

## Village of Washburn

**Mayor**  
David Humphrey

October 11, 2010  
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 September meeting minutes were reviewed, no corrections were needed. Larry Roop made the motion to approve the minutes, Jim Gebel seconded it. All ayes, motion carried.

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

Danny wanted to know if the board was in agreement to have Mayor Humphrey sign the American Legion Post 661 Raffle Application. The board agreed Dave should sign it.

Mayor Humphrey opened the meeting to the audience.

Becky Cook from Walnut Street wanted to express her concern about people riding 4-wheelers in town. She's tired of the noise and dust created from people riding the 4-wheelers near her house. The people are riding on their own private property, however she doesn't feel she should have to deal with all the dust and noise. She spoke with Chief Rutledge today regarding this issue. Chief Rutledge spoke with the owner of the 4-wheelers/property and told them that they are in violation of the loud noise/nuisance ordinance. Mayor hopes the existing ordinance will be enough to make the 4-wheelers stop. He says it appears the situation is currently under control, but Ms. Cook should inform Chief Rutledge if this happens again.

The gentleman who received the nuisance violation was also present and stated that he wishes the neighbor would have come and spoke with him about the problem instead of jumping straight to the Chief of Police/Village Board. He feels like it's good clean fun for his kids and that he's not the one being punished with this violation it's his kids. He says he never lets the kids run the 4-wheelers after dark and that they try and watch the dust. He mentioned that they usually ride anywhere from 30 minutes to two hours at a time. He doesn't want to be a nuisance, and feels that if his kids are riding their 4-wheelers he knows where they are at, instead of out running the town. Mayor Humphrey suggests that he needs to get along with his neighbors.

Linda Silver mentioned that she has seen this gentleman (or another adult male) come though the park and cross the road and go back onto his own property.

Doris Noll also came to speak on the topic. Today she was at the cemetery and she heard motor noises and saw dust but no vehicles. When she was trying to leave, two young boys came at her on 4-wheelers and she had to slam on her breaks really fast and was afraid she was going to hit them. She just wants the best for the kids' safety. She feels that if they are allowed to ride there maybe someone should clean up some of the brush, etc to help with visibility to help avoid an accident

**STREETS:** Larry Roop received some information that we will be receiving an additional \$4981 for our MFT fund.

We are in the process of getting some quotes on installing new sidewalks near the grade school. They are looking at putting a sidewalk on Washington Street up to State Street. According to Mark it's about 345 feet of sidewalk.

Larry said that they are trying to move along with moving the materials from the old Strong Oil lot out to the Industrial Lot. We did receive permission to put in a culvert. Mark said he could do it himself for about \$800. Mayor asked about some materials down at the park near the ball diamond, if it would be moved out to the industrial

lot also? Larry said that material is supposed to be picked up by someone but if they don't pick it up then, yes it will be moved out there as well.

Larry has given verbal permission to have some spray patch work done, and it's already been completed.

He also mentioned that they are thinking about getting a new snowplow. He's seen one for about \$2800. Larry Roop then made a motion to purchase, if available, a used snowplow not spending more than \$3000. Linda Silver seconded it. All ayes, motion carried.

**WATER/SEWER:** Larry Tomlinson first mentioned that Mark and Weisenhoffer put in a new tile to fix the drainage problem on Walnut Street. He also said that each property owner now wants a copy of the easement they signed regarding this issue. Danny will send the copies to Larry and he can deliver them to the property owners.

The next topic Larry spoke about was regarding the Grebner houses on Main Street getting hooked up to the sewer. Simon said we don't have to have a permit to go under the creek, but that the houses can't have the same line. The houses must have separate service lines. Bill Strauch was going to check with Grebner's to see who's responsible for the pump. Jim Gebel recommended we stand behind the pump for 10 years then it becomes the owner's responsibility. We will have to hire someone to bore it. We need to have Clair Grenber sign some easements, Bill said he would talk to her and give her the information.

Larry also mentioned that the pump at the Lagoon isn't working. We got some parts ordered and replaced, but according to Mark apparently it's not in the track correctly. So we need to have Mark to get Weisenhoffer's to put it back in the track.

Larry said that the Filter/Media replacement is supposed to take place sometime this week (week of October 11). There will be no interruption in water service.

Larry Tomlinson and Larry Roop started interviewing candidates for the water helper job. They interviewed eight people and narrowed it down to two people. The first being Lee Young, however he can't start until January as that's when he'll be retiring from his current job. The second candidate is Clint Keifoffer. The committee recommends hiring Clint. Larry recommends paying him \$10.50/hour for up to 30 hour per week without benefits. The committee also wants him to take the classes/tests to get licensing. The committee then recommends giving Clint a \$1/hour raise with the completion of each test. (However, it was not discussed who would pay for the schooling.) Clint worked for the Village before but then quit to go work at a union job but that didn't work out. Jim Gebel made a motion to hire Clint, paying him \$10.50/hour, with a \$1/hour raise for each test completion. Larry Roop seconded it. All ayes, motion carried. Larry Tomlinson will contact Clint and let him know he's hired. Clint can give his current employer up to two weeks notice before he needs to start working for us.

Larry also said he's received a complaint regarding a leaking water hydrant. Larry said he's going to give Mark an order to put in a new hydrant, but will have him wait until Clint has begun working.

**POLICE:** Nate Swanson brought up the topic of possibly creating a tow fee ordinance. Danny has several questions/concerns regarding this. Who keeps the vehicle if not claimed? What happens if someone else has a lien on a vehicle? There are a lot of administrative concerns as well. Danny doesn't feel comfortable to draw up an ordinance tonight. He wants the committee to discuss this further.

**INSURANCE & TIF:** No Meeting, nothing to report.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** Linda Silver said they are working with Ray Gay, who's friend with Les Whistler, to get the Village website current. Ray has been keeping our name up even though we haven't been under contract to do so. But now he wants to enter into contract to upkeep our website. Linda handed out a proposal that Mr. Gay provided. Linda thinks we can update and change the info ourselves rather than pay him the \$30/hr fee mentioned in the proposal. His contract is for \$470 for a 1-year contract. Larry Roop said he is willing to be responsible for updating the website. He says over the course of the next year we will be redesigning the entire website anyway so the \$470 seems way cheaper than paying someone to redesign it. Danny thinks the proposal looks O.K., but we should take out the part about the \$30/hr fee. Danny said we should also let him know that if we want to order any services from him we will do so in writing. Linda wants to know where the money should come from to pay this? General Fund. Larry Roop made a motion to go into agreement with Mr. Gay, Jim Gebel seconded it. All ayes, motion carried.

**LIBRARY:** Larry Roop spoke with Grant, he said they've already approved putting in the door. However, Larry reminded him we are trying to give them the additional space (Grant forgot that) so Larry recommended we lock the door and post signs to contact him (Larry) if anyone wants to view the memorial. Grant thinks he can get his board to go along with that. Larry thinks we should have a handle on this by the first of the year.

On a side note, Larry also mentioned that he has all the meeting minutes from 1953-2000 scanned. Larry wasn't able to find the minutes from 2000 to current.

**PARK:** Nothing to report.

**UPDATES FROM DANNY:** Danny doesn't have any updates. Larry Roop said he had a note on his desk from someone in Washburn that's trying to purchase a house and that the lender said the whole Village of Washburn is in a flood plain. Danny said to have this person contact him if they have questions. Larry Roop also asked Danny about being in violation of FOYA Act. Danny said it's his understanding that it's been taken care of. Mayor wrote a letter to the Attorney General saying we have provided everything we are aware of that's been requested. Now the ball is in the individuals' court. If the individual can specifically request something that he doesn't have then we can get it for him, but we have nothing more to provide at this point.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** According to Mark's contract 4.2 in September we are to convene to discuss a bonus. The Streets and Water committees decided he would receive the same bonus as last year, which is a one-time bonus of \$1,500. Also as committees, they understand that they need to rein him in more to make sure he's doing his job. They need to get something in order to better manage what he's doing. Danny asked who pays his health insurance premiums? The Village does, but there is supposed to be a cap and if the premiums go above the cap then Mark is responsible to pay the rest. Someone needs to check into this to see if this is the case. Larry Roop makes a motion to give Mark a \$1,500 bonus, Jim Gebel seconds it. Larry Tomlinson apposes, all other board members are ayes.

Larry Roop mentioned that all the ordinances have been typed up into a draft document. The document is approximately 180 pages. For 15 black & white, 3-hole punched copies it will cost \$225 - \$300. With some type of binder they will cost \$300 - \$350 for the 15 copies. (The 15 copies will be enough for all the board members and the zoning committee, plus a couple extra.) Larry wants to know how do we make the new version or the "official" version? This draft document needs to be proofed. Mayor said we could change it after we receive the books if we need to. Larry Roop made a motion to approve expenditure up to \$500 for printing and binder costs for ordinance draft books, Larry Tomlinson seconded it. All ayes, motion carried.

Larry Roop made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 p.m., Larry Tomlinson seconded it. All ayes, motion carried.

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Washburn Village Clerk

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Date