

Village of Westville Regular Meeting
December 15, 2021
7:00pm

Mayor Weese called the meeting to order at 7:00pm at Village Hall, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Present at Roll Call: Trustees Sandlin, Hughes, Delhaye, Ellis, McFadden and Gallion, as well as Village Clerk Slavik and Village Treasurer Larson and Attorney Barney.

AGENDA

Mayor Weese entertained a motion to approve the agenda and place on file. Motion by Hughes; second by Sandlin. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

A citizen said our insurance company talked to him this morning. He read a paragraph from the insurance company letter for his personal claim denial.

MINUTES

Public comments at the November 17, 2021 meeting that named Gerrib will be changed to Capello. Mayor Weese entertained a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from 11-17-2021 and place on file. Motion by Delhaye; second by Gallion. No further discussion. Motion carried.

CLAIMS

Mayor Weese entertained a motion to approve the amended Claims and place the report on file. Motion by Gallion; second by Ellis. Motion carried.

CLERK REPORT

Mayor Weese entertained a motion to approve the Clerk Report, turn the money over to the Treasurer and place the report on file. Motion by Sandlin; second by Delhaye. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Treasurer Larson highlighted items on his report and said it shows the budget (first 6 months of expenditures/collections) and the remaining budget. He also provided a revised budget sheet and explained where and why there are changes from the original budget. He said we want to eliminate one our systems. The plan is to transfer \$133,000.00 grant monies to cover police salaries; this frees up money from budget to put towards supplies (PNT account). They will add a Public Works Department and will move all payrolls to public works area for a clean start in a new year. This is Phase I (payroll, insurance, telecommunications) and they'll see if they need to add other things in later. They added a line for the anticipated *Enterprise Zone* area in case they decide to do that. There is \$25,000.00 put in for that. It will increase the budget by \$183,000.00 but \$133,000.00 comes from COVID and the other areas are putting \$43,000.00 in.

Mayor Weese entertained a motion to approve the Treasurers Report as presented and place on file. Motion by Hughes; second by Delhaye. No further discussion. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Weese said the Westville Lions Club and the Westville American Legion did a wonderful job lighting up the park for Christmas.

POLICE REPORT

Chairman Ellis had nothing new to report. Booe's report is for November 10, 2021 through December 09, 2021. There were 29 reports and 124 calls for the reporting period. Mayor Weese entertained a motion to accept the Police Report and place on file. Motion by Ellis; second by Sandlin. No further discussion. Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS

Larson said we cannot offer insurance on day one for a new hire. It is after the first 30 days of a full month. The Village already does not pay any supplemental insurance (Illinois Mutual, Washington National and AFLAC) and does not offer it; the reps for those companies come in and offer it, but we will begin to provide contact information for those insurances to new hires.

Park Chairman Gallion highlighted items on the report and added that the Concession Stand overhang is mostly complete and they're waiting for some additional roofing to come in. There is also guttering to be installed.

Chairman Delhaye highlighted items on Bennett's report and said higher gas prices are anticipated this winter but our per therm price decreased by 14¢ to \$1.18. He reported on the pilot program from Missouri Gas commission and the testing/texting that is being done to sync to our billing system; also 200 gas and 200 more water meters have been ordered. For the work to upgrade drainage to replace 40ft from WHS to the NS alley; they'll run a new 12-inch line to the alley and hook into the state sewers. This would be done in two phases, and our engineer will check for proper flow.

Sidewalks: Chairman Sandlin had nothing to add to the sidewalk report.

Buildings & Grounds and Community Beautification: Chairwoman Hughes said she has talked to Scott Bennett and Mike Marron to see if they can help secure grant monies to assist with our property issues

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT BY MICHAEL BENNETT

November 10, 2021

In the Water Department they changed meters, worked on repairs, took routine samples, changed daily totalizer chart, calculated daily usage, took chlorine residuals, swept/mopped plant. The heater went out in south water tower, replaced. Controls froze up, okay now. **In the Gas Department** they changed meters, worked on repairs, changed daily high/low charts, checked odorizer daily, patrolled the system and took odorant readings, installed gas service for High School Bus Garage, had gas meeting in Mt. Vernon USDI hosted, had training in Sullivan for Pipeline Installation, had G.U.A. Committee Meeting in Olney. **In Other Business** they had annual Keystone training Gas and Water billing platform and they replaced two batteries in backhoe. **In Village Business** they put gravel or asphalt placed in alley and along Clark St., Jules St., Moore St. alley, BAM on Urban Dr., Winding Lane, Connecticut, Solomon, had coating applied to dump truck bed to prep for winter/salt, Expedition

repairs to brakes, replaced restroom sink Village Hall, cleaned catch basins behind Latoz, Village Hall, 401 Pennsylvania, they removed flowerpots from downtown and placed in storage, they removed concrete around cut trees Nichols St. and had Bob Brown installed catch basin corner of Ellsworth at north

J.U.L.I.E. Calls 15, Gas & Water Work orders 17, Water Work Orders 33, Odor Calls 1, Gas Work Orders 7, CO Calls 1, Public Works 19

Mayor Weese entertained a motion to accept the Public Works Report and place on file. Motion by Sandlin; second by Hughes. No further discussion. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Establish Business District: Vic said we have the lowest sales tax in the county and still would have after adding 1%. Gallion said we need to re-establish some of the businesses. McFadden asked how we are going to replace the police station. Hughes asked what that would cost. Varvel said about \$380,000.00. Hughes said we need to have a plan to make it happen. We need to do it without putting ourselves in jeopardy. Delhaye said the *Enterprise Zone* would be our one chance to get something done downtown and bring new business. We have a building downtown and kids are constantly going into; it has been left unlocked. There will be violations written to address this issue. Barney said they can write per-diem fines. Danville is eliminating city court for all towns except for Danville. Varvel said it'll be up to the Village and legal, and Barney said they're talking about opening another legal court and added that we only send 5-8 cases a month. There was further discussion regarding the 1% tax. Gallion explained how little the 1% would cost the buyer (it is \$1.00 on \$100.00). Larson explained the kinds of taxes we collect; we are one of the few towns in Illinois that does not collect for cell phone tax and that revenue would go into the General Fund and can be spent on anything; the *Enterprise Zone* limits where you can spend money.

Mayor Weese entertained a motion to contract with Moran Economic Development, who will oversee possible development of a Business District. Motion by Ellis; second by McFadden. Gallion votes "YES", Sandlin votes "NO", Hughes and Delhaye vote "YES". No further discussion. Motion carried.

Appoint Police Officer: They are still looking at a couple more candidates and then they'll decide; April is the next class.

Barney said they filed a lien for 214 W. Short St. There is a notice going out to sell the surplus properties discussed at previous meetings. He is working with the Village Clerk on several FOIA requests. He said they closed on the strip of property by the water plant that the Village sold. Barney reiterated that the City of Danville is shutting down city court to out-of-town users. Trying to put one together to be conducted in Tilton with the former city atty (Dave Wesner) who works in Champaign.

There will be a celebration in Westville in 2023 for the town birthday. Hughes would like to see something happen downtown appearance-wise and said the press will be here. She said we need to have storefronts improved. Weese said Mike Marron directed us to a DECA Grant for \$100,000.00 from state capital money. We do have to decide what we want to spend it on as part of the application process.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Weese entertained a motion to adopt the 2022 Holiday Schedule. Motion by Hughes; second by Delhaye. Motion carried.

The Village donated \$600.00 to Santa Anonymous in 2020 and Sandlin made a motion to do that again this year; second by Hughes. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Weese entertained a motion to adjourn at 7:37p.m. Motion by Sandlin; second by McFadden. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

**(Village Clerk note for clarification: Discussion under TREASURER'S REPORT for the amended budget; and, up for consideration under UNFINISHED BUSINESS is a Business District, not an Enterprise Zone). **