

Village of Washburn

Mayor
David Humphrey

February 14, 2011
Monthly Board Minutes

Board of Trustees
James Gebel
Larry Roop
Linda Silver
Bill Strauch
Nate Swanson
Larry Tomlinson

Village Clerk
Becky Ulrich

Village Treasurer
Cheri Delap

Water/Sewer/Street Department
Mark Frerichs

Chief of Police
Craig Rutledge

Mayor David Humphrey called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken: all members were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The January meeting minutes were reviewed, no corrections were needed. Larry Roop made the motion to approve the minutes, Linda Silver seconded it. All ayes, motion carried.

The bills were reviewed. Larry Roop made a motion to pay the bills, Linda Silver seconded. All ayes, motion carried.

Mayor Humphrey opened the meeting to the audience.

Owen Jury, who was born in the Washburn area but now lives in Germantown, came to speak about the Burdon Museum. He would like to know what is currently happening with the museum. Dr. Burdon is his uncle. From what Mr. Jury knows, Dr. Burdon gave money to have the museum addition built. Mr. Jury doesn't know what type of agreement had been made or if anything is in writing, but it's his understanding that the town was to continue the to upkeep the museum. Larry Roop says that in looking at past board meeting minutes he found that it was the understanding that the village may change the usage of the building if they wanted. Larry has gotten a phone call from Dr. Burdon 's Executor of Estate. The Executor is going to be coming to Washburn in the next few weeks and Larry and he will discuss what can/should be done. We may need to remove the museum items, we may not...regardless the items belong to Dr. Burdon's Estate.

Mr. Jury's main concern is of the items inside. Mr. Jury said he would like to have a copy of the early board minutes to obtain the information where it says the Burdon's were in agreement to change the use of the actual building.

Mr. Jury is also encouraging the village to keep the museum. He mentioned there are other things from our town that could be added to the museum to make it better/more valuable and knowledgeable.

Mr. Jury also mentioned that he would be glad to offer whatever assistance he can. He is aware that we have been in contact with Mr. Stuart (Executor) who is a Burdon heir. He also mentioned that there is a granddaughter that lives in the Boston area but frequently comes to the Peoria area, where she grew up.

STREETS: Larry Roop mentioned that there has been quite a bit of activity since our last meeting. Larry authorized extra hours for Clint, due to the snowstorm and the fact that Mark had a funeral to attend. Larry also authorized the purchase of up to three snow shovels for town hall and for the police department. Larry mentioned that the committee was also thinking about purchasing a snow blower in order to take better care of some of the sidewalks and such, but we now have more expensive/important items that have come up.

Larry said the committee discussed contracting out snow removal of the downtown area. Because this would be covered under the Illinois Emergency Management Agency he decided to go ahead and look into getting an estimate of the cost. We went ahead and said yes to get the contractor and we've already done the paperwork. The expense of the contractor was \$1,905.00. Because our county was declared a disaster area due to the snow we can submit some of our own labor costs and cost of equipment we incurred for snow removal to the county. Currently, we have submitted a request for reimbursement of \$4,687.00 to the county.

Larry also mentioned that Clint was doing snow removal with the backhoe and the wheel fell off. It's currently at the Martin's; they estimate \$11,000-\$12,000 to fix it. Larry made a motion to make the repairs to the backhoe, Jim

Gebel seconded. All ayes, motion carried. Larry said that Martin's can start working on it tomorrow (Tuesday, February 15).

The next item is that the old snow plow we have is of no use to us. We are going to put it out for open bids. Next Larry mentioned that they discussed town clean-up dates. Larry said that we were able to save a lot of money doing it the way we did last year so the committee thought we would be able to do a spring clean-up date and a fall clean-up date. The spring clean-up day has been set for Wednesday, May 25th. Larry said that we would be able to get the Alternative School kids to help. The fall clean-up date has been set for Saturday, September 24th; however, this would only be a ½ day because the landfill closes earlier on Saturdays.

WATER/SEWER: Larry Tomlinson first brought up the pump at the lagoon. Mark got someone from up north to come and fix it. They came to do it but the day they came it was too cold and it created too much steam and they were unable to see down into the hole. They are supposed to be coming back sometime this week to get it fixed.

Larry also mentioned that we still haven't heard anything back regarding the Grebner sewer situation.

Next Larry said that Bill Strauch and Cheri have gotten a list made up of all the sewer hook-ups. They just don't have a list of all the ones that Donny Weisenhoffer has done. They said there are probably about 50 houses not hooked up. They are working on trying to get a list from Donny. Cheri mentioned that she does have a letter drafted that can be sent out to the community to request information as to whether or not their sewer is hooked up, and if not telling them they need to get it done.

Danny said regarding Grebner's that the ball is in their court and we don't plan to do anything until they do.

POLICE: Nate wanted to discuss changing an ordinance regarding blight. Currently the ordinance has a one-year probation period. As of now if a person creates an offense they have one year until anything can be done again.

INSURANCE & TIF: Jim had nothing to report.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Linda Silver sent out 44 letters inviting the business/organizations to take part in our website link. She's gotten over 1/3 back already and just sent them out a week ago. The response deadline is March 1.

Linda also mentioned there is a sign in the Industrial Park that is old/outdated and can't be read. Who should we have to replace/fix this? Also, the "Welcome to Washburn" sign over by Dean's Auto is broken. Can we have Mark stop and look at it to see if he can fix it? Mayor suggested that Linda should contact someone for some estimates on the Industrial Park sign and agrees Mark can take a look at the other.

Larry Roop and Linda Silver went through some files and Linda wanted to see if she can get approval to have a Archivist team to come in and have them go through everything because we can't just throw things out. The team would come from Springfield and there is not a fee for this service. Mayor says this sounds like a good idea. Linda make the motion to contact an archivist to have them come out and go through our old records/files, Jim Gebel seconded it. All ayes, motion carried.

LIBRARY: Larry said we have received back rent to July and back Cilco as well. As he mentioned earlier in the meeting he has been in contact with the Burdon Executor and plans to meet with him when he comes to the area in the next few weeks.

PARK: Bill Strauch didn't have anything to report but did mention he is going to put out notices to obtain bids for the mowing of Half Moon Park.

UPDATES FROM DANNY: Regarding the Murrah lawsuit, Danny said it has been suspended. Danny asked if Murrah would be willing to drop his lawsuit if we would drop our counter lawsuit. He is waiting to hear back from Murrah's attorney. Nothing has been done on the case for over a year, and no expense has been occurred within this

time frame either.

OTHER BUSINESS: Phil was at the meeting to give an Audit Report update. Phil mentioned that we are currently caught up with audit work and that the financial statements system is working. Phil provided trial balance handouts and the Annual Financial Report Year Ending April 30, 2010. Phil mentioned that the numbers of the trial balance sheet will work with Quick Books. Phil thinks we should use the trail balance as a guideline for this year's budget because it will be a very good tool. We are planning to have the budget ready for approval at the April board meeting. Phil then took a few minutes and went through the Audit Report. If we ever have any questions about any of this, Phil said to feel free to give him a call.

Mayor mentioned that the High School has asked the Village to make a contribution to Post-Prom. Jim Gebel made a motion to donate \$200, with the Police Department making a matching \$200 donation, to the High School Post-Prom, Larry Roop seconded it. All ayes, motion carried.

Mayor also wanted to mention that Sean Webb has requested a liquor license for Webb's. Does the board have any objections? No. Mayor will have the Chief of Police run a background check as usual. This will be a Class A License and renewal is April 30th. The fee is \$450/year. If Sean is wanting the license before May 1, Mayor suggested we could pro-rate the license for the month of April at 1/12 of the yearly fee. Larry Roop made a motion to pro-rate a Class A liquor license for the month prior to May 1st renewal to Sean Webb, as long as a background check is run and comes back OK; Jim Gebel seconded it. All ayes, motion carried.

Larry Roop made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m., Larry Tomlinson seconded it. All ayes, motion carried.

Washburn Village Clerk

Date