

June 9th, 2020

Village of Rapids City
Rock Island County, Illinois

This Regular Board meeting was called to order by President Mire at 7:05p.m.

Roll Call:

Physically Present – None.

Telephonically Present - Rankin, Fowler, Clark, Robertson, Mire, Fiems and Schnieder

Absent – None.

Others Physically Present –Treasurer Barber, Clerk Housenga and Interim Chief Tone.

Others Telephonically Present - Public Works Director Bump, Attorney Mason

A quorum was established via phone as per Governor Pritzker's Executive order.

CONSENT "Omnibus" Agenda: Clark motioned to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes 05/12/2020, Monthly Bills 06/2020 and Treasurer's Report presented by Barber 05/2020. Robertson seconded. All teleconferenced members voted yes; motion carries.

PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD: None.

PRESIDENT –Mire: Mire reported no complaints were received from the recent state of emergency curfews issued via Mire's Executive Order. The Executive Order has already been rescinded. Mire appreciated all citizen cooperation.

POLICE REPORT: Report as presented. Mire was presented with the report prior to release to the Village Board. Acting to protect the Officers and Department Mire had redacted some information on the report as vulnerabilities were revealed; once the deficiencies are resolved the full report will be released. Chief Tone had nothing further to elaborate on the report. Tone did recap officer coverage, patrols and actions taken on the nights the curfew as enforced. Many of the Trustees complemented Tone on layout of his report. Schnieder commented on the action of protecting vulnerabilities of the police department, stating he doesn't feel the redactions should not be treated as a matter of national security and should be discussed openly or in executive session to resolve the deficiencies. Schnieder also stated he doesn't like being shut down during a group text message discussion prior to issuing a state of emergency to discuss emergency matters due to bureaucracy, real time emergencies should be discussed without having to worry about the Open Meetings Act. Fiems added the Village President was put in a position as were he needed to make an executive decision with limited input and sometimes the President needs the opinions of his constituents in order to make a judgment call based on what is best for the community. Rankin stated Mire had input from other Mayors from other municipalities prior to declaring an emergency. Mire explained to Attorney Mason the back background of this discussion as he had sought opinions of Board Members on the matter of issuing an Executive Order via text, Mire stated the Clerk thought the discussion may have been a violation of OMA therefore he shut down the discussion. In Mire's opinion, seeking the opinion from the Board Members was ok due to the Board not making the decision and only he would be deciding to declare an emergency. Attorney Mason will review the OMA to verify the official law. Clerk Housenga stated she did not mind getting opinions from the Board but only if each member responded directly to President and not to the whole group. Housenga further explained she did not want the text thread to be misconstrued as an illegal meeting. Mire stated he did communicate with Rankin, Mayor Pro Tem prior to making a decision. Clerk Housenga will follow up with the Village Attorney on this matter. To close out this discussion Mire stated he believes everyone has the best intentions for the Village and it's residents. Chief Tone explained he would like the Village to consider adding to it's code of ordinances a vehicle impoundment ordinance. The ordinance would be impose a fee upon the owner of a vehicle that is used in the commission of a crime. Discussion took place further explaining the specifics of the proposed ordinance. Mire asked to have the matter placed on the July agenda and a draft of the ordinance sent to all Board Members.

ATTORNEY – N. Mason: Mason is waiting on the return of service from the Sherriff concerning the abandonment of the property on 17th Street property. Complaints concerning the 17th Street property have been received, the proper process of notification has been followed, and mowing of the property will be conducted and recorded.

FIRE REPORT – Chief Carey: Report as presented.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – Bump: Report as presented. Robertson inquired with Bump the status of the installation of the exercise equipment. Fowler inquired as to when the donated bench would be installed at the park? Bump stated other projects have had a greater priority at this time and a concrete truck will be need for each project to be completed. Fiems motioned to approve the purchase of a used trailer for transport of the recently purchased mini ex, purchase price not to exceed \$7,500.00. Rankin seconded. All teleconferenced members voted yes; motion carries.

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BUILDING, ZONING & PLANNING – Fiems: 8 new building permits were issued last month. Schnieder inquired upon the ordinance for requiring a fence around pools. Schnieder states he is aware of a pool that was erected over a year ago and is still without a fence. Clerk Housenga asked Schnieder to contact the office to lodge the complaint specifics and the process would then be followed. Schnieder stated he now has his village email up, he is now aware of a Interstate 80 project and has expressed he would like to see our zoning information brought forth to the project leads to ensure the project coincide with our plans.

PERSONNEL & FINANCE – Clark: Robertson motioned to approve the purchase of a Dell Latitude 5590 business laptop bundle including dual 24” monitors, printer, docking station, keyboard, mouse to be purchased from Amazon. Rankin seconded. All teleconferenced members voted yes; motion carries. The bundle will replace Clerk Housenga’s pc.

INFRASTRUCTURE – Rankin: Rankin explained 90% of the work is complete on the 14th Street culvert replacement by Needham Excavating; the remaining 10% consists of the delivery and install of the upstream grating. Public Works Director Bump is to review Change Order 3 to determine validity. Rankin motioned we issue payment to Needham as requested in Application for Payment No. 1 the amount of \$81,006.00 with balance to finish, plus retainage to be determined. Clark seconded. All teleconferenced members voted yes; motion carries. Mire explained a concrete dam was placed in the creek between 14th and 13th Streets within the easement rights of the road on the property owned by resident Holland. Bump will be removing the dam. Mire will be in contact with Holland to explain the removal and explain the dam altered the natural flow of the creek. Per the village Engineer he does not believe a permit will be required. Rebuild Illinois through IDOT will be issuing funds in the amount of \$63,201.90 to the village, paid in 6 installments, moneys need to be expended within the next 5 years. Terry Haskins has provided a bid for repair of curb and gutter on 9th Avenue and 15th Street in the amount of \$1,800.00, length of repair is approximately 30’. Public Works will complete the repair with cold patch. The current curb and gutter is failing in front of Reichwien’s property. Fiems motioned to approve the replacement of curb and gutter on 9th Avenue at the intersection of 15th Street by Terry Haskins in the amount of \$1800.00. Rankin seconded. All teleconferenced members voted yes; motion carries.

ELECTIONS – Mire: Nothing to report at this time.

PARKS, RECREATIONS & CEMETERY – Robertson: Robertson addressed a complaint received concerning a section of recreational path north of Schuler’s Shady Grove. There is a grassy area which the complainant express is a hazard to bicyclists. Problem solving discussions took place as well as a reminder that the path is not just for bicyclists but for joggers, runners, walkers and skateboarders. The matter has been tabled and addressed at the July Board Meeting; Trustees would like to visit the location to determine the best resolution.

ORDINANCE & LICENSES – Schnieder: Nothing at this time.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS, EVENT PLANNING & PUBLIC SAFETY – Fowler: Fowler would like to revisit scheduling the E-Waste Event in October.

OLD BUSINESS: Schnieder thanked and commended Chief Tone on the procedures and handling of the event that happened in the Village on May 9th, 2020. Clark would like to revisit the scholarship fund approved at the May 2020 Board Meeting as he would like more information on how the scholarship will be handled.

NEW BUSINESS: Rankin asked for consideration of a discount of 50% of sewer charges as many households that are laid off or are having financial difficulty at this time. Mire asked Treasurer Barber if the Village could sustain another month of reduction. Barber preferred not to continue with reductions but to reach out to people that are past due to the point of shut off and offer help. Per the Village Board any resident interested in donating to resident bills it is welcomed. More discussion on this matter will take place on the July 2020 meeting. Fiems formally requested all meeting are to be held at Village Hall beginning in July. Fowler seconded. Clark requested a special table configuration in the Community Center.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION: None.

With nothing further to be discussed, Schnieder motioned to adjourn this Regular Board Meeting; Rankin seconded. All members of the Board concurred. President Mire adjourned this June 9th, 2020 meeting at 8:44pm.

Clerk