

VILLAGE HALL OF HARRISTOWN

March 22, 2021

The Village of Harristown Board of Trustees held their monthly meeting on March 22, 2021 at 185 N. Kembark, Harristown, IL. Trustees Les Jenkins, Larry Ditty, Kevin Vessels, Teresa Acree, Kourt Mooney, Treasurer Rose, Budget Officer Laskowski, Attorney Weatherford, Clerk Allen and Mayor Deverell were present. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Visitors

Rodney Allen and Ron Whitney-from the Sangamon Valley Youth League asked if the Village would be willing to help with the operating expenses of the youth league. Operating expense is \$8600; 151 kids are signed up. Examples of expenses is taking care of the concession building each game; they pay each person \$25, 34 days approx. Referees are paid \$50/game, 6 games a night. Rental of porta-potty is \$150 week for 3 of them. Mr. Whitney is trying to get permission from Sangamon Valley school district to build restrooms; this would also be helpful for the 4th of July celebration.

Consent agenda/minutes

Motion by Trustee Kevin Vessels to adopt the consent agenda. Trustee Teresa Acree 2nd. Approved 5-0.

Approve 2-22-2021 meeting minutes

Page -1- spelling should be "Veterans" Should read "sell, not sale" Need to add the Thank you card that was received from Pop's place was for waiving the liquor license fees and gaming fees for 2021. Under Stimulas, should read "lost" Page -2-, easement properties, should not read "stop negotiation fees" Treasurer Rose will continue spreadsheet for negotiations. Page -4-, sick day, read public "works, not work". Motion by Trustee Ditty to approve minutes with above corrections. Trustee Kevin Vessels 2nd. Approved 5-0.

Motion by Trustee Teresa Acree to accept Jay Trusner to fill the vacant trustee seat of Becky Nave. Les Jenkins 2nd. Approved 5-0. Clerk Allen swore Mr. Trusner in.

Mayor Updates

The Community building was rented Saturday night for a party and the sewer/water backed up. Sunday the building was rented again and the same thing happened. Kelly Sewer came to clean out and had no luck. Today they vacuumed and ran a camera and they think it may be collapsed. The contractor will pay for all of the costs involved for this (employee's time, Kelly Sewer, cost of the rental refund); they will be out tomorrow between 1000-noon.

Treasurers Report-Authorize Paying of Bills.

Treasurer Julie Rose discussed. A big hitter was the bill for the electrical work for the pole barn; it was split 50% general fund, 30% water fund and 20% sewer fund. Motion by Trustee Larry Ditty to approve. Trustee Les Jenkins 2nd. Approved 6-0.

Chastain IEPA Water system \$ 4070; easement negotiations \$ 1966.07. Discussion was held regarding negotiations. Ron Legner stated the cost so far has been \$8807.58 for this easement. Trustee Jay Trusner questioned if there was a plan B. At this point, no plan B.

Attorney Drew Weatherford said another alternative would be eminent domain but it is very expensive. Mr. Legner said no more hours are pending, as of right now, to be charged to this easement work. Trustee Kourt Mooney questioned the acreage on Gouge Road and on Township Road. Mr. Legner was not sure. He said he did go to the township meeting and they voted to table it and send to their attorney. Trustee Kourt Mooney said we don't want to give up anything that is ours. If the township vacates, can we take their portion? Attorney was not sure but these items should be discussed in closed session.

Gunther salt – water plant \$ 4682.74. Motion by Trustee Teresa Acree to approve the 3 bills (all out of water fund account), total \$10,718.92. Trustee Kevin Vessels 2nd. Approved 6-0.

Received the EPA check \$34,000 and a check was sent to Caldwell Tanks

Budget Officers Report

BO Rick Laskowski discussed. He also distributed the Budget draft. Study session will be held Friday @ 4:30 p.m. Board members need to look this over so a discussion can be held then. Motion by Trustee Vessels to approve the budget report. Trustee Larry Ditty 2nd. Approved 6-0.

Engineer Report

Project 6899 water improvements/tower/IEPA Loan-foundation is completed. Received deliveries of the steel water tower components. Shop drawings of the Decatur interconnect pump station have been reviewed and station is in production. Water tower erection is expected to begin in May; final completion by end of November. Unemployment is about 5% in state, contracted work funded thru the state, must have 90% of Illinois workers on project. Caldwell is an out of state contractor and they used their own crews; they talked to labor department and can ask for a waiver. Earlier this year, advertised the project for Illinois workers; 100 not qualified, 35 sent and 16 remaining were Illinois residents. No elevated welding experience. Must be endorsed by the village before they can request a waiver. Mr. Legner suggested the village submit a letter to the Dept of Labor along with Caldwell's attachment. Caldwell, in good faith, tried to find qualified Illinois workers. Need waiver before 5/26/21. If the unemployment level goes down, requirement is not needed. Attorney Weatherford questioned confusion with who was putting forth the request for the waiver, Village or Caldwell? Mr. Legner said the request is from the contractor; village has to endorse. He will talk to Caldwell and get more information. This can be discussed at the meeting Friday night. Trustee Teresa Acree would like to see the ad that Caldwell placed.

Loop Water Main/Existing Water Tower Rehab-efforts to finalize agreement continues *MFT/Drainage*-Chastian plans to take topographic survey shots in the ditches of Suburban subdivision to facilitate plans to re-grade the ditches and culverts for better drainage.

Public Works

No report. The village is loosing a lot of water somewhere. The storage tank is low; looking for a water leak. John Morgan thinks we are loosing 20,000 to 30,000 gallons of water a day. We are isolating one part of the village at a time trying to find the leak.

Concrete floor for pole barn floor-Trustee Kourt Mooney discussed the situation there. He said the heat is running there and with the gravel floor, moisture is rising to the top. He suggested maybe concreting ½ of the building, put up a partition, don't need to heat entire building. Perhaps get an estimate both ways; he believes we will get savings back by not heating entire building. Motion by Trustee Les Jenkins for the village to get two bids for concrete work, all of building and ½ of building bids, 6" pack, wire reinforcement. Trustee Jay Trusner 2nd. Approved 6-0.

Doors-Treasurer Julie Rose questioned the doors; Mayor was to get more info on them. Mayor said they were done. Trustee Teresa Acree said Mayor Deverell called Trustees to discuss.

Zoning

Nothing to report

Old Business

Lease with A.C.T.S for water tower antenna- Tabled

Generac Warranty (generator)-The sewer plant has a generator not working properly. Mayor Deverell has someone scheduled to look at it; it is out of warranty. The generator at the Village hall have a 5 year warranty, 3 years parts only, 4 to 5 years, engine only. Ten year extended warranty is \$995, covers full coverage labor/parts but not routine maintenance. Does the Board want to spend the money for this? Board feels we need someone qualified to do the routine maintenance. Mayor Deverell will ask the guy that is coming out to look at the other generator, if he is certified to do routine maintenance.

2021 Fireworks-June 26 will be the villages' 4th of July celebration. We have budgeted the normal \$15,000 for fireworks. Motion by Trustee Teresa Acree to approve to give the fire department \$15,000 for fireworks. Trustee Kevin Vessels 2nd. Roll call: Trustee Jay Trusner, yes; Trustee Kourt Mooney, yes; Trustee Les Jenkins, yes; Trustee Kevin Vessels, yes; Trustee Teresa Acree, yes; Trustee Larry Ditty, yes. Approved 6-0.

Stahl Well Lease Payment- Mayor Deverell is still waiting to hear back from the owner.

New Business

New bank account for Veterans Memorial Fund- Currently \$750 in this fund. Can Treasurer set up a separate fund for this? Attorney Weatherford not sure but will check. Tabled.

Attorney Fees-Currently paying \$825/month; he is requesting a raise to \$875/month. Motion by Trustee Teresa Acree to increase the pay for Attorney Weatherford to \$875/month, beginning May 1, 2021. Trustee Kevin Vessels 2nd. Approved 6-0.

Fundraising for Veterans Memorial-The spaghetti dinner is coming up. A suggestion was made to have a golf cart poker run. Could start at Village hall and end up at Pop's Place. Trustee Jay Trusner believes this would bring in a lot of golf carts from different

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towns. Mayor questioned about permits for them. Trustee Jay Trusner said this is a one time event and does not feel permits would be needed; just charge an entry fee.

Youth League-Last year, the Board voted to give them \$3,000 but then it was cancelled due to covid. Motion by Trustee Jay Trusner to give \$3,000 to the Sangamon Valley Youth League to be used however they see fit. Trustee Les Jenkins 2nd. Approved 6-0.

Personnel Committee-will discuss in closed session

Streets and Alleys-Nothing to report

Finance Committee- decided to keep wood chipper. What can be done with the air conditioner and furnace in the pole barn; can we sale it? Attorney will get details

Ordinance Committee- Nothing to report

Economic Development- nothing to report

Water and Sewer-will discuss at budget study session. Hold off on meeting

Attorney -nothing to report

Motion by Trustee Les Jenkins to enter closed session to discuss closed session minutes and personnel. Trustee Larry Ditty 2nd. Approved 6-0.

Entered closed session at 8:33 pm

Back to regular session at 9:51 pm

Personnel was discussed in closed session

Motion by Trustee Larry Ditty to release the below closed session minutes.

July 27, 2020, August 24, 2020 and November 23, 2020. Trustee Teresa Acree 2nd. Approved 6-0.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:52 pm


Penny J. Allen, Clerk