**MINUTES**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF ARGENTA, ILLINOIS**

**#20-10-19 R10**

**MONDAY OCTOBER 19, 2020 @ 6:00 P.M.**

**VILLAGE HALL, 330 N WARREN STREET, ARGENTA, ILLINOIS**

**Call to Order:** Mayor Luedke called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

Trustees Kaufman, Berry and Ryan were present. Clerk Koszesza and Stephanie Brown from Chastain Engineering were also present.

**Open Public Meeting for ITEP Grant: Proposed Access Argenta Sidewalk Replacement and Improvement Project.**

**Public Comment:**

There were no residents present.

**Adjournment**

Trustee Berry made the motion and trustee Ryan seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 PM

**Regular Board Meeting**

**Call to Order:**  Mayor Luedke called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Roll Call:** Mayor Luedke and Trustees Pagel, Kaufman, Berry, Ryan, and Logan were present. Trustee Mitchell was absent. Clerk Koszesza, Eric Shangraw with Area Disposal, and Stephanie Brown with Chastain Engineering were also present .

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Consent Agenda:**

1. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes of September 21, 2020 #20-09-21 R09
2. Approval of Disbursements #20-10-19 D10
3. Approval of Bank Reconciliations #20-10-19 BR10
   * Trustee Kaufman moved and Trustee Berry seconded toapprove the Consent Agenda as presented.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Pagel = No Berry = Yes

Kaufman = Yes Ryan = Yes

Mitchell = Absent Logan = No

Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** There was none.

**Recognition of Visitors:** There were none.

**Department Reports:**

1. Village Staff Reports. There was no report.
2. Mayor’s Report. Mayor Luedke gave the Board ordinance violation notices that have been sent. Most have been resolved. The issue at 135 E Water has been resolved. Mayor Luedke met with attorney Ed Flynn, Mr. Cochran (an engineer) and Trustee Logan. In Mr. Cochran’s opinion, the rock will not slow down water flow significantly. The rock can stay but Ms. McHood will have to maintain it. Trustee Logan said that it does not sound resolved. He said that the street still floods there. Trustee Pagel does not like the fact that the letter Ms. McHood sent to all the Board members is filled with the inuendoes. Trustee Berry asked how the whole thing started. Mayor Luedke said that it is a matter of several he said-she said conversations and that none of the conversations could be confirmed. Trustee Logan said that the Board is here to make decisions like that. He said that people think the Board made that decision, but they did not. Mayor Luedke said that it will not happen again. Trustee Pagel said that there is a lot in the letter accusing the Village Board and employees. Trustee Logan said that she had Seevers look at it and declared it a problem. Trustee Logan is worried that there will be flooding again. Mayor Luedke said that we can fight it but in Ed’s opinion it would not turn out well. Trustee Logan said that Ron Grider should be here to help hammer this out. Trustee Logan wants Ron and Ed to come to the next meeting. Mayor Luedke said that she wrote letters so that things are in writing. Trustee Logan asked when Ms. McHood called to get permission to put the rock there. Clerk Koszesza told him she called 15 minutes before the rock was delivered. Mayor Luedke said that we need to move on for tonight and she will have Ed at the next meeting.

As soon as Aaric Kendall can dig the holes for the radar signs we will get the signs up.

We started the hire back program the 1st of October. Deputy Lilly introduced himself. He does not have much to report now.

Halloween with be Oct 31 from 5-8

There will be a veteran’s car parade

There will be no auction for Christmas, however, the Christmas Eve event will go on as usual

Perry and Larry are getting the water plant ready for an inspection.

1. Attorney’s Report. There was no report.

**Old Business:**

* Discuss proposed extension of contract with Area Disposal. Eric Shangraw with Area Disposal was here. The contract will end next April. Area Disposal would like to enhance our contract with an electronics pick up point. We would need an indoor spot to put 4 pallets in so that residents can drop items off. The current fee would remain in effect for 1 more year and then there would be a 2 ½ percent increase per year. Trustee Ryan asked if recycle would still be every two weeks. Yes. Trustee Kaufman asked if we had had any feedback from residents lately. We have not. We will put it on the agenda for next month.
* Set the 20/21 Tax Levy. Trustee Pagel said that we are not getting anything from the Tax Levy. He does not want to raise taxes for anything. Trustee Berry did not see much of an increase last year. Trustee Ryan does not like to raise taxes either, but we have a water plant that is incredibly old, and we cannot depend on the water fund to pay for things. Trustee Pagel said that if the water plant does fail, we will have to have loans.
  + Trustee Pagle moved and Trustee Logan seconded to set the 20/21 Tax Levy with a zero percent increase.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Pagel = Yes Berry = No

Kaufman = Yes Ryan = No

Mitchell = Absent Logan = Yes

Motion carried.

**New Business:**

* Discuss/Vote on ITEP Grant Resolution. Stephanie Brown asked if there were any questions. She said that it is about a 3-year process, so the Village does not have to come up with our portion all at once. She said we will get a lot of sidewalks for the price. Trustee Pagel asked why we are going down Walnut instead of Elm. Trustee Kaufman said that Elm was not bad. Trustee Pagel asked if we had to come up with the whole amount up front. Stephanie said that it is a very quick turn around and when construction starts the contractor is paid directly. Trustee Pagel asked if the MFT fund would cover it. Probably most of it. She said if we are not approved for this, we can always apply for the Safe Routes to School program which is an 80/20 grant.
  + Trustee Kaufman moved and Trustee Pagel seconded to approve the ITEP Grant Resolution.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Pagel = Yes Berry = Yes

Kaufman = Yes Ryan = Yes

Mitchell = Absent Logan = No

Motion carried.

* Discuss applications for vacant Public Works Director position. Trustee Kaufman said that there are 4 applications. One does not have the right experience. The committee will interview the other 3. Trustee Pagel asked if there was an updated committee list. It was sent out several months ago. The committee will meet on the 29th to have interviews.
* Discuss dissolution/changes to the Zoning Board. Mayor Luedke said that it is currently a 7-member board. Ron Grider is not a member of the board; he is the Zoning Administrator. We can dissolve the Zoning Board or go to a 3-person board. If they dissolve the Zoning Board, one of the board members will have to do the building permits and variances. They would have to know the zoning book. Trustee Logan said that he would take the job of the Zoning Administrator. Trustee Pagel said that we need to dissolve the zoning board.
  + Trustee Pagel moved and Trustee Logan seconded to dissolve the Zoning Board.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Pagel = Yes Berry = No

Kaufman = No Ryan = No

Mitchell = Absent Logan = Yes

Motion did not pass.

* + Trustee Berry moved and Trustee Kaufman seconded to go to a 3-person Zoning Board and keep the Zoning Administrator.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Pagel = No Berry = Yes

Kaufman = Yes Ryan = Yes

Mitchell = Absent Logan = No

Motion carried.

**Closed Session:**

**Open Session:**

**Adjournment.** There was more discussion about ditches and how you can or cannot modify the ditches. Trustee Ryan said if we do not want it to happen again, we need an ordinance. Trustee Pagel does not want to make more rules. Trustee Kaufman asked if the ditch runs to a storm sewer. There is a storm sewer in that ditch. Trustee Kaufman said we have an ordinance that technically covers it. Trustee Ryan does not think so. Trustee Ryan said that we need the attorney here. Trustee Kaufman said that Sherry needs direction on who to call if a situation comes up and the Mayor is not available. Trustee Berry said that it needs to be stated that if any physical, permanent changes will be made to a boulevard that it needs Board approval. Trustee Kaufman can take the calls, or the committee chair can be called. Mayor Luedke said we need a procedure in place. Trustee Pagel asked if we need to go back to 2 meetings per month. Trustee Kaufman said that we can always call a special meeting with a 4- hour notice. Trustee Pagel is still upset about the issue at 135 E Water. He would like Ed to write a letter to Ms. McHood.

* Trustee Berry moved, and Trustee Ryan seconded, to adjourn at 7:34 p.m.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Pagel = Yes Berry = Yes

Kaufman = Yes Ryan = Yes

Mitchell = Absent Logan = No

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes taken by Clerk Sherry Koszesza