

WALNUT VILLAGE BOARD MINUTES
Tuesday March 1, 2022

The meeting with the President and Board of Trustees held on the 1st day of March 2022 started at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Hall in the Village of Walnut, IL.

President Rosenthal then directed the Clerk to call roll and the following Trustees answered present: Duane Christensen, John Middleton, Brian Smith and Melissa Dye. Brian Stull and Lee Johnston were present via Zoom.

President Rosenthal asked if there were any additions or corrections to make to the regular meeting minutes from February 15, 2022. With none made, a motion made by Smith and second by Christensen to approve the minutes. On roll call vote, all present voted in favor and the motion carried.

Treasurer Wolf presented the bills for \$15,159.44. A motion made by Stull and second by Dye to approve the bills as presented. On roll call vote, all present voted in favor and the motion carried.

We were supposed to have Jan McDonald, Tracey Schoff and Julie Von Holten come and present some planters for Main Street but they have postponed their presentation and will be going through the Local Improvements Committee.

At this time President Rosenthal stated that he will be going to Konz on Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 6:30 for the Celebration Committee meeting to present the Sesquicentennial donation check. President Rosenthal explained for the past couple of years we have set back \$10,000 for a total of \$20,000 to donate for the big Celebration.

Next on the agenda is to discuss the USDA Grant for downtown sidewalk and street light replacement. Matt Hansen contacted President Rosenthal a couple of weeks ago to let him know the USDA moved the deadline up. This is the grant that we attempted a few years ago but it just wasn't the right time and we feel that it is now. If and when the possibility of the Village being awarded this grant, there will be a Village contribution. We can cross that when the time comes because this is also part of the large federal grant that we applied for.

President Rosenthal informed the Committees that they need to have their budget proposals and what they need ready by March 15th.

Finance Committee – Middleton stated they met last Tuesday night and the main focus was to review the water and sewer budget. Back in December Matt Hansen was here to discuss some financials such as what our water and sewer income is vs. what the water and sewer has been costing us. For the past four years we have been operating at a deficit. It's an average of \$133,000 that we have been operating at a deficit. So that money would come out of General fund which then impacts our ability to do other projects. The last time that water rates were increased was back in 2003 and sewer was increased was 2017. There has been very little to off-set the increase of cost of vehicles, testing and equipment. We don't have much of a choice other than to increase the water in order to get ourselves back to a position to break even.

Streets & Alleys – Nothing new to report.

Water & Sewer – A meeting has been set for March 8, 2022 at 7:00pm to discuss meters

Garbage – Nothing at this time.

Law and Order – Nothing at this time.

Cemetery – Cemetery clean-up is March 28 – April 1st. Everything needs to be off by March 28th and decorations can be replaced after April 1st.

Local Improvements – Smith reported that the buildings are starting to come down.

Old Business – Nothing at this time.

With no other business to come before the board, Stull made a motion to adjourn, Christensen second the motion and on roll call vote, all voted in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Tiffany Pistole
Village Clerk