

## **WALNUT VILLAGE BOARD MINUTES**

### **Tuesday, February 4, 2025**

The meeting with the President and Board of Trustees held on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of February 2025 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 January 21, 2025. With no corrections made, a motion made by Smith and second by Johnston to approve the minutes. On roll call vote, all present voted in favor and the motion carried.

Treasurer Wolf presented the bills for \$16,781.20. A motion was 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.

Finance Committee – Middleton thanked everyone for their participation in assisting with the budget. Middleton would like to set up a future meeting.

Streets & Alleys – Johnston stated that he has a pre-construction meeting next week for Phase 1 Streetlight and Sidewalk.

Water & Sewer – Stull stated that he spoke with Spt. Minks about installing new meters into houses but we are going to hold off until Clerk Miller can get the help she needs with this new water program. Stull asked Clerk Miller to explain to the board about what is going on with the new water program. Clerk Miller said it's not going well. She is still waiting for someone from customer service to contact her for help. She spoke with one person, but they were unable to help with what she needed. She stated that the program is a disappointment. Stull asked if this is something that we can back out of and get some of our money back. Clerk Miller was unsure if that was an option. Treasurer Wolf also confirmed that this program is a disappointment. She stated that it's like taking 10 steps backwards from what our previous program was. The other major problem is the radio read meters haven't been read yet. Last month was a 5 week month and here we are going on week 6 without them being read because customer service hasn't helped Clerk Miller yet. Clerk Miller said she will need to go in and adjust 140+ accounts because it's not fair for the customer to pay for the extra usage. gWorks customer service is not good at all. The last program that we were using was called UBMax but it was bought out by gWorks.

Garbage – Dye stated that she met with Jim Pozzi from Republic Services regarding a new garbage and recycling contract. She stated that she asked for a 5 year contract rather than another 7 year contract. Dye stated that she contacted AM Disposal about a 5 year contract as well. They are suppose to get back to her. President Rosenthal reached out to Midwest Disposal regarding the same thing and they are suppose to get back to him as well. Dye also contacted All American from Granville stated that they couldn't give us a residential rate.

Jim Pozzi wanted to thank the Village for their partnership over the last several years. Pozzi stated that he knows that Republic offers the best proposal. He said they aren't going to be the cheapest, but they are going to be the most professional, ethical and reliable company that you get a quote from. Pozzi stated that AM Disposal has 1 truck and they can barely keep it running as of right now. He also stated that Republic has provided very good service to Walnut. There had been some hiccups, but those issues were resolved right away.

Middleton asked about recycling. He had heard that the recycling was going to the same place the garbage goes to. Pozzi stated that is not true. The recycling goes to a sorting facility. All the recycling is hauled by Moring and taken to Rock Falls to the recycling transfer station. From there it is taken to Scott County, Iowa to the recycling plant there to be sorted and cleaned. Pozzi said we are more than welcome to come tour the operation.

Law & Order – Stull stated they are going to purchase body cams this fiscal year. He is coming up with a maximum budget so they can still decide on what to do with the Chief's position and hire a couple part-timers. They want to be prepared for what could be the most they spend compared to the least amount spent.

Cemetery – Nothing at this time.

Local Improvements – Stull wanted to remind everyone that the Fire Department is having their pancake breakfast Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>. Stull also wanted to give his condolences to the Sarver family for the passing of Gary Sarver. Gary was the Village Superintendent for 29 years.

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 7:28 p.m.

Tiffany Miller,  
Village Clerk