

Minutes of the Village Board of Waterman held Tuesday, February 9, 2016.

The meeting was called to order at 7:31p.m. at the Village Hall.

Roll call: Ekle, Bosworth, Browder, Lieving, Robinson, and Stanley.

Trustee Andrews was absent.

Attorney Keith Foster was present as Village council.

Approve Agenda: Mayor Ekle requested that the agenda be amended to include as 8A and B respectfully: Discuss weight limit request and Republic Services introduction. Trustee Lieving motioned to approve the Agenda as amended. Motion approved unanimously.

Approve Minutes: Trustee Stanley commented on top of page 5 the park fee of \$50 for rental off season, would include any interested person could rent from January through April at the reduced rate by inserting “public” between “allow” and “use.” Trustee Bosworth stated on page 2 regarding the radio room budget. He asked Chief Breese for a number of participants in the group – the answer was 9. Chief clarified that the fee is divided by activity not number of participants. Mayor Ekle asked that the information be provided to trustee Stanley for budgeting purposes. Trustee Bosworth, on page 4 regarding new police vehicles being kept outside, it has been his stance from December to March all cars should be kept inside and out of the weather. Trustee Bosworth stated that his conversation with Trustee Robinson was misinterpreted. Trustee Robinson motioned to approve the 1/12/16 minutes as amended. Motion approved unanimously.

Accept Council Approval Report: Trustee Bosworth asked about the charges for Kishwaukee Medical – physical or the new officer. Trustee Lieving asked about vehicle testing; it was for the big plow truck, it was due and needed to be done before Matt Conlin took his CDL license test. Trustee Bosworth also asked about the uniform expenses for the new officer. Mayor Ekle also stated that the Village had to purchase a weapon for the new officer. Trustee Bosworth asked about the additional charges for the lights for the new squad. Chief Breese also stated that it cost more than expected to outfit the new Tahoe for stronger lights safety reasons. He stated that the hiring of the new officer was delayed to cover these costs. Trustee Robinson motioned to accept the Council Approval Report. Roll call vote passed 5/0.

Accept petty cash: Trustee Lieving motioned to accept the Petty Cash report. Roll call vote passed 5/0.

Accept Treasurer’s Fund Account Report: Trustee Bosworth reported that the general fund is down from last April, was reduced further in November, and is down further yet in January. This will need to be watched. Trustee Bosworth motioned to accept the Treasurer’s Funds Account Report. Roll call passed 5/0.

Mayor’s Report: The owner of the old Rice farm, Jason Townsend, at the end of E. Cleveland St. has taken down walnut trees and requested permission to haul them to Elm Street via E. Cleveland St. and N. Oak (which is a truck route) while the ground is still frozen. It will 5 semi loads. He has already spoken with the neighboring property owners and has their okay. A consensus was given to allow the overweight loads on Cleveland St. by the end of the week.

Mayor Ekle reported that Trustee Robinson has provide him with a response but has not had time to make a thorough review. Trustee Bosworth has notes available. A meeting will be scheduled with the Lions Club to review the issues.

Dan Christensen, owner of DC trash gave a short presentation and provided a 5-year fixed-price proposal for serving the Village's trash removal needs. His company is newer and currently has some municipal contracts and like to work with smaller towns. They propose to offer comparable services to the current contract including rolling totes in three different sizes for trash and recycling. They do offer electronics recycling but there are fees associated. They would provide the brush dumpster at no cost to the Village.

Jim Pozzie of Republic services had no formal proposal but wanted to introduce himself and explain the history and services Republic offers. They currently service several of the smaller communities in the area. They are the 2nd largest waste hauler in the industry and have local employees. They also offer several sizes of rolling totes and have access to 70 landfills. They have a sharps as well as a "paid box" electronic recycling programs.

Staff Report: Norm Beeh reported that the design for the well and well house has been completed. The ILEPA application for construction forms have been prepared and will need signature later tonight.

He reported that there have been WWTP pump warnings. Xylem in a month ago and reprogrammed pump panel 1 & 2 are not balanced. Many phone calls to various locations have been made, he is unaware if they have connected this past week.

The S. Birch Street expansion: the current roadway is offset 2' to east and the house at corner doesn't have 25' setback, there is no setback at all. It is right on the right-of-way. The road needs to be widened 8 feet to have painted sidewalk. That would be 1/3 of way to house and it is all public right-of-way. A separate sidewalk would be even further toward the house and would not allow for a car to be parked at the garage without being over a sidewalk. Norm would like to go with Mayor Ekle to meet with them and explain. This plan is the best solution to build it strong enough to be a road. Trustee Bosworth asked about the west side just south of Rt. 30 if a designated sidewalk area would be painted in. Norm Beeh state that the "sidewalk" area would be painted in all along the west side of Birch and is well within the public right-of-way. Trustee Lieving stated this would be paid for with TIF funds \$25K limit rest from road and streets. Mayor Ekle stated that in a recent meeting with Monsanto they would like to be involved with community projects and this might be a good fit. Trustee Bosworth stated that the gentlemen that was removing the trees might donate the land to the school, but the Village has adjacent property. It would be a nice addition to the park. There are possibilities for funding. Norm stated that the construction estimate \$30K plus engineering fees of \$5K. Trustee Bosworth stated that the TIF portion should not exceed \$25K.

Research was done George Cies Way on storm sewer flow to see what was going on. Does not go south to Rt. 30. Years ago a 12" line goes west to cornfield to ditch if this is ties into the drainage system. Trustee Browder thought that the dye that was run did end up crossing Rt. 30 and proceeds south to the park. Norm stated that there may be leaks and or cracks that will need to be repaired. The system needs to work properly. In a big storm event need good flow is necessary. The costs with no sewer is approximately \$23K with sewer work could be an addition \$4K to repair and engineering fees of \$5K for a total of \$65-70K to do both projects plus engineer fees.

Correspondence: None.

Request for Consideration: None.

Committee Reports:

Water & Sewer: Trustee Browder – nothing more to report.

Trustee Bosworth asked about Xylem and all the recent troubles. There have been issues beyond what is usual. They need to reprogram and make it work.

Streets & Alleys: Trustee Lieving – will report in old business.

Public safety – Trustee Stanley – spoke with Mayor Ekle about crossings guards or signs –should there be a committee meeting. This was brought up several years ago and it was determined that it was not up to the Village to provide a crossing guard as long as we have a light so she did not call a committee meeting. Linda Swenson stated she had not requested a crossing guard but rather the signs that go in the cross walks as are seen in any town in the county. There needs to be more awareness and the signs would provide that. It was asked who would responsible put out. Public works does in Hinckley and Shabbona. Trustee Robinson stated Waterman Public Works ends their day at 3:30. Mayor Ekle stated that there is a stop light and street signs that indicated a crosswalk how much would a third sign do. Trustee Stanley asked about when school is not in session, what about crossing then. Then next year when the middle school is relocated north of the highway there will be fewer students crossing the highway.

Chief Breese provided monthly reports. Trustee Robinson stated that they are quite different from the reports provided in 2002. Chief Breese confirmed that activities have increased since then. The Village is not the same as it was then. Trustee Bosworth questioned how it was determined when a warning or citation is given. Chief Breese stated that it depends on the level of cooperation or severity of the offense. The decision is usually made before the driver is approached. Best way to answer is experience. He stated that proper hiring Process being not used in Hinckley. He is proud hiring of the process Waterman used and it has been done correctly. There was a radio meeting with the county board and the Malta fire chief told Chief to sit down and shut up. It was established that all will pay for communications. The next step will be to determine what activities will incur a charge and what amount to charge. The Sandwich dispatch center is on hold because of state possibly reducing 911 centers in the county from 4 to 2. The 911 committee has until July to send a waiver to state to keep all 4. The new officer in 5th week of training and has 7 to go. After that there will be 8 weeks of field training. Sergeant Swanson cannot return to work until physical therapy has been completed and his doctor gives the okay. Trustee Bosworth asked about fire dept. paying for the relay fees. The county subcommittee has approved and it now has to go to the county board needs for approval. Next step is to establish a fair cost for activity. The new cost might be \$14.32 and might go lower. Sandwich and Somonauk are leavings but there has been no written contract. Why should the remaining participants have to pay more when somebody leaves. Trustee Bosworth stated that Chief Breese has been the most consistent chief working on this for 2 years.

Building & Grounds: Trustee Robinson – nothing more to report.

Finance & Personnel: Trustee Bosworth - budget status is at the 9-month point. There have been higher earning than budgeted in some areas and less than budgeted in others. Corporate taxes are down because business leaving state in groves. The income is \$38K behind in sales tax. The current numbers are \$45K in the hole when there was a deficit of \$39k going into it. There are shortages in water and

sewer and Building & Grounds over budget. There is no question about a 1% sales tax. There could be \$75K hole. General fund is down 100K. The MFT will not return to levels of the past. Sales tax will take a while to realize. Lot of issue happened this year and they will continue to happen. It will be an interesting next year. Mayor Ekle stated that there needs to be a preliminary budget at the March meeting so it can be passed at the April meeting. He reminded that unlike the state, the Village cannot sign checks until budget is passed. Trustee Bosworth stated that the sales tax meeting was changed to Thursday from Wednesday and he may not be able to attend. There is some good news, Sikich sent out government rules accounting standards and we have a 457 plan for our employees. The Village is not going to be involved as much in reporting for our 457 plan. Participants can always contribute more to their individual plan. Trustee Bosworth stated that he will be off the board as of the end of April and will not be preparing the budget for the next year. He suggested having a Meeting of the Whole as the board did last year. There will be transfers made before the end of the current budget year to firm up what has been spent.

Economic Development: Trustee Bosworth stated that the pharmacy's state permit has still not been issued because of a lack of staff. A survey was suggested but he believes it would not be a good idea. Trustee Stanley talked with pharmacy and they anticipate some work in the next 2 weeks. Trustee Bosworth will check while he is in Springfield. We are all losing money on this.

Zoning: Trustee Andrews was absent and although a full list was sent to Mayor Ekle, he will wait until next meeting and have her make her own report..

Planning Commission: Linda Swenson stated that there will be a meeting this next week.

Regional Planning Commission: Linda Swenson stated that they will be updating their comprehensive plan on the county level to make it more business friendly and requested that all cities and villages cooperate with the county policy. There have been businesses lost because of the current strict rules. She suggested that the property east and west of the Village be annexed so that Waterman the Village benefit with future businesses. She stated that one member wanted it to be only ag related businesses in the rural areas. Waterman is located at the intersection of two major highways and is a prime location for business. Trustee Bosworth went to a DCEDC meeting in November and stated that in the past they looked at the southern part of the county for future development and since then nothing has happened since then. He also mentioned at that meeting about Waterman being located at 30 and 23. One of the reasons they believe that businesses are not locating in DeKalb is because of the tollway. He said to send them to Waterman. There were group meetings and a list of advantages were provided but he saw nothing in the notes from the meeting. Somebody will have to start promoting waterman. It takes time--Dollar General took 3 years to get here. It is difficult to get anybody excited or motivated but somebody needs to be representing Waterman. The county needs to help as well. Linda Swenson stated that further annexation would be to the benefit of the Village. There can be adjustments made in the county to village property taxes. Each community has a compressive plan.

Old business:

No report on the purchasing policy.

Trustee Lieving motioned to have Public Works purchase good soil to do the stump remediation work. Roll call vote passed 5/0.

Mayor Ekle stated that there some proposal for tree removal. Grays \$2K per 8-hour day and \$200.00 after 8 hours and includes stump grinding. They will not fill and seed a stump area. Busted Knuckles Landscaping with references for 8 hrs. \$1,800 for tree cutting comes back \$1,500 stump grinding for the next day. Trustee Bosworth asked about an hourly rate. Busted Knuckles is \$150 per hour. The new owner of Brad's Tree Service also charges \$2K per day. Trustee Lieving stated it would be less for Busted Knuckles if there was a local place to deposit the chips. Trustee Browder stated that he would like more time to think about. Clerk Bystry-Busch asked where would Waterman be in pecking order in the event of a storm in the area where other communities are involved. The prices are for whole days – what about a partial day. Need to know more information. A list needs to be made of specific services and what the fees for each are.

Norm Beeh has leads on the crack seal company and should have buy the next meeting

There is a sales tax meeting February 11th at 7:30 the election March 15 at the community building.

On the FS annexation Attorney Foster ordered survey and when that comes back he will be completing the agreements. We will need public hearing. The tanks will be dealt after the annexed. Mayor Ekle talked with Paul Boric to include FS in enterprise zone once they have been annexed.

The owner of the property on S. Elm street still needs to retrieve personal items and needs to be done by the March board meeting.

The playground equipment has had the cement removed and is waiting for the ground to be solid enough to move. It will cost \$1,200 to clean and move the equipment. Trustee Lieving stated that brackets for equipment are needed before it can be set back up.

The signs for the 30 min parking have been up for two weeks and the businesses need to be notified of the new restriction. Perhaps a note left on each business door. Jim Tuma went around and compiled a list of the number of signs necessary to post for snow removal as the ordinance has been adopted. It is very costly to put them every block. The ordinance needs to be modified to reduce the number. At a minimum at the entrances to each area involved. It needs to be sent back to committee because whatever is decided it must be enforceable.

At the last meeting it was decide to take them to small claims and a letter was sent to the Todds with that information. There has been no response from the Todds. There has now been more expenses incurred that needed so be added to the amount. Trustee Bosworth stated that a payment plan would still be an option. Trustee Robinson motioned that a minimum of 25% of the outstanding balance and have 4 months to pay in full if an offer is made prior to the filing of the small claim suit. Trustee Stanley wanted 50% down. Motion approved unanimously.

New Business:

Trustee Robinson motioned to modify the Police Dept. budget to move \$1,358 from the fuel line item to equipment for the new radar gun.

Trustee Robinson motioned to apply for the Com Ed. Grant with matching funds of \$2k. Roll call vote passed 5/0.

The Zoning committee and Planning Commission needs to get together to come up with a Bed and Breakfast rules and regulations.

Public Comment:

Norm Gaston stated that dirt can come from the Dollar General. The 1% tax meeting there will be two groups that will not be able to attend. The Birch Street expansion would get really close to the garage. If the trash fees are less why not keep the current fees and use the extra to help the budget. Chief Breese asked to have trash picked up at along the post office alley going north. Trustee Stanley stated that some of the resident should be taking theirs to Elm Street.

Trustee Bosworth asked about the Planning Commission by laws that need to be modified. It has been addressed.

Mayor Ekle reported on his attendance at the public meeting at Malta regarding the Indian bingo hall. He believed that there was in favor than against. The Waterman/Shabbona Business Association spoke in favor. There was every union with in 40 miles stating it will provide jobs. Trustee Bosworth stated that the county will still need to weigh in. There was opposition for a resident that walked in park and suggested that it be put on that chemically contaminated farm land.

Adjournment: Having no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 10:10 p.m. The next regular Board Meeting will be held Tuesday, March 8, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina M. Bystry-Busch