

WALNUT VILLAGE BOARD MINUTES

Tuesday August 16, 2022

The meeting with the President and Board of Trustees held on the 16th day of August 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, Brian Stull, Lee Johnston, Brian Smith and Melissa Dye. John Middleton was absent.

President Rosenthal asked if there were any additions or corrections to make to the regular meeting minutes from August 16, 2022. With one correction made to the date. It should have been Monday, August 1st. A motion made by Stull and second by Smith to approve the minutes. On roll call vote, all present voted in favor and the motion carried.

Treasurer Wolf presented the bills for \$24,340.20. A motion made by Smith and second by Johnston to approve the bills as presented. On roll call vote, all present voted in favor and the motion carried.

President Rosenthal spoke about the residential sidewalk repairs. What this refers to is when residents of Walnut repair their sidewalks in front of their house and that sidewalk being Village property. In the past there has been basically a Gentlemen's Agreement to pay for half of the materials. Moving forward we need an ordinance that outlines the proper procedure for these types of jobs. What we are running into is residents will do a job and the contractor comes back and tells them they need to pay prevailing wage because it's for the Village. We want to avoid us the fact that it's not the Village initiating the work but rather us helping the residents because their helping the Village. President Rosenthal said we could maybe set this up as a Resident Grant Program where if they do some sidewalk repair and get it approved with the either the full board, Local Improvements or Spt. Minks. At that point they could apply for the grant and then we can help reimburse some of that cost. Johnston stated that he talked to Amboy and the budget \$15,000 a year for sidewalks. They also only reimburse for half of the materials. It was also up to the homeowner to initiate the project. Stull stated when he lived in Pontiac he had to pay for the labor and half of the material and the town paid the other half of the material. Spt. Minks thinks we need an ordinance to have in the code book. Smith asked if this would be for cement from the street sidewalk up to the house. Spt. Minks said it should only be for the sidewalk that is parallel to the street. Spt. Minks also mentioned driveway approaches. He said those are our responsibility too. President Rosenthal said he is going to talk with the attorney and hopefully get something wrote up and bring back to the next board meeting.

Next on the agenda is the electric energy bid comparison. This is not for our residential rates. Our residential rate was set last year. This bid before us is specifically for our Village electrical accounts, pump station, water treatment plant and etc. President Rosenthal spoke with Mike Mudge. The rates are changing daily. Some of the companies do offer up to 60 months. Dynegy offers up to 55 months and Direct Energy offers a max of 56 months. Stull and Smith want to hold out a little longer to see what is going to happen with the rates. We have until December.

Chief emailed out his report to everyone.

Finance Committee – nothing at this time.

Streets & Alleys – Papers were signed and now Porter Brothers needs to schedule us in.

Water & Sewer – Spt. Minks stated the new meters are here. They are working with the Clerk on the billing program.

Garbage – Nothing at this time.

Law and Order - Nothing at this time.

Cemetery – Nothing at this time.

Local Improvements – Smith stated that he spoke with Kevin Lindeman from NCICG and the state of Illinois Main Street Grant was let. There were 50 grants instead of the original 30 and Walnut was not one of the towns to receive a grant from them. Smith wanted to let the business and everyone that wrote letters in support of this grant was greatly appreciated. We will be applying for more. Smith also talked with the trailer park owners and thanked them for cleaning up the property.

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 7:36 p.m.

Tiffany Pistole
Village Clerk