

Village of Rossville
Regular Board Meeting
August 17, 2020

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 Cornell, Maden, Mahorney and Sturm physically present. Trustee Leaver was absent.

Guests present were Clerk White, Village Attorney Andy Mudd, James Lamb and Phil Black.

Mayor Queen appointed Phil Black to replace the Late Joe Buck as Village Trustee. Motion was made by Maden, seconded by Mahorney to concur with Mayor Queen's appointment of Phil Black as Trustee. Vote: Cornell, yes; Maden, yes; Mahorney, yes; Sturm, yes.

Minutes of the regular board meeting held July 20, 2020 were presented. Motion was made by Maden, seconded by Mahorney to dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve the minutes as presented. All members voted yes.

Treasurer Ault's written report for July 2020 and amended report for June 2020 were presented. Motion was made by Mahorney, seconded by Sturm to accept the June treasurer's report as amended and regular July report as presented. Vote: Mahorney, yes; Sturm, yes; Maden, yes; Black, yes; Cornell, yes.

Current bills – Current bills were reviewed earlier in the Finance & Purchasing Committee meeting. Trustee Sturm noticed a large purchase of rubber hose for the sewer department, in the amount of \$1400, was made but was not sure if anyone was made aware of this purchase. No answer was given. Motion was made by Cornell, seconded by Sturm to approve the bills as presented. Vote: Sturm, yes; Maden, yes; Black, yes; Cornell, yes; Mahorney, yes.

Superintendent Lusk's report – Clerk White asked the status of the water leak on East Attica by the railroad tracks. Mayor Queen said, as stated in Randy's report, they feel the leak has been isolated but don't know if the leak is under the railroad tracks or what caused it. Trustee Sturm asked at what point do we hire someone to fix the leak? Assuming the leak is under the railroad tracks or within so many feet, permission may be sought from the railroad to bore under the tracks. Trustee Black recommended that a plan of action be formed. Superintendent Lusk mentioned in his report this month that the successful bidder for the Gilbert Street sidewalk, Mr. Patton, may not be able to start the sidewalk project due to lack of time and/or manpower. Superintendent Lusk thinks we need to award the bid to the next highest bidder. Attorney Andy Mudd stated that bids are usually good for 180 days at the maximum and suggested rebidding the project.

Sewer Operator Price's report – There were no comments on Matt Price's report.

Police Chief Kelnhofer's report – Chief Kelnhofer stated on his written report that the police department would like to move forward with the purchase of the crash reporting software that was budgeted for in this year's budget. Mayor Queen told Chief Kelnhofer to hold off on the crash reporting software.

Accounts Receivable -Collector White reported the utility accounts receivable total as \$24,720.33. There were 3 miscellaneous invoices totaling \$1,800.00 making the total accounts receivable as \$26,520.33. There were 3 utility disconnects and 1 reconnect last month. Collector White asked if the miscellaneous invoices for mowing can be written off of the accounts receivable report since the former owners of 406 E. Attica refuse to pay, a lien was placed on 202 Harrison and the taxes were sold for the property located at 113 W. Attica so the mowing fees will not be paid. Board members granted permission for those mowing invoices be deleted from reporting monthly.

Corvette Sale – At last month's regular board meeting, a bid of \$15,000 from Mikala Urbanski was accepted for the purchase of the Village-owned 2002 Chevy Corvette. Phone calls were made to Ms. Urbanski regarding pick up of the Corvette. No response was received from her. Clerk White mailed her a letter stating that she had until August 20th to pay for the Corvette or the Village was going to offer the Corvette to the next highest bidder, Kenny Vaughn. Motion was made by Mahorney, seconded by Black to amend Ordinance 2020-12 and accept the bid and offer the Corvette to the next highest bidder, Kenny Vaughn, and proceed down the list of bidders until the Village is successful in obtaining a bidder who wishes to purchase the vehicle. Vote: Maden, yes; Black, yes; Cornell, yes; Mahorney, yes; Sturm, yes. Ordinance 2020-12A passed.

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106 E. Attica – Attorney Andy Mudd reported the Dangerous Building sign has been reposted on the building located at 106 E. Attica, a Notice to Remediate was published in the newspaper, certified letter was mailed to the owners, Delvins and Wendy Burt. Wendy Burt was unaware the Delvins had not recorded the deed when Ms. Burt sold the property to the Delvins. Ms. Burt recorded the deed herself. Mr. Mudd mailed the certified letter to the Delvins, at the address they had provided the Village, but the letter was returned as “unable to deliver”. Mr. Mudd stated the Village had to wait 30 days from the last attempt to deliver the certified letter (which is August 22nd) before they can proceed with the next step. After the 30 days, the Village can enter the building, clean out the building by sorting items in the building, salvageable or not then place the non-salvageable in a dumpster and the salvageable into a storage container for the Delvin’s to retrieve within 30 days. Then the Building Inspector, Randy Lusk, can determine the condition of the structure. The Village will be able to install lateral supports for the building, place a lien on the property for repairs made then apply to the court to get the property. The Village must keep track of every penny spent on the property so a lien can be placed on the property. The Village attorney will file the lien. The Village has 120 days after completion of repairs to file a lien on the property. Mold may be in the building. If hazardous wastes are present in the building, a fire could be started. Village attorney, Andy Mudd, suggested asking the Health Department or EPA to be the 3rd party to be present to determine what are hazardous materials. The Village could hire seasonal or temporary workers to assist with cleaning out the building and repairs. The lien can be foreclosed on within a time limit. Attorney fees may also be included in the lien expenses.

After establishing the condition of the building, the Village may choose to continue with the remediation or can follow procedures to demolish the structure.

Board members suggested continuing with the clean out of the building, determine the condition of the building then decide on the next step.

Finance & Purchasing Committee – Due to the absence of Chairman Leaver, there was no further discussion.

Streets & Alleys Committee – A representative from Aquatic Control inspected the pond and found the oxygen level was too low to do a treatment today. They will return in 2 weeks to check the pond again. The Village attorney suggested re-bidding the Gilbert Street Sidewalk project.

Police, Health & Safety Committee – Chairman Black had nothing further to report.

Water & Sewer Committee - Chairperson Maden had nothing to report at this time.

Gas Committee - Chairman Sturm had nothing to report at this time.

Public Improvements - Trustee Mahorney received contact information of various contractors who may give estimates on the parking lot projects for 121 & 122 E. Attica Street. Trustee Mahorney will contact the contractors and hopefully receive estimates prior to the next regular board meeting.

James Lamb, owner of 115 E. Attica, asked when the exterior west wall of his building will be sealed. Mayor Queen stated the maintenance staff have several projects they are working on but Superintendent Lusk estimated the wall to be sealed sometime this fall.

Mayor Queen was asked what the status is on the American Legion. No decision has been made.

Trustee Maden asked if bids for the Gilbert Street sidewalk project will be advertised in the newspaper. Mayor Queen stated the project was not estimated to cost over the \$20,000 limit for advertising for projects so bids will not be advertised in the newspaper.

Motion was made by Maden, seconded by Sturm to adjourn to executive session under 5 ILCS 120/2 C1 to discuss employee performance. Vote: Cornell, yes; Maden, yes; Black, yes; Mahorney, yes; Sturm, yes. The meeting adjourned to executive session at 7:59 p.m.

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Motion was made by Maden, seconded by Sturm to exit executive session and return to regular session. Vote: Maden, yes; Black, yes; Sturm, yes; Mahorney, yes; Cornell, yes. The meeting returned to regular session at 8:23 p.m.

No action was taken in executive session.

Trustee Sturm asked if the village office would be used as an emergency center if a disaster occurred, what measures can be taken to insure the use of the electricity and phones. Trustee Black suggested investigating the purchase of a generator or UPS.

Motion was made by Mahorney, seconded by Black to adjourn the meeting. Vote: Black, yes; Sturm, yes; Mahorney, yes; Cornell, yes; Maden, yes. The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris White
Village Clerk
Board approved 9-21-20