kuester had to say about the Village finances, which was that everything was looking very good. The board will need to vote to accept the report at the March meeting and also to accept the quote for the FY20 audit.

Lease with Never Neater for Village Shed Rental

Stiger said the lease with Never Neater Painting was up in July 2019 and asked the board about getting them to renew for another year or two. Jones said the renter was not doing any mowing and had burned trash next to the building. Clerk Place mentioned to Amy Rupiper about the taxes on that property and how a form needed to be filled out to be exempt from paying taxes, which Rupiper took to complete. Hardy said the village does mow there now but it does not take long and it is on their way to mowing the park. **Konen moved, Deffenbaugh seconded to ask**

Never Neater about renewing the rental lease. Roll call: ALL YES. Motion carried 6-0. Jones will approach the renter about extending the lease.

Release of Certain Closed Minutes

Clerk Place said the only set of minutes Attorney Rupiper recommended opening would be from June 26, 2019.

Konen moved, Gilbert moved to open the June 26, 2019 closed session minutes to the public. Roll call: ALL YES. Motion carried 6-0.

Audience Comments

None

Gilbert moved, Manning seconded to adjourn the meeting. Roll call: ALL YES. Motion carried 6-0. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by:

/s/ Melissa Place

Melissa Place, Village Clerk