

**Village of Rossville**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**May 17, 2021**

Mayor Queen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the Rossville Municipal Building located at 120 East Attica Street in Rossville, Illinois.

Roll call was taken. A quorum was established with Mayor Queen and Trustees Black, Daniel, Hackett and Sturm physically present. Trustee Cornell was absent.

Guests present were Clerk White and Justin Richison

Minutes of the regular board meeting held April 19, 2021, budget hearing held April 30, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. and the special board meeting held April 30, 2021 at 5:15 p.m. were presented. Motion was made by Black, seconded by Sturm to dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve them as presented with an omnibus vote. Vote: Sturm, yes; Hackett, yes; Black, yes; Daniel, yes.

Treasurer Ault's written report for April 2021 was presented. Motion was made by Black, seconded by Hackett to accept the April 2021 report as presented. Vote: Hackett, yes; Black, yes; Daniel, yes; Sturm, yes.

Current bills – Current bills were reviewed earlier in the Finance & Purchasing Committee meeting. Motion was made by Black, seconded by Sturm to approve the bills and pay as presented. Vote: Hackett, yes; Black, yes; Daniel, yes; Sturm, yes.

Superintendent Lusk's report – The gas has been disconnected at 210 E. Attica Street in preparation of the demolition of the house by the owners. Trustee Black asked the status of the sidewalk project and stump grinding that was discussed at last month's meeting. Mayor Queen has nothing further to report on the sidewalks. Trustee Hackett also asked about the status of the stump grinding. Trustee Sturm stated the stump grinder is usually rented in the fall so all of the stumps can be removed with a one-time rental fee. Clerk White reported a tree, on the alley at 307 Benton, was reported to her that big limbs continue to drop from the tree onto the neighbors' vehicles. The neighbors asked for the tree to be cut as soon as possible. Mayor Queen asked Clerk White to report the tree issue to Superintendent Lusk. Trustee Sturm explained to new board members that the maintenance department cuts/trims trees in the spring and fall so the roads are not damaged with the heavy equipment during the hot weather.

Sewer Operator Price's report – Trustee Hackett asked what the problem was at the Park Sift station with the fuses not being fully engaged. Mayor Queen did not know the answer. The problem was reported on Matt Price's report as being repaired.

Police Chief Kelnhofer's report – Mayor Queen reported Chief Kelnhofer gave him copies of the violations that have been sent. Chief Kelnhofer will be in court this Thursday in reference to 214 E. Attica to see what the Village can do with the property. Trustee Black reported the 2021 Durango has been ordered. The new vehicle should arrive within 90-120 days. Lettering will be placed on the side of the new vehicle.

Mayor Queen asked if the ad had been run for bids for the 2008 Durango. The Village received 1 bid for the Durango but opening the bid was not placed on the agenda. The bid opening will be placed on next month's regular meeting agenda.

Accounts Receivable -Collector White reported the utility accounts receivable total as \$33,809.38. There was 1 utility disconnect last month. Community Action has approved funds to pay on the account.

Bids for the 2021 MFT Tar/Chip Project – Clerk White opened one bid for the Tar/Chip project. The bid was from Daniel L Ribbe Trucking, Inc. for \$84,187, including a cashier's check in the amount of \$3,000. Motion was made by Sturm, seconded by Black to accept the bid for the tar/chip project, from Daniel L. Ribbe Trucking, Inc., for \$84,187 pending engineer's approval. Vote: Daniel, yes; Sturm, yes; Hackett, yes; Black, yes; Queen, yes.

4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade Resolution – A resolution requesting the closure of Route 1/Chicago Street between Green Street and Stufflebeam Drive, on July 4, 2021 between 12:00-12:30 p.m. was presented. This year, there will be a parade, fish fry, water slide and fireworks at Christman Park. Motion was made by Black, seconded by Daniel to approve the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade resolution. Vote: Sturm, yes; Hackett, yes; Black, yes; Daniel, yes; Queen, yes. Resolution 2021-06 passed.

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Fireworks Donation – Mayor Queen announced \$5,000 was included in this year’s fiscal budget for fireworks donations. Motion was made by Black, seconded by Hackett to authorize the donation of \$5,000 to the Sons of American Legion for fireworks donation. Vote: Hackett, yes; Black, yes; Daniel, yes; Sturm, yes; Queen, yes.

Superintendent Lusk suggested the unspent allotment of monies from the previous fiscal year’s budget for new equipment be invested in a Sinking Fund for the purpose of purchasing large pieces of equipment for the maintenance department. A resolution to begin a sinking fund for the purpose of purchasing new equipment for the maintenance department with annual contributions to the General, Storm Sewer, Gas, Water and Sewer Funds was to be discussed. The Village attorney, Andy Mudd, suggested the form should be in ordinance form. Clerk White attempted to contact Mr. Mudd to review the proposed ordinance to verify terminology, but correspondence with Mr. Mudd has not been received prior to the office closing today. The matter will be discussed at next month’s meeting.

An ordinance to approve the withdrawal of the City of Creal Springs, Williamson County, Illinois and the Village of Tamms, Alexander County, Illinois as members of the Interstate Municipal Gas Agency (IMGA) and to authorize execution of a supplement to the Agency agreement establishing the IMGA was presented. Motion was made by Black, seconded by Sturm to adopt the ordinance approving the removal of the City of Creal Springs, Illinois and the Village of Tamms, Illinois from the IMGA membership. Vote; Black, yes; Daniel, yes; Sturm, yes; Hackett, yes; Queen, yes. Ordinance 2021-04 passed.

Update on 403 Benton – Village attorney Andy Mudd prepared a deed for the Stump heirs to sign to quitclaim the property to the Village for demolition. Larry Stump and Alfred Stump were in the office today and signed the deed. The deed will be forwarded to Mr. Mudd to record and return to the Village. Superintendent Lusk gave Clerk White 2 sealed estimates for the demolition of 403 Benton due to fire damage. The Estimates were as follows:

Drennan Excavating, LLC	demo house and garage, haul all concrete out, fill basement with fill dirt	\$11,500
ARD Farms	tear down house, price includes use of excavator, trucking, dump fees, Finish with topsoil and level	\$14,600

Motion was made by Black, seconded by Sturm to accept the estimate from Drennan Excavating, LLC for \$11,500 to demolish the buildings, haul concrete away and fill basement with dirt at 403 Benton. Vote: Daniel, yes; Sturm, yes; Hackett, yes; Black, yes; Queen, yes. The demolition is not to begin until the recorded deed is returned to the Village.

Update on 315 Benton – Mayor Queen prepared an ad to place 315 Benton Street for sale. Clerk White emailed the ad to the News-Gazette in Champaign for publication. Bids will be accepted until 5 p.m. on June 21, 2021. Mayor Queen reviewed the discussion from last month’s board meeting for Trustee Sturm since he was absent at the last meeting. Instead of demolishing the building, an ad was placed soliciting bids for the property at 315 Benton Street, requiring a minimum bid of \$1,000, the potential owners must sign a redevelopment agreement, with the Village of Rossville, to repair the house within a 1-year period and the structure must be approved by Superintendent Lusk, who is the Building Inspector, to make sure the structure is livable or the property reverts back to the Village. Trustee Sturm asked if the potential owners will be required to provide financial statements prior to acceptance of the bids. The idea came from the “Save the Block” program based on Detroit, Michigan. Trustee Sturm’s brother wrote a majority of the code for the program.

Update on 121 E. Attica – Trustee Sturm contacted Ken Dunbar regarding the proposed parking lot at 121 E. Attica. The Village Board needs to determine what size and how big the Board wants the parking lot prior to retrieving an estimate on the project. Superintendent Lusk provided board members a copy of the survey for 121 E. Attica. Maintenance employees would remove the top soil and provide the sewer work on the property. Discussion was held on retrieving estimates to build the parking lot from the sidewalk south up to 15’ from the tree with asphalt, provide parking curbs and paint the parking lines, which will provide approximately 14 parking spaces (including 2 handicap parking spaces). Trustee Sturm will request estimates on the project and present them at the next regular board meeting.

New Trustee – Mayor Queen is considering residents to fill the vacant Trustee position on the Board. Mayor Queen asked Justin Richison if he would consider rejoining the Board. Mr. Richison would like to be considered for the position. Mayor Queen has asked 2 residents to fill the vacant position but the residents declined joining the Board. Mayor Queen will consider candidates but tabled the discussion temporarily.

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Discuss Masonry Work for 104 & 110 E. Attica walls adjoining 106 E. Attica property – Discussion was held what needs finished on the walls adjoining the 106 E. Attica property. Justin Richison handed board members a letter from his insurance company stating that in demolishing the building at 106 E. Attica, damage was caused to Mr. Richison's building. The insurance company is requesting the Village of Rossville to have an engineer assess Mr. Richison's building to determine if the building is a safe and sound structure then submit a report and notice of findings.

Clerk White was not feeling well and left the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Per Mayor Queen, board members agreed to contact an engineer regarding the structure at 110 E. Attica Street. Board members were not happy with the work that was proposed and want a more detailed plan to complete the project.

There was no further discussion. Committee members had nothing further to report.

Motion was made by Black, seconded by Sturm to adjourn the meeting. Vote: Sturm, yes; Daniel, yes; Black, yes; Hackett, yes. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris White  
Village Clerk

Board approved 6-21-21