

## Village of Washburn

**Mayor**  
Steve Forney

November 9<sup>th</sup> 2020  
Monthly Board Minutes

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

**Village Clerk**  
Becky Ulrich

**Village Treasurer**  
Heather Hare

**Water/Sewer/Street Department**

**Chief of Police**  
John Scroggs

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

Ginger made a motion to approve the October minutes, Jess seconded it. All ayes, motion carried. Jess made a motion to approve the October special meeting minutes, Jessica seconded it. All ayes, motion carried.

We will come back to the bills once they've all been reviewed.

**STREETS:** Jess said she doesn't have anything major. She said Jared mentioned the fiber optic installers crushed a culvert and Jared is working with them to get that fixed.

She also mentioned Clint did get the sidewalk on Madison Street patched.

**WATER/SEWER:** Alvin said we just discovered a water main leak somewhere near 89 and Madison, Jared is up looking at it right now.

Scott spoke with Sherry at USDA and she said since the loan is paid off we can move money in that reserve to the sewer reserve if we want to. Sherry said we don't need to keep all the money that's in the water reserve there. Scott made a motion to transfer \$134,006 from the water reserve to the sewer reserve, Jess seconded it. All ayes, motion carried.

There was a small discussion about only taking the money from the water reserve of what we actually need to bring the sewer reserve balance back up to the minimum needed. We are going to leave the remaining money in the water for now.

Scott said he's going to shop interest rates on this sewer loan, it's just good practice to do so. He's also going to look into refinancing options.

**POLICE:** Ginger gave the police report.

Ginger made a motion to transfer \$7,200 from Corporate to Police, Jess seconded it. All ayes, motion carried.

**FINANCE, INSURANCE & TIF:** Scott said the insurance renewal is due at the end of December. Some line items stayed the same and workers comp actually decreased. The total to renew is \$50,419. Scott made a motion to renew the insurance at \$50,419, Jessica seconded it. All ayes, motion carried.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** Scott said we need to make a decision quick about whether or not we want to remodel the bathroom or not; this was approved to be paid for by the grant we previously applied for. Scott received drawings showing the ADA compliance for here at Village Hall and also the Library. Everyone agrees there are no concerns with moving forward. Scott will give Jim the green light.

**ZONING:** Wayne is not here.

**LIBRARY:** Nothing. Jessica said she did ask Jared about checking on getting the sidewalk/parking lot area fixed.

Back to police...Scott asked John if he spoke with the homeowner about the trailer up on North Main. It looks like they are cleaning up trash around the area but haven't touched the actual building yet.

Scott also said he and Jess were both approached about an RV on Highview Ridge that does not have current license/registration. They asked John to follow-up with this complaint.

Back to bills...Jess made a motion to pay the bills, Randy seconded it. All ayes, motion carried.

**PARKS:** Nothing.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Danny gave an update on the PT officer unemployment status. When we sent the original letter it was our understanding that Deb was offered hours and she refused them. However that doesn't seem to be the case so that blows our rebuttal out of the water. We've asked John to offer her the weekend hours, if she refuses that's on her, not us. Steve asked Ginger as head of Police to receive documentation of what she's being offered and how she's responding. Steve also asked John to provide a copy to Danny as well. Ginger will get the financial info together and send it to Danny.

The Lincoln St property lien has been filed. The total lien amount is around \$2,500.

John sent Danny the paperwork to have the vehicle at Lincoln St removed. Danny couldn't really find anything in the statute as guidelines. The only thing it mentions is having an auction in passing but no true guidance. There was a discussion regarding the abandoned vehicle.

Danny mentioned he thinks the Tax Levy is due for renewal next month so he'll prepare that. Steve will put it on the agenda. Scott reminded him that we want to put a freeze on the Social Security line item of the Tax Levy.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Scott asked Cheri and Heather to come up with a plan for them to outline/plan of how training is going to look. Scott said Cheri is working/training on an as needed basis and we'll just have to pay her an hourly wage for when she's here. There was a small discussion and it was noted that we could have done a better job of documenting the transition expectations/info.

We need to discuss the Water/Street position details. We came up with an offer and Jared came back with a counter offer. Jared asked that we join IMRF. We offered him \$23.00/hour and 3% into his IRA. He countered with \$24.75 and all current benefits and that we join the IMRF retirement. We also offered the \$400/month that we are paying Kurt for the licensing, once he gets his sewer license he would be the one receiving the \$400 instead of Kurt. Do we have a back-up plan if Jared up and quits? Jess asked Matt if needed he would be willing to train an outside person at his hourly rate? He would. Scott also made some calls and has a lead on someone who may be willing to take the job. We need to make a final counter offer. The board is in agreement that IMRF is off the table. Alvin feels like Jared drew a line in the sand with the IRMF.

Our Final offer is \$24.00/hour, 3% into his IRA yearly, no IRMF, all current benefits he's already receiving and an additional \$2.00/hour if/when he passes the sewer certification and an additional \$2.00/hour if/when he also passes the water certification. Alvin will speak to Jared.

The caucus will be Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Law Enforcement party will be held at Village Hall and the Citizen Party will be held at the Library. Scott and Jess volunteered to each run a caucus. There are 3 board seats available, the mayor and the clerk. All will be 4-year terms.

**OTHER:** Regarding the Charlie Kennell property; Wayne is proposing the Sr. Class get together to tear down all but the original bank wall. There was a small discussion. Wayne needs to talk to Charlie. The Village does not want to take part in anything that would incur cost/responsibility.

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

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Washburn Village Clerk

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Date