

VILLAGE HALL OF HARRISTOWN

August 23, 2021

The Village of Harristown Board of Trustees held their monthly meeting on August 23, 2021 at 185 N. Kembark St, Harristown, IL. Trustees Teresa Acree, Kourt Mooney, Jay Trusner, Larry Ditty, Kevin Vessels, Les Jenkins, Treasurer Julie Rose, Budget Officer Rick Laskowski, Attorney Andrew Weatherford, Clerk Penny Allen and Mayor Evelyn Deverell were present. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Visitors

Lori Forsyth-Cardinal Restaurant Group-discussed a second gaming location at 4310 W Main. Would like to serve alcoholic drinks. She believes this will give people several different options for gaming and would stay in the area due to having all the locations. Would be 2 Debbie's gambling parlor in the area

Auditor Report

Kevin Buckley-auditor from McGuire, Yuhas, Huffman and Buckley-discussed the audit. The list of deficiencies get smaller each year. If anyone has any questions, contact him.

Adopt Meeting Agenda

Motion by Trustee Kevin Vessels to adopt the meeting agenda. Trustee Larry Ditty 2nd. Approved 6-0

Approval of Minutes 7/26/2021

Motion by Trustee Teresa Acree to approve the minutes from 7/26/2021. Trustee Jay Trusner 2nd. Approved 6-0.

Mayor Updates

Veterans Memorial/1st Responder-\$1055 was collected at the fundraiser that was held at the auction on W. William Street (food booth) All items were donated so this was all profit

Howard Buffett-Mayor sent a letter to him inviting him to come to the September 4, 2021 event; he is not able to attend.

Census-according to last census, Harristown has 1310 residents

Storage boxes-the conference room has boxes of items that are very old. Currently making a list to see what can be tossed/shredded. This will be sent to state to get the time limit of the items and see what can be destroyed.

Website-new pictures have been added

Celebration-the celebration will be held Sept. 4, 2021 from 3 pm-8 pm-fireworks afterwards.

Treasurer

Payback to General Fund from TIF is completed \$39,649 (on 7/27). Sewer Fund did not break even

We will get business tax from items people order on line (example Amazon purchases)

Atchision Electric generator repair \$1062.09 SF

Page -2-

Village Hall of Harristown

August 23, 2021

Chastain IEPA Observation \$ 1165.03 WF

IEPA Management \$ 2855.37 WF

General Code code analysis&composition 21-03/21-04 \$ 1280 GF

McGuire, Yuhas, Huffman&Buckley audit \$ 9435 GF SF WF

Total \$ 15,797.49 (GF \$ 4582.25, SF \$ 3420.84, WF \$ 7794.40)

Motion by Trustee Kevin Vessels to approve the above payments. Trustee Les Jenkins 2nd. Approved 6-0.

Gaming funds are going into Scott State Bank now.

Motion by Trustee Teresa Acree to accept the Treasurers report. Trustee Larry Ditty 2nd. Approved 6-0.

Budget Officer Report

Budget Officer Laskowski discussed. Report shows cash basis instead of accrual. Motion by Trustee Kourt Mooney to approve. Trustee Jay Trusner 2nd. Approved 6-0. BO Laskowski will let Board know if something goes haywire on a budgeted item.

Engineer Report

Project 6899 water improvement/tower/IEPA loan-water tower painting is underway. Decatur interconnect pump station is in production. Burdick planning to get chemical feed vault at new water tower. Invoice for Caldwell Tank is \$156,853.80-tank erection minus 10% retainage. The loan disbursement request will include Caldwell and Chastain bills.

Brown Anderson Easement-this has been sold. Previous easement offer was presented to the new owners. They said they would only consider granting easement if village was willing to increase their monetary offer for easement. Offer presented was \$4820 based on estimated value of crops affected. Does Board want to continue with this and offer more money or discontinue? They would like considerable amount more than what we offered. Board prefers to stop this negotiation process; Engineer was instructed to stop further negotiations. This is not needed at this time. Per Ron Legner, Engineer, the loop would help flow and pressure but not sure how much it would be worth. Trustee Jay Trusner questioned if everything is legal now with the water tower issue on the labor? Mr. Legner said they have been in touch via email, not 100% there but still working on it and making headway.

MFT Drainage-plans for ditch grading and culvert replacement project are getting close to completed. When ready, they will go to IDOT for approval prior to advertising for bid. The goal is to bid it and complete this fall.

Suburban Street Jurisdictional Transfer-Village ordinance accepting responsibility for the roadway has been sent for IDOT review. When IDOT approves language, the village can move forward with the final roadway acceptance. MFT can't be used until Suburban Street is our jurisdiction.

Motion by Trustee Kevin Vessel to approve payment request #4 to Caldwell Tank for \$156,853.80. Trustee Teresa Acree 2nd. Approved 6-0.

Page -3-

Village Hall of Harristown

August 23, 2021

Public Works

Jonathon Closs discussed. Lightening struck the tower and loss communication between the tower and the water plant. Village is trying to get reimbursed from the insurance for the overtime and bills for repair.

New truck bought from Rockford IL. F350 dually, extended cab, \$28,950. Received \$14,675 from equipment sold at auction.

Mayor Deverell requested Jonathon Closs and Jeremy Embrey to try and get their sewer license asap.

140 S Birks-Mr. Lyons was asking about the drainage at this location. Mr. Closs said the first step is to put a bigger culvert. Mayor questioned if there is an Illinois Drainage Law for natural waterways. Mr. Legner and Attorney Weatherford will check. Mayor will also tell Mr. Lyons the village does not repair field tile on residents property. A letter will need to be sent to residents to replace culvert, elevation and regrade on residents property; Birks west to Meridian. Mayor asked Jonathon to have EJ Water track their time

Zoning-nothing to report

Old Business

Corrected ordinance 21-05-added 2002 service truck

Motion by Trustee Teresa Acree to approve as ordinance 21-06, annexation of property at 115 N. Fairway Ave. Trustee Kevin Vessels 2nd. Roll call: Trustee Trusner, yes; Trustee Mooney, yes; Trustee Jenkins, yes; Trustee Vessels, yes; Trustee Acree, yes; Trustee Ditty, yes. Approved 6-0.

New Business

An additional liquor license may be needed. Class D approved for Cardinal Restaurant group. Ordinance says we have 2 class A. Pops Place has a Class A. Moms Place should be a Class D. A class D license was approved last year for Cardinal Restaurant.

Harristown will receive \$175,639.92 from the ARPA funds (America Recovery Plan Act). The money has been applied for; should hit bank account any time. Have 2 years to spend money. Village needs drainage, sewage work, rehab of old water tower. Could use money for this and then take out another IEPA load or use IEPA we have been putting back to rehab water tower. Most engineering has been done for this water tower rehab. At next meeting, Mayor Deverell requested the Board to give their opinion on what to use the money for. Need to have a study session for this issue

Motion by Trustee Kevin Vessels to grant 2nd liquor license to Cardinal Restaurant for Debbie's, class D. Trustee Les Jenkins 2nd. Roll call: Trustee Trusner, yes; Trustee Mooney, yes; Trustee Jenkins, yes; Trustee Ditty, yes; Trustee Acree, yes; Trustee Vessels, yes. Approved 6-0. Village now has 2 class A and 2 class D. Should be 1 class A and 3 class D. Mayor will talk to Mom's Place to let them know they should have a class D license; they do not qualify for an A license.

Village Hall of Harristown

August 23, 2021

Addition of attorney fee for court costs-Attorney Weatherford mentioned to Mayor about going back and forth to court on ordinance violations; thought could add the attorney fees into the fines. He needs to look at this more. Currently our ordinance does not state that attorney fees can be added. Tabled until next month. Trustee Vessels said he found state statute stating fees can be added.

Ordinance Committee

Meeting was held August 17, 2021. Discussed raising garbage license fee to \$ 50 (currently \$25). Ordinance, under the liquor code, says it is illegal to have gaming facilities. Mayor will send to the Attorney and also delete fortune tellers from ordinance. Attorney will work on electronic attendance at meetings; this can be adopted

Water and Sewer Committee

Update URWC -meeting last Thursday; water plant should be on line by March 2022

Water Rate increase-3% increase will take effect on September 1, 2021. Our ordinance currently says this takes effect every May; it was not done in May.

Economic Development Committee

Trustee Les Jenkins and Mayor Deverell met with Mr. Mueller; Mueller Distributing. They wanted to let him know we are making an effort to bring more business in town

Farmland – Board is ok with sending letter to farmers that own certain land, asking if they want to annex into Village. The taxes would not go up but would be beneficial to us.

Motion by Trustee Jay Trusner to enter closed session to discuss personnel, ordinance violations and attorney duties. Trustee Teresa Acree 2nd. Approved 6-0

Entered closed session at 8:51 pm

Back to regular session at 9:42 pm

Motion by Trustee Kevin Vessels for the Attorney to pursue the demolition case at 210 N Kembark St Harristown, IL. Trustee Teresa Acree 2nd. Approved

Motion by Trustee Jay Trusner for the Attorney to pursue the demolition case at 153 Western, upon receipt of additional inspection. Trustee Kourt Mooney 2nd. Approved 5-1

A company is extremely interested in having a cannabis dispensary and smoking lounge in Harristown. Need to research about the distancing of this. Luna Lounge, in Sesser, Illinois, is interested in building a dispensary and smoking lounge. They currently have one in Sesser; the only one in the State of Illinois. Our ordinance does not mention a lounge. They are legal and they wanted to know if we would amend ordinance to say only one smoking lounge/dispensary allowed in Harristown. Potential of 3 dispensaries licenses granted in Macon county. From the time a license is issued, have to be in building and making

Page -5-

Village Hall of Harristown

August 23, 2021

progress in 6 months. Looking at Parks property and other properties. They wanted to know about TIF funds. Mayor will be making calls. Board needs to decide if they would be willing to add smoking lounge to ordinance, limit to one dispensary/smoking lounge in Harristown and willing to help them with TIF money. Trustee Jay Trusner mentioned a friend of his has a business in Springfield, by a dispensary, and people try to break into his business. Cliental has really went down and hang out at the parking lot according to this business owner. Need to find out how far from a church also. Mayor Deverell requested Board not to mention where they are looking at.

Motion by Trustee Kevin Vessels to adjourn. Trustee Les Jenkins 2nd. Approved 6-0

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 pm

Penny J. Allen

Village Clerk