

Minutes of the Village Board Meeting
Monday, June 15, 2020
7:00 PM

Village President Metzger calls the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance is recited.

On Roll Call, Trustees Buss, Freeze, Norris, Vinnedge, Cotter, and Toms are all in attendance. Also, in attendance are Clerk Drayton, Treasurer Schneiderman, Budget Officer Klipping, Chief Boomgarden, Seth Gronewold, Jane Keller, Dan Pepin, Superintendent of Public Works Rust, Joanne Becker, and Brian Kelsey.

Trustee Freeze requests the Minutes of the June 1, 2020 Minutes be amended as he did not ask about Clean Up Days. Trustee Norris states she asked if we had looked at rescheduling. Clerk Drayton will amend the minutes to reflect this correction. Trustee Freeze motions to approve the minutes with the above noted change, 2nd is made by Trustee Norris. On Roll Call: Trustee Freeze, Norris, Cotter, and Buss respond with Yeas. Trustees Vinnedge and Toms both abstain as they were absent from the meeting.

There is no Public Comment

Trustee Toms presents the Building/Demolition, Sign, Fence & Pool Permits. The first item is the corrected drawing provided for the Trustees of a permit which was approved at the June 1st meeting. This is provided to the trustees as verification of the fence dimensions which were amended to make it compliant with the Village Fence Ordinance.

The next permit is for 304 W Willow Street for a Pool and Fence. Trustee Toms apologizes that the information for the fence was not written on the permit. He was fully aware it was a 6' privacy fence but did not note it on the permit. Trustee Toms motions to approve the permit and it is 2nd by Trustee Freeze. On Roll Call, Trustees Norris, Vinnedge, Cotter, Toms Buss, and Freeze all respond with Yea's.

Next, is permit for an Addition of a 10 x 10 deck to walk in cooler behind Mimmo's on which another 8 x 9 cooler will be placed. Steps will be on the north end for loading cooler from trucks. There is a sewer line under this cooler. The first cooler was done 10-12 years ago. The Village President then proposed an agreement to be done regarding the sewer line, but it was never done. There has been a disclosure done by the Village Clerk which Mimmo has signed stating if there is an issue with the sewer line, he will be responsible for all costs of digging and repairs as his coolers are over the line. If there are issues with the sewer line, it would come from buildings to the west. Mimmo's sewer line was changed when he purchased the corner building. All his sewer runs directly to the west from that building. A jetter could get in at Sweetwood's building. Seth asks if the agreement is tied to the deed of the property. What happens if he retires and sells out someday? We should tie the agreement to the property deed. Monty states we should vacate the alley and sell it to Mimmo and VP Metzger states we should have vacated when the first cooler was put in place. Trustee Vinnedge states there is an easement thru the alley, can we vacate it? Motion is made have the Village Attorney add the agreement to the property deed and approve the permit by Trustee Cotter and is 2nd by Trustee Freeze. On Roll Call, Trustees Vinnedge, Cotter, Toms, Buss, Freeze and Norris all respond with Yea's.

A Deck Permit for 606 S 5th Avenue is discussed next. Trustee Toms states the deck is 20' x 15'. There is 30' to the back-lot line and 18' to the south side. It is well within the setbacks required. Trustee Toms motions to approve the deck permit for 606 S 5th Avenue, 2nd is made by Trustee Buss. On Roll Call, Trustee's Cotter, Toms, Buss, Freeze Norris, and Cotter all respond with Yea's.

Trustee Toms presents the next permit which is for demolition of a deck and removal of existing patio, which is cracked and crumbling to be removed. A new patio to be poured where the existing deck and patio with an addition of 129 square feet being added. Also, a 6' privacy fence will be placed along the north and east sides of the patio. All setbacks are complying, and Trustee Toms makes the motion to approve the permit for demolition, new patio, and privacy fence upon payment of the \$100 fee. The motion is 2nd by Trustee Cotter. On Roll Call, Trustees Toms, Buss, Freeze, Norris, Vinnedge, and Cotter all respond with Yea's.

The final permit for the night is a Solar Permit for 404 W Willow Street. This system is similar to the previous 2 done in the Meadow's area and the \$300 permit fee has been paid. Trustee Toms motions to approve the Solar Permit and it is 2nd by Trustee Freeze. On Roll Call, Trustees Buss, Freeze, Norris, Vinnedge, Cotter, and Toms all respond with Yea's.

Trustee Freeze asks Trustee Toms if he had been called regarding a 3' green wire fence being placed on a property. Trustee Toms states no. However, if it is a temporary fence for a garden, it is allowed. If it is for a pet or children, it will have to be permitted and proper materials will be required. Trustee Toms states he will look into it.

Trustee Buss asks if the permit and fees for the AT & T Tower were ever received. Clerk Drayton responds the permit was emailed to her, but no fee had been received.

Treasurer Schneiderman reviews the Treasurer's Report for month ending 5-31-2020. A noted item is that the additional MFT funds have been received and we have created a separate line item for them. June sales taxes are higher than we expected they would be. Trustee Buss asks if the new line items were ever created for Debt Repayment toward the water main replacement fund and the New Meter fund as they are not listed on the report. Treasurer Schneiderman states the Debt Repayment account is at \$3,647 and the Meter Fund is at \$1,062. Trustee Buss asks that this information be added to the Treasurer's report. Village Treasurer Schneiderman states he can add the Revenue information next month.

Accounts Payable – Clerk Drayton states she has included two copies of the accounts payable in the packets. The first is by account code as they are accustomed to. The second is in Vendor order and shows more information. This was included as a possible change in reports. Trustee Cotter states he likes the Vendor order better. Trustee Buss states that the mowing done for unkept properties should not come from the Streets & Alley's line item. Clerk Drayton states that is where it has always come from, she is following procedure. Trustee Cotter will discuss it with Trustee Norris, and they will come up with a different line item. Trustee Buss questions the bill for Dubuque Fire Equipment. Superintendent Rust explains it is for the annual check on all the fire extinguishers. Trustee Buss also asks about the engineering fee to Fehr Graham – is that the engineering fee. Yes, it is. Motion is made by Trustee Vinnedge to approve the Accounts Payable as listed, 2nd by Trustee Toms. On Roll Call, Trustees Freeze, Norris, Vinnedge, Cotter, Toms, and Buss all respond with Yea's.

Committee Reports:

Streets & Alleys – Trustee Buss has nothing to report.

Sewer and Water – Trustee Vinnedge asks Seth about the Water Main Project – did we find the correct pipe? Seth does not know. Fischer Excavating was not able to get the pipe we requested and wanted to change it out, but we said no. The goal is to start on June 18th. On Wednesday June 17th there is a meeting at 10:00 AM at the Township Building.

Dan Pepin speaks regarding the Lead Service Line Replacement project. They have the Draft Spec Book together for the loan application, and EPA review. The bid must be open for 45 days. If the money is granted, and we would start in the spring of 2021. We will know if the funds are available before it goes out to bid.

VP Metzger asks, "Will any of this affect the Water Meter Replacement Project?" They are under the same loan number, but they are two separate projects. We may get bypassed and funded later, the worst case would be we are pushed back to the next funding cycle, but then we would be at the top of the list. The maximum available monies were increased by the state, so Seth feels very positive that the IEPA will continue funding. Vinnedge asks how long before we know if we have the funding. Typically, we would hear 30-45 days after the loan application is submitted. We should submit by the end of July so we should know by mid fall.

Finance - Trustee Norris has nothing to report

- Budget Officer Report for month ending 5-20-2020 - Budget Officer Klipping states she was unable to get her report done due to previously scheduled events. She will have it for the 2nd meeting in July with the July report.

Buildings, Grounds, Parks, Zoning, Planning – The Warnken Park basketball court should be poured in the next two weeks. That and the sidewalks will be done at the same time. Trustee Toms will talk with the Lions Club to secure their donation for the project. Supt Rust states the retention pond work will start in within the next month or so when things dry out.

Ordinances - Trustee Toms calls for a meeting of the Ordinance Committee on June 22nd at 6:30 PM at Memorial Park. They will look at the Pool and Fence Permit/Application.

Animal Control - Trustee Norris has nothing to report.

Clerk's Report - Clerk Drayton reports 597 surveys regarding the possibility of a new Village Hall were mailed on June 9th. Clerk Drayton spoke with Judy Hoffman and they are fine if we have a group weed/plant the flower bed where the Welcome to Forreston sign is on the North side of town. She asks we notify them prior to going out as they have tenants is in the house. In speaking with Moring, they would be able to do July 31st and August 1st for our Clean Up Days. Clerk Drayton states she must verify Glick's can work that weekend before confirmation. Mike Cowman was in regarding posting an add on the sports calendar. Clerk Drayton showed the photo on her phone of last year's add – approximately 2 ½" x 2 inches. The copier is in for repairs, we have not budgeted for a new one, so the old one will be repaired and returned. Trustee Vinnedge says he thinks we should do it again; Trustees Toms and Cotter both add they feel we should sponsor an add again. Village President Metzger states we will sponsor an add for the poster again this year.

Chief of Police Report is reviewed. Trustee Vinnedge asks about the 4 ATV complaints. Chief Boomgarden states they were legitimate complaints and that those with our UTV licenses will rat out those who do not. Trustee Vinnedge asks if we have caught any of the suspects from the break in at SGW's. Chief replies we have not identified all 5 of them from the video. Chief also informs the Board he has requested an interview with one of suspects should he be arrested. Trustee Buss questions the UTV's he has seen on the roads. Are they licensed? They are really big machines – the size of cars. Chief states we have some with 2-seater and 4-seater units. They are all set up to run trails in Wisconsin. Chief continues with we have not had any issues with ANY reckless driving. If one would decide to 'hotrod' their permit would

be gone. This is an ordinance and we can send a conviction on a state ticket if they operate recklessly. Trustee Buss also questions the dog incident. Was the dog in the street? Chief replies there is no indication the dog crossed the underground fence. Prior to the incident he never had a call or report on the dog in question, therefore it is all hearsay.

Supt. Of Public Works Report - Supt. Rust reports the water loss is up. There is a leak before the meter in Springbrook and Hauck Homes will be fixing that later this week. Illinois Rural Water will be in when they are in the area next to help check for water leaks. Supt Rust explains we do not bill the trailer park owners every month – it depends on the difference between the trailer total and the master meter reading. If the difference is greater than the number of trailers, we always bill, but there must be some leeway as we only read to the thousand column. Scott has been working on marking water lines for the water main replacement project. Trustee Freeze asks about the hauling of the cored-out dirt to the WWTP. Supt Rust says it will be discussed on Wednesday. Sidewalk work downtown will begin soon for the areas that could not be lifted. Trustee Buss asks how many days do the cement lifters have left in town? Supt Rust replies none. They have lifted all they can on the downtown sidewalks. What is left to do is what could not be lifted and what was cracked or crumbling and needs to be replaced. Supt Rust also informs the Board he was required to attend physical therapy for back pain. If the physical therapy does not relieve the issues, he may be looking at back surgery. This is a preexisting injury that is causing problems, not a work comp issue.

Village President's Report – Village President Metzger states the American Legion would like to know where the Village stands regarding the festival and CoVid-19. He states he has spoke with Jane Koeller. The American Legion has cancelled the car show, there will be no beer tent or band, per Renee Ludwig the Pork Chop dinner is still a possibility but it would be carryout only from the fire station. We have spoke with Rob and our IML representative. The feeling is July would be phase 4. Insurance says we must follow mandates and protocol, insurance is not there for our negligence or defiance. We would have to monitor gatherings. In stage 4, we could have up to 50 people, but what if more showed up? We do not have exact guidelines now. Currently looking at a couple of food trucks – last 2 Friday nights in July 1st and the first 2 Fridays in August. Possibly a couple vendors for a craft show.

We must make sure we are compliant with our insurance. How do we disperse the extra? We must follow the mandates. What will happen if someone gets sick and sues us, IML will not back us up? The main reason this was listed as an action item was due to the car show, but the Legion has cancelled. Village President Metzger would like to act as to the fact if we are in stage 3, the Village cannot support any festivity. When we move to phase 4, we could revisit this issue. Trustee Vinnedge states phase 4 only allows 50 people. How do we control it? Trustee Buss asks will we have to take temperatures of everyone there? Where does it start and stop? Village President Metzger states It would be nice to have something. Stage 5 states no new cases and a vaccine, but I do not see that happening this summer. Trustee Freeze states we should just cancel it and take all the risk off the table. Trustee Buss replies yes, cancel it for now. If something changes, we can do something later.

If we cancel now and phase 4 happens, what does that bring to the table? Trustee Cotter asks could we have the movie night at the ball diamond? If we social distance could we do that? Chief states the problem is we have no where to take them. None of the jails will take them without a subsequent event. There is nothing he can arrest anyone with. We can give a suggestion and they can do what they want. Chief Boomgarden states we can move them along when they are on Village property. VP Metzger says Ogle County is following the mandates very closely. Enforcing business to require employees to wear masks. Chief says Stephenson and Ogle county are very aggressive, but sometimes there is an alternative and he has been in contact with them both for alternatives for events.

VP Metzger states the 3 on 3 tournament has been canceled. Jonathan Schneiderman is discussing a possible 3-point shot tournament with set ages at different times to limit the number of people there. VP Metzger states again that he would like to establish that if we are under stage 3, we will not support a festival. When we are at phase 4, we could look at other things and revisit the issue at stage 4.

Trustee Toms states he goes to work 400 people. Not one of them have contracted the virus. Make the festival a protest and we can have as many people attend as we want.

Trustee Buss motions to delay any festival plans at phase 3. When we are at phase 4, we can revisit the idea. This is 2nd by Trustee Norris. Legion has canceled, Lions is looking at carryout only pork chop dinner. On Roll Call, Trustees Norris, Vinnedge, Cotter, Buss, and Freeze all respond with Yea's. Trustee Toms votes No.

Village President Metzger states he has ordered 2 infrared no contact thermometers at \$60 each. There will be one for the office and one for Supt Rust and his guys. The staff record anyone who comes in the office with name, date, and temperature.

There is no New Business

Old Business

Ordinance 2020-07 UTV Ordinance Amendment – Village President Metzger states the age is 21 and chief wants to change it to 18. The state is at age 16. Trustee Vinnedge explains the ordinance age was at 21, now it is at 16. We want it to be 18. It goes back to how powerful these machines are and putting a 16-year-old in it. If Chief writes a ticket with the state codes on it, kids who are 16 would lose everything. The younger you get, the more you experiment and

the less experience. If you go to minimum age, we will have to write more and have more cases of violation due to number of passengers. 18 makes it an adult thing. Trustee Freeze – the state says 16. Is this an enforceable ordinance? Chief replies it is a Village Ordinance. But if they can leave Village limits, the County can write them at the state level, and they are stopping more and more of them. Trustee Freeze responds would they fight an ordinance ticket. Trustee Vinnedge states he spoke with Rob and he says 99% would not fight it. Trustee Buss asks can they drive to other communities. Trustee Buss asks what other communities surrounding us have. Chief says he has no idea. Everybody in Leaf River is driving them. Trustee Buss continues what if they come in from other communities. Chief replies they are not. They are not legal on County Roads. German Valley has not set a recommendation yet. Their Village Attorney has not made a recommendation yet. Village President Metzger states we should do as Chief recommends. Chief states we should table it again and see if he can get an answer from Leaf River and German Valley. Then at least we may be consistent. VP Metzger states we will table this ordinance 2020-07 again.

Seth talks about the Safe Routes to School project. The phase 1 approval is IDOT is done – the fastest turn around he has ever seen. Phase 2 approval of the designs and plans will go out for bid this winter before the funds lapse. Construction would start in June of 2021 so no issues with school activities. CFPS is on board to do the QBS for \$3,000. This will allow for the construction engineering to be paid for by the grant. The QBS is a blind bidding process that is required by IDOT if you want to use IDOT money for the engineering expenses. It is a 2-month process and allows you to pick the most qualified engineer, top 2 or 3 and then do interviews with them. Then, we can ask the top choice for cost proposal price. If we are happy with the price, we can go higher than. If unhappy you could go with the 2nd choice. This process would allow for the engineering costs to be covered by the grant. The \$3,000 is not budgeted but we could potentially do this in-house next time.

Clerk Drayton enclosed another liquor license application allowing for gas stations to sell limited on site consumption liquor so they can have gaming. Chief Boomgarden has gone out on duty, so this issue is set aside again. Trustee Buss asks how the BP is planning on laying this out. Clerk Drayton explains they must have a sectioned off area. No alcohol outside of that area. 1 beverage at a time and no more than 2 beverages in 24 hours. Trustee Buss adds and it must be in the line of site of the attendant, but where are they doing this in the building? Clerk Drayton states she does not know. VP Metzger states he feels they just really want to get the gaming in and will make it work when they do. Since Chief has left the meeting lets table this again. Trustee Buss asks if everyone has paid their fees for the liquor licenses now. Clerk Drayton replies everyone has paid in full and I have noted 2 months of gaming and amusement fees to prorate for next year.

Seth brings up the Moring property and asks if we have any drainage reports from the engineer. Trustee Buss states it is no different than Smoking Gun Works they do not have drainage out there. They did not have any so why make Morings? There is curb and gutter to one side and 18" tube under Locust Street. Seth states typically when things like this are built there are engineered calculations to prove all that. It is not just shedding the water. Engineering should be done to protect the Village. Dollar General had plans and water drainage plans from their engineer. Seth states that is why I brought it up, we do not want an issue. VP Metzger states he will call Steve Moring and ask him for more information. Trustee Vinnedge states he feels they should provide it. Trustee Buss says do you want to go there now? They never said what the building was going to be. Trustee Vinnedge states, yes, they did. It was going to be a storage shed. VP Metzger will speak with Steve

Trustee Toms motions to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Trustee Freeze. All respond with Yea's to the motion to adjourn.

The meeting is adjourned at 9:16 PM

Respectfully submitted by Clerk Drayton