

## WALNUT VILLAGE BOARD MINUTES Tuesday, March 5, 2024

The meeting with the President and Board of Trustees held on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of March 2024 started at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Hall in the Village of Walnut, IL.

President Rosenthal directed the Clerk to call roll and the following Trustees answered present: Brian Stull, John Middleton, Lee Johnston, Brian Smith and Melissa Dye. Bryan Arteberry was absent.

President Rosenthal asked if there were any additions or corrections to make to the regular meeting minutes from February 20, 2024. With none made, a motion made by Johnston and second by Dye to approve the minutes. On roll call vote, all present voted in favor and the motion carried.

Treasurer Wolf presented the bills for \$14,651.41. A motion made by Smith and second by Stull to approve the bills as presented. On roll call vote, all present voted in favor and the motion carried.

The first thing President Rosenthal had to present was the cash rent farm leases for Rick Clary and Mike Thacker. Rick Clary farms the field that would be our additional ground for the cemetery. The ground is around 7 acres. The lease is in depth because we can take control of the grounds at any time if we needed to for cemetery expansion. His rent is \$482.00. The reason for the discussion is potentially increasing the cash rent. President Rosenthal contacted an ag banker for the going rates on farm ground. Smith suggested no more than \$100 per acre. President Rosenthal stated that we can keep them as is and talk with the farmers and possibly do an increase for next years' lease. Johnston said that would be fair. The Thacker lease is for 28.5 acres and this is the old dump property.

A motion made by Stull and second by Johnston to approve the \$482.00 rent for this cropping year for Rick Clary. On roll call vote, all present voted in favor and the motion carried.

Mike Thacker's rent is \$1,000.00 for the 28.5 acres that he farms. A motion made by Stull and second by Middleton to approve the rent for this cropping year for Mike Thacker.

Spt. Minks wanted remind everyone that we own 1 acre of land east of the water tower that is being farmed by Ted Mocchel. He does not pay rent. Spt. Minks said the reason why we have extra ground there is because that is where the next water tower will go if we ever needed to have one.

Spt. Minks wanted to remind everyone about Cemetery Clean-Up starting March 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please have everything removed by March 18<sup>th</sup>. People can replace the decorations starting March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Finance Committee – The committee has a scheduled meeting for March 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. Everyone is encouraged to come.

Streets & Alleys – Johnston stated that they are working on the budget. They also received a couple bids for the sidewalk on the corner of Heaton and Main Street.

Water & Sewer – Stull stated that they just had a committee meeting. They discussed the issues with rusty water during the summer time and came up with a plan for that. They also discussed some budget items.

Garbage – Nothing at this time.

Law & Order – Nothing at this time.

Cemetery – Smith met with Spt. Minks at the Cemetery. They are going to hold out on planting any trees due to concerns with massive insect infestation this summer.

Local Improvements – Smith stated the solar project at the sewer plant is still on track. Middleton is looking for someone to write a grant to replace the tornado siren for public safety.

Old Business – Nothing at this time.

With no other business to come before the board, Stull made a motion to adjourn, Dye second the motion and on roll call vote, all present voted in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Tiffany Miller,  
Village Clerk