

# Village of Washburn

**Mayor**

David Humphrey

**Village Clerk**

Becky Ulrich

**Village Treasurer**

Cheri Delap

**Water/Sewer/Street Department**

Mark Frerichs

September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
Monthly Board Minutes

**Board of Trustees**

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

**Chief of Police**

Jeff Moline

Mayor David Humphrey called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken: All board members were present except Bill and Larry. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The August meeting minutes were reviewed. Ed made a motion to approve the minutes, Rob seconded it. All ayes, motion carried.

Mayor Humphrey then opened the meeting to the audience. Donna Hahn was present representing Women of Washburn (W.O.W). They have another project they would like to tackle and are wondering if there is any TIF money available to help them. They would like to put some benches in front of the Senior Center, Washburn Community Foods and Duckworks. They would also like to purchase some holiday decorations to put out at the mound near the Legion. The bench cost is anywhere from \$600 to \$1,200 per bench depending on the quality. They do not have an approximate cost for the decorations; it would be based upon whatever money would be available. Donna also mentioned that the light at the sign by the mound still hasn't been working. She is wondering if she can approach Jesse herself regarding it? Yes, she can. She said she will do so. Mayor encouraged her to pull some numbers and suggestions together and bring it to the next committee meeting.

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

Phil (the auditor) was here. He provided the board with the Annual Financial Report and some other materials. He has a few issues that he would like to discuss. The first being the corporate checking account. Phil talked about how the bank accounts are a little confusing because there are all types of money in one account. He and Cheri thought it might be easier to keep track of if these monies were all separated out into individual accounts. He said if the board decides they don't like it split this way, they could put the accounts back together at anytime. However, if this is done a couple of accounts should be left separated out no matter what. Water/Sewer shouldn't be in with taxable accounts, as well as TIF and Motor Fuel Tax. Phil also mentioned that this type of account tracking would allow the board to keep track of money much easier.

Larry joined the meeting from an EMT call at 7:25p.m.

Next Phil discussed the water and sewer bonds. He said that the water bond is pretty much under control, but the sewer bond has a long way to go. He said the sewer is an issue for him. The money we are taking in for sewer isn't covering the expenses for sewer...it's not keeping up. Phil would recommend having it analyzed if the service still exists. He said when we had this done before it was at no cost to us. Danny also mentioned that we are paying a pretty substantial interest rate and it may be worth taking a look at and refinancing & reissuing new bonds at a lower rate if possible.

Randy asked if these new accounts would generate a monthly report? Phil said yes they would be available monthly unless the bank has a policy if there is no activity to the account that month. But Cheri said she always has them available.

**STREETS:** There wasn't a meeting. Donna Knoll on State Street re-did her driveway. She also re-did the sidewalk and thickened it up so she's asking for the village to pay half, as is usual policy. The bill is \$125. Ed made a motion to pay half of the bill, Nate seconded it. All ayes, motion carried.

Ed mentioned the tree by the funeral home has been taken down.

Ed also said that he was going to talk to Bob Beschorner regarding the tree at the corner of his property. He'll find out who's it is...regardless it is a safety issue and needs to be addressed.

**WATER/SEWER:** There wasn't a meeting. Larry asked is Mark has put in any of the hydrants yet? Ed said not to his knowledge.

Ed did say he talked with Judd and the water samples have been taken and he's waiting to hear back on the results.

The board took a moment to discuss raises for the employees. Rob made a motion to give a yearly 3% cost-of-living raise, retroactive to May, to Clint and Cheri; Ed seconded it. All ayes, except Larry, motion carried.

**POLICE:** Rob made a motion to transfer \$5,100 from the corporate fund to the police fund, Nate seconded it. All ayes, motion carried.

Rob said he had received a phone call from a Toluca board member asking if we've been having problems with our Chief. The Toluca board member said someone from our board had called him talking about the Chief and asking questions about him. Rob said he feels that is totally inappropriate and wrong. If anyone on the board has a problem with the Chief or any of the officers, they should bring their concerns to him since he's ahead of the Police committee at this time.

Cheri wanted to say that as a co-worker, Chief is awesome to work with. She said he goes above and beyond in taking care of things. Things at the park are getting turned around, among other things. Mayor also mentioned he's heard nothing but positive things about Jeff.

It was mentioned Jeff is working on the procedure for the storm-warning siren. Jeff wants to get in on the next training session for this and would like the part-time officers to do so as well.

Rob said he and Larry would like to have a profile to keep on hand of Jeff and the part-time officers ongoing training information.

Larry also wanted to ask the board if he could request a copy of the surveillance camera? No problems...Jeff will get Larry a copy.

**INSURANCE & TIF:** Nate said he talked with a couple of people regarding insurance. He spoke with both Mike Storm and Kuhl & Company. He hasn't talked with anyone regarding health insurance yet, but that's not due again until June.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** Randy said he's been in contact with the Economic Development Partnership to see if they can analyze our village to see if they can help lead us in a good direction of where we, as a village, should be heading.

Randy also mentioned he started doing some research on switching the street lights over to LED lights to cut costs. He's still looking into this further.

**LIBRARY:** Nothing.

**PARK:** Nothing.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Heather Craig, from the audience, said she is still waiting on a decision on the sale of Lot 8. She said she's been quoted a lower price from an attorney of \$300 for fees to sell the lot; our attorney price is estimated at \$1,500. She said she could take care of the attorney fee and be able to pay \$500 for the lot and we'd both come out ahead. Ed mentioned he doesn't feel we should go against our attorney. It was also mentioned that we had decided last month that we would revisit this around February.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Larry would like to have a policy manual meeting on September 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

Ed made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m., Rob seconded. All ayes, motion carried.

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Washburn Village Clerk

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Date