

Village of Washburn

Mayor
Steve Forney

August 12th 2019
Monthly Board Minutes

Board of Trustees
Jessica Damerell
Scott Forney
Alvin Grebner
Ginger Humphrey
Randy Knoblauch
Jessica Youngman

Village Clerk
Becky Ulrich

Village Treasurer
Cheri Clark

Water/Sewer/Street Department
Matt Strauch

Chief of Police
John Scroggs

Steve called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken, all here. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Steve said he'd like to keep the meeting moving along quickly tonight as the AC unit quit working today so it's quite warm in here, so let's stay on task.

John Scroggs has said he'd like to hire another part time police officer. He has Jared Clark here. He used to work at the Minonk PD before he went county and now he's working in Toluca. John has worked with Jared before and he would like to hire him as an additional part-time officer. Jared grew up in Morton, and moved to Minonk 5 years ago. All in agreement. Jared was sworn in.

The July meeting minutes were reviewed. Jess made a motion to accept the minutes, Scott seconded it. All ayes, motion carried.

The bills were reviewed. Ginger made a motion to approve the bills, Randy seconded it. All ayes, motion carried.

Steve said Richard & Carol Root would like to donate something they found in an estate back to the village. They were planning to coming to the meeting tonight to present the historical item, however something came up and they are unable to be here so we'll postpone until next month.

STREETS: There is a fire hydrant leaking out by Ledbetter's on Christ's property. It's an old hydrant and needs to be replaced. We got a quote, the hydrant is \$1,950 and can get everything we need for \$2,827. Jess made a motion to spend \$1950 for the fire hydrant, Jessica seconded it. All ayes, motion carried.

We've received two bids for concrete for replacing 1170 lf of sidewalks.

Vancil's: is \$27.50/lf for 4" and \$29.50/lf for 6"
Knapp Concrete: \$21.50/lf for 4" and \$23.60/lf for 6"

Jess made a motion to accept the low bid with Knapp Concrete for the sidewalk replacement with a Do Not Exceed of \$29,000, Scott seconded it. All ayes, motion carried.

WATER/SEWER: Two houses in tow failed a lead testing report per a letter we received about it. We've been adding extra phosphate to the water to offset this problem. Small discussion. The extra phosphate we are adding for lead issue is costing and estimated \$300-\$500/month.

During the conversation regarding the phosphate, the water people mentioned to Alvin that we are losing 72% of water we are billing out vs. water usage. Jess mentioned that number is completely accurate because none of the churches, the library, the fire department etc are not metered so all the 72% is not actual loss. We are working on getting those facilities metered slowly but it's expensive so it's taking some time.

POLICE: Ginger made a motion to make a permanent transfer from corporate to police for \$6600, Alvin seconded it. All ayes, motion carried.

Ginger gave the monthly police report.

Ginger said the officers have completed their 4 hours of training. All of the officers are keeping up with the required training now.

Ginger said we are going to table the AC Unit at the police station until next month.

Cheri said while we are talking about AC units, she wants to know if she can go get a new one in the morning? Board all agreed that she could.

FINANCE, INSURANCE & TIF: The board talked about the property purchase of the parking lot next to the shop. Where is the money going to come from? Scott feels it should come from Corp, not the CD. If we take it from the CD he feels like we should budget over the next couple of years to replace that money from in the CD.

Scott made a motion to purchase the bank parking lot property for \$15,000 plus closing costs, from the Corporate budget, Ginger seconded it. All ayes, motion carried.

Scott said we have a CD coming up for renewal at the end of the month. Scott made a motion to renew the CD at the best rate we can get at that time, Ginger seconded it. All ayes, motion carried.

Scott gave a quick update on the grant we are trying to get. The tentative hearing date is looks to be scheduled for the county meeting, which is the third Tuesday of September. At this meeting it should be decided as to what towns are getting what. Scott said he could attend the meeting.

Steve said the website is now editable. He talked about the current website, how it's not very user friendly etc. The current software expires in a year. Sheila would like to purchase a new software when this one is up. The cost is \$150/3 years and her time would be free.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Randy talked to Rodney today. Dollar General is not going to be opening on August 15th as originally thought, the new open date is now Sept 1st.

ZONING: Wayne Bergman is anxious to get involved with the village and he is interested in becoming the new zoning officer. He has had a wide variety of jobs in the past, and is currently a Pastor. He's very excited for the opportunity to get involved here and make our town better. He says he likes the village, everyone is friendly and he loves it here and just wants to see it become better.

Steve recommends Way for the zoning officer position. Randy makes a motion to appoint Wayne Berman to Zoning Officer, Alvin seconded it. All ayes, motion carried.

Cheri asked if we were going to continuing paying the zoning officer the same way? Wayne has a different idea. He doesn't want to get paid for the zoning officer position. He would like to see the money go into a fund to help clean-up things and be used towards expenses for people that may not be able to afford to clean-up their properties and make them compliant. There was a small discussion, but we could get a savings account set up for this money.

LIBRARY: None.

PARKS: None.

Back to Zoning...Randy asked Danny what our next step on Charlie Kennell's building is? He hasn't done anything since the initial tear down. Danny said he needs to building the building he committed to doing per his building permit. The permit does not expire until the end of the year but he's in violation of not starting the building process within 90 days of getting the permit. Danny will send a letter to Charlie asking his intentions.

ATTORNEY: Nothing.

OTHER: Danny said the ACLU says we can no longer keep people from coming to town to panhandle.

Randy said regarding Harold's building across the street. Jeff Bond is auctioning off two other of Harold's properties later this month and Harold would like to include this building as well. However Jeff won't allow it until they have a letter/proof from the EPA that everything is ok on the property from the removal of the tanks etc. We don't have that letter but know something exists because they had to produce proof to us as well when they started the current project over there.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

Ginger made a motion to adjourn, Jess seconded it. All ayes, motion carried