

VILLAGE OF MCLEAN

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

AUGUST 7, 2023

President Hammel called the regular meeting of the board to order at 6:59PM. ROLL CALL- Page, Loercher, Gordon, VanDyke, Willie, Kirby and present. Also Present: Greg Rutheford, Jennifer Denham, Debbie Cochran, Chief Belvry. Visitors: Sharon Leipold, Hillary McDannald, Henry Dawdy, Sandra Sheldon, Gisele Hamm, Reggie Spaulding, Sherri Hester, Jean Lane, Penny Mann, James Mann, Amy Ummel, Greg Ummel, Diane Ludy, Katie, Funk, Jeff Hake, Stephanie, Neumann, Lauri Ludy. Via Zoom: Mark McGrath, Eric Fulk.

MONTHLY MINUTES: Kirby-Motion to approve July 10th, regular board meeting minutes as amended. Gordon-2nd. All ayes, motion carried. VanDyke-Motion to approve July 19th special board meeting minutes as amended. Kirby-2nd. All ayes, motion carried.

MONTHLY BILLS: Page questioned if the \$200 to Katie Funk was for the last 2 weeks. Hammel verified this was correct. Page obtained copies of the WCR Contract and pointed out that it does not state a 60-day notice to cancel. Page-Motion to pay monthly bills as presented, except for the \$3000 invoice for WCR. Gordon-2nd. Yes-VanDyke, Loercher, Gordon, Page, Kirby. No-Willie. Motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT: Susan Cameron questioned committee meetings, and if these are posted like regular board meetings. These are as the public is welcome, and minutes from the meetings are posted. She questioned if the hiring of the treasurer was done as a committee meeting. This was not, as only 2 board members were present. Cameron asked the board if they have considered meetings 2x per month like some other villages have. She also questioned if the board had been notified of the work the CORE of Mclean is doing/considering on the water tower. The board stated they had not been notified.

James and Penny Mann, 206 N Fisher Street-Curtis Gordon, 212 N Fisher Street- have concerns that the property owned by the railroad is not being taken care of which is causing the yards and village streets to flood when it rains. They have attempted to contact the railroad but have not been contacted back. Would like to see the area owned by railroad cleaned out at least 1 time per year to protect their properties. Per Hammel-Village will reach out to Mark McGrath as well as Sally Turner to help with suggestions.

Sherri Hester asked about the Annie Meyers lease. Annie has spoken with Greg, but no building permits have been applied for yet.

Henry Dawdy asked if the anonymous letter from McLean Villagers, if the board will address. Jeff Hake replied on the portion the dealt with the CORE of McLean and felt that there was a lot of misleading information stated. He stated that they did obtain approval to plant the trees, as well as water themselves. He stated the CORE never asked the village employees to water them.

COMMITTEE REPORTS-None

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Chief Belvry stated that the new squad vehicle is currently being built. Computers have shipped, and the unit should be operating by September. Next meeting, he would like to address nuisance violations regarding junk vehicles. McLean County Rural Chiefs are updating rural agreements. Chief requested the board look over the new Mutual Aid Agreement, which he will email to the board members.

PUBLIC WORKS: No Arsenic report this month. Motor was installed on the lift station. Pumps are working with the large amounts of rain that we have received. More inspections have been done. 206 letters were sent out for remaining inspections.

OFFICE: Would like to get pricing on updating the computer systems. Jenny also requested that the meeting be moved to the Park District due to the number of attendees.

NOISE ORDINANCE: Chief provided the board with a template of the updated Noise Ordinance to review before sending it to McGrath. Will need to hold a public safety committee meeting before bringing recommendations to the full board.

CORE OF MCLEAN GRANT: VanDyke would like to revisit the new grant submitted by Jeff Hake with the CORE of McLean. Money would have to come out of Hotel/Motel tax which can only be used for tourism. Gordon's concern that the CORE has sufficient money and wondering why the CORE needs the money, as well as why public works employees working the 6.6 Race is now voluntary, and not mandatory. Can place on next meetings agenda to discuss. Gisele Hamm with Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs stated that the study done through WIL Mapping the Future of Your Community lays out the plans of the CORE, and what money will be used for. Motion by VanDyke to grant the CORE of McLean \$3088.25 for the Route 6.6 Run. Kirby-2nd. 3-3 tie. Yes-Loercher, VanDyke, Willie. No-Kirby, Page, Gordon. Hammel-Yes. Motion carried.

BID FOR STRIPING AROUND VILLAGE SQUARE-Per Kirby, no bids yet.

PERMIT/FEE FOR RIGHT OF WAY CONSTRUCTION/OPERATING: Motion by VanDyke to accept Schedule of Fees for Right of Way Construction. Willie-2nd. All ayes, motion carried.

REMOVAL OF OLD WATER TOWER: Kirby obtained an estimate from Iseler Demolition for removal of old water tower down the concrete foundation is \$34,000-\$37,000.

Project of Business portion of CORE is focused on the revitalization on the old water tower, and its surroundings. CORE would like to be involved in upcoming conversation regarding the tower. Gordon would like to see information for the CORE on what their plans would be.

CORE OF MCLEAN CHILI COOKOFF/DINNER GRANT REQUEST: The CORE will hold a Chili Cook-Off Saturday, October 14th. The Park District has offered up use of the gym and the kitchen. CORE will discuss at their next meeting if they need to apply for a Grant. Will leave it on agenda.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTING CONTEST: Gordon would like to bring back the Christmas Light Contest with the Christmas in the Village. Per Jenny, the Park District would also like to be involved. Gordon will check with Heyworth to see how they operate.

CORE COMMUNITY GARDEN: Per Jeff Hake, looking for a location for a possible community garden, but would like to know options before proceeding any further. Rutheford asked who would be responsible for weeding and maintaining. CORE would be looking to possibly pay someone to keep it in order. Rutheford suggested possible property located over by the apartments which is owned by the Village-previous old Route 66. Hake would like to formalize with written permission for access to use possible location for garden, as well as the location where the 18 trees were planted. The board has no current concern as far as the current location where the 18 trees are planted. The village can work with McGrath on possible lease of land for use.

WCR CONTRACT TERMINATION/RENEWAL: Willie requested to add possible renewal of contract with WCR back to agenda as he was absent for the last meeting. He is concerned that there is no back-up plan for the Village. Page had contacted Jeff Torricelli, who also works for WCR, but stated she was disappointed in the representation of Warren. Per Hammel, Warren Ribley was to take direction from the board on projects. Willie suggested maybe trying to enter back into an agreement with WCR with a fee structure based on performance, or an alternative to WCR to help the town progress. Bill Emery has also been contacted as an alternative, but it is the suggestion of Hammel that other options need to be brought.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by VanDyke-2nd Kirby to enter executive session at 9:24PM

Motion by VanDyke-2nd Gordon to enter active session at 9:45PM. ROLL CALL- Page, Loercher, Gordon, VanDyke, Willie, Kirby and present.

Motion by VanDyke to adjourn the meeting-2nd Loercher at 9:45PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Ashley Billington

Village Clerk