

This Regular Board meeting was called to order by President Mire at 7:00p.m.

Roll Call:

Physically Present – Fowler, Fiems, Rankin, Polenske and Robertson

Absent – DeMarlie

Others Physically Present –David & Karen Wright (left at 7:44pm), Sherrif's Officer Valencia, Clerk Housenga, Greg Kerner (left at 7:07pm)

Others Virtually Present – None.

A quorum was physically established.

CONSENT “Omnibus” Agenda: Fiems motioned to approve 02/15/2024 Regular Meeting Minutes, 02/27/2024 Committee of the Whole Minutes, 03/2024 Monthly Bills totaling \$75,145.80 and Treasure’s Report presented by Barber for 02/2024; Rankin seconded. All present board members voted yes, motion passes.

PERSONS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD: Greg Kerner of Thai Town Café addressed the board once again requesting the approval of placement of a retaining wall along 17th Street in front of his business. Kerner presented an easement agreement drafted by his attorney authorizing placement as the wall would be placed over the utility easement. The matter was tabled as the Board felt it best for the Village Attorney to look at the agreement before authorizing. This matter will be discussed at the March 21st, 2024 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

David and Karen Wright addressed the board to express concerns pertaining to water run-off, drainage and erosion. Wright noted with the rain that we had recently water drained with a large amount of mud and litter. Wright is concerned with the amount of water flowing from the top of the hill to below the hill and the direction it flows. Wright further explained he feels there may be erosion under the railroad tracks due to water ponding in the parking lot owned by the railroad on the north side of RT84. Mire explained with the 17th Street project Axiom Consultants and the State of Illinois Department of Transportation had agreed to eliminate the culvert under 17th Street at the intersection of RT 84, which was completely blocked therefore not allowing water to drain to the east. Mire explained that the punch list for the 17th Street Project is not completed, which once completed should help with possible erosion. Also explained was that each property owner is responsible for the cleaning of any culvert under their driveway and maintenance of the ditches within their properties. Concerns were also noted about the blocked culverts along RT 84 in front, between businesses on 18th Street and under railroad property. Mire explained culverts questioned belong to the State of Illinois and the railroad therefore the village cannot clean out as those areas are not our property. Concerns should be brought to the attention of the proper authority. Wright states he has talked to an employee with IDOT while they were in town cleaning out the ditches and was informed that the culverts were to be cleaned out in the future.

PRESIDENT – Mire: Mire updated the board as to conversations with IDOT concerning the electronic sign located at the west entrance of the Village along RT 84. IDOT will be investigating a possible jurisdictional transfer of land that the sign is located on. At this time we are waiting for IDOT to get back with us as to their findings.

Mire then addressed the matter of amending Village Ordinance Title I, Chapter 2, Article 1, Section 4 – 4.2. Currently, the ordinance reads the term of the Water Superintendent shall be 2 years. Mire would like to change the ordinance to reflect a 4-year term to run concurrent with the Village President. Robertson motion to amend to Title I, Chapter 2, Article 1, Section 4 – 4.2 reflecting the term of 4 years running concurrent with the Village President, Fiems seconded the motion. All present members voted yes, motion carries.

Title VIII, Chapter 1, Article 1, Section 2 – 2.2 currently indicates the Water Commissioner is to receive compensation of \$50.00 per month. At this time Ryan receives \$700 per year for what was understood to pay for his water license. Mire is recommending amending the forementioned ordinance to reflect a \$60.00 per month as compensation for the office. Fiems motioned and Fowler seconded to amend Title VIII, Chapter 1, Article 1, Section 2 – 2.2 – A. to reflect the amount of \$60.00 per month. All present members voted yes, motion carries.

POLICE REPORT – Rock Island County Sheriff’s Department: Report as presented.

ATTORNEY – Califf & Harper P.C.: Mire advised the Sanitary Sewer Contract with Rock Island County Forest Preserve has been approved. Califf and Harper will be completing the recording of the agreement.

FIRE REPORT – Chief Carey: Report not provided.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Mire reported items the Public Works Department has been completing throughout the month. Housenga noted that in order to complete the purchase of rock salt an Authority by the Vote must be approved. The matter has been tabled until the March 21st, 2024 Committee of the Whole Meeting as Authority of Vote refers to the plural version of contract when this authorization should only be pertaining to the purchase of salt.

INFRASTRUCTURE – Rankin: Rankin had nothing to report on the 17th Street project.

Rankin motioned to approve payment to Axiom Consultants invoice number 5671 in the amount of \$2,450.00 for engineering on the 14th Street Sewer Lift Station Flood Wall. Fowler seconded the motion, all present board members voted yes, motion carries. No additional work is to be completed on this project until further direction from the board.

PARKS, RECREATION & CEMETERY – Robertson: Robertson explained the best location for the new playground equipment, has been identified at Shadow Hill Park. Pricing for the equipment has been obtained along with the mulch that is needed. Robertson will also be obtaining pricing for extending the fencing at the park to allow parking to be extended.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS, EVENT PLANNING & PUBLIC SAFETY – Fowler: Fowler noted there may be up to 25 volunteers for the Easter Egg Hunt donating their time for the event.

Mire explained the first step in approval of the new police protection contract has been approved with the county. Clerk Housenga has shared the tentative agreement with the board for review and to ask questions before a final vote.

The bicycle and pedestrian access trail on the I80 bridge meeting was attended by Mire, Robertson, and Bump. Officials requesting maintenance of the pedestrian access trail be shared with Rapids City, Hampton and LeClaire were not aware the bridge did not fall within Rapids City nor Hampton village limits. Additional discussion meetings will be held in the future as to the maintenance and design of the trail.

ORDINANCE & LICENSES – DeMarlie: Nothing to report.

PERSONNEL & FINANCE – Fiems: Nothing to report at this time.

ELECTIONS – Mire: Mire reminded everyone of the election coming up on the 19th.

BUILDING, ZONING & PLANNING – DeMarlie: In the month of February 2 general building permits and 1 plumbing permit were issued.

VIDEO GAMING – Robertson: Robertson reported The Edge has opened their video gaming area with three machines. QC Mart is still waiting for their addition construction to be completed and Video Gaming Board approval.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION: None.

With nothing further to discuss, Rankin motioned to adjourn this Regular Board Meeting at 8:26pm. Fiems seconded the motion, all members of the Board concurred.

Missy M. Housenga
Village Clerk