

Village of Washburn

Mayor
David Humphrey

August 8, 2011
Monthly Board Minutes

Board of Trustees
Edward Grebner
Randy Ragains
Larry Roop
Robert Stanfield
Bill Strauch
Nate Swanson

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 July meeting minutes were reviewed, no corrections were needed. Larry made the motion to approve the minutes, Nate seconded it. All ayes, motion carried.

The bills were reviewed. Rob made a motion to pay the bills, Ed seconded. All ayes, motion carried.

Mayor Humphrey mentioned we did get a reimbursement in the mail for some of the snow removal costs from this past winter.

Mayor Humphrey then opened the meeting to the audience.

Gene Weiss, Washburn Community Foods Board Member, Sam Knecht, Tim Schoon and Chuck Cook were all present representing Washburn Community Foods (WCF). Gene mentioned that WCF has been open for nearly 11 years now, they opened in November 2000. They store started out with a store manager and tried growing the business with shareholders, but that didn't work. Now WCF has a part-time meat manager, part-time produce manager, etc. He also mentioned that they have had some successful fundraisers, etc in the past. Gene then mentioned that they started a co-op program, they started with 60 now only have about 5, and this program has just faded away. In 2009, the Washburn Bank matched a roof fund; the Bank contributed \$10,000, the community contributed \$8,000. Gene then mentioned that the store is looking to lose about \$10,000 this year. He thinks that the store is a great asset to the community. A lot of community members have invested lots of time and money into WCF and would like to try and keep the store open as long as possible.

Larry Roop said we are willing to work with the store and that the board has some fundraiser ideas and thinks that we need to make the community more aware of the problems the store is having. Mayor said he and Randy own shares and cannot discuss or vote on this topic. Rob also mentioned that he thinks we need to make sure there is more community awareness. Nate made a motion to give a \$6,500 tax break to the store this year, with the knowing this will not be an every year thing, Ed seconded it. All ayes, except Randy who abstained, motion carried. Larry asked WCF if we could get some audit reports/book info to see where the monies are going...try and change the business plan.

Tim Schoon wanted to mention that WCF produces over \$150,000 in employee wages annually. Tim also asked if they could use TIF funds to repave the parking lot.

STREETS: Ed brought up vacating the alley. Mayor said we'll pull tax records and we'll notify the necessary people and let them know if that they'll need to come to next month's meeting to stop the vacate if they have concern. Mayor will get the names and Danny will send them a letter. There will be a public meeting to vacate the Alley at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, September 12. The regular monthly board meeting will begin at 7:05 p.m.

Ed mentioned that the stop signs at the corner of Church & Main have been put up.

There have been some complaints from residents complaining about city property trees. Ed has gotten a couple bids, one was \$500 and one was \$1,200, but he is having them re-bid.

Ed also mentioned that he hasn't gotten the sidewalk bids out yet, but plans to do so and to open them at next months board meeting.

Finally he mentioned that Mark is taking care of the water problem by Jim Cook's house.

WATER/SEWER: Bill mentioned that the plant is back in working order from being hit by lightning. Ed asked if that was covered under insurance.

POLICE: Larry mentioned that the storm-warning siren is on track. Craig attended a 911 meeting for Woodford County and they were on board with setting it off. However, they did ask for some guidelines regarding setting it off. Craig contacted the State Police and we will have one of their speed tracker machines in town next week. Also, we've gotten a good start on a police inventory list and will be providing it to the board members.

Larry made a motion to transfer \$16,000 from the Corporate fund to Police fund for the monthly transfer, Ed seconded it. Cheri commented that the reason this month's transfer amount is higher than normal is because there was 3 payroll periods in July. All ayes, motion carried.

Randy asked about ordinance violations. He said it seems like we have been picking and choosing whom we are warning or not.

It was also mentioned that we need to post a sign by the recycle bin that says people can't dump oil, tires, batteries, etc there.

Mayor said that we take action when we've received complaints. Craig takes care of a problem when it's brought to our/his attention. But he doesn't have the time to go "nit-picking" looking for violations.

Larry also provided a July 2011 Police Activity Report.

INSURANCE & TIF: Randy's been working with Susan James with the Illinois Municipal League. She was supposed to be here tonight but couldn't so she sent a correspondence instead. Anyone doing anything on village property should have their own insurance and be able to show proof to the village. Randy thinks we should make a policy that they need to provide proof of insurance.

Danny said that to put us on a rider on other people's policy should be super cheap...like around \$50. Danny also mentioned that he doesn't think the Legion's regular insurance would cover the insurance needed so they may have the biggest issue.

Susan said we should have a log of our work related injuries because someone may stop by...well he did stop by and we had the info because of the heads up from Susan.

Randy also talked to Craig about talking to the businesses about how the festival affects their business. We got some bad comments...Ulrichs, Duckworks, Casey's...Casey's loses approximately \$2,000/day during the festival, mainly because Oblique Street is all blocked with parked traffic, etc. They thought about putting temporary "no parking" signs on that street to help with their traffic flow.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Nothing, we already took care of the store tax break at the beginning of the meeting.

LIBRARY: Ed said Larry had to go to the Museum and unlock the door for 1 person who wanted to view it.

PARK: Rob said that they had another break-in at Half Moon. They tried getting a hold of Craig but wasn't able and got a hold of County instead. The person/people who broke in took a screw driver/drill and took the hinges off the doors to enter the building. Cheri wondered if we got put up a motion light or some type of alarm to try and prevent this from happening. Larry mentioned he might have an alarm system they could use.

Cheri mentioned when the Illinois Department of Labor guy came he checked every single building, the lagoon, police dept, etc. We came out pretty good. We do have to get MSDS sheets for every single chemical we have. Rob has a great website he can provide Cheri with regarding this. Craig had to update the blood air pathogens policy. We need shin guards for operating the chain saw. We need a certain tool at the lagoon. And we need to update our emergency exit plan. Cheri mentioned that we haven't gotten 'dinged' yet because they've given us "X" amount of time to fix the problems first.

UPDATES FROM DANNY: Danny doesn't have any updates.

OTHER BUSINESS: Nothing

Ed made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 p.m., Rob seconded. All ayes, motion carried.

Washburn Village Clerk

Date