Monday, June 03, 2024

Greenup, Village Board Meeting Minutes

The Greenup Village Board held their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, June 03, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Room of the Greenup Municipal Building. Mayor Tom Bauguss called the meeting to order with all standing to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag. Roll Call was taken by Clerk Kimble, those members of the board answering Roll Call were; Mayor Bauguss, Trustees Alene Blade, April Harris, Josh Kingery, Sherry Parker and Tony Wright. Trustee McCullough was absent.

A motion to approve payment of bills $594,670.82 and transfer of funds & 8,000.00 (Electric Bond) was made by Trustee Wright, second by Trustee Kingery.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, Parker, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: McCullough

Motion carried.

A motion to approve the May 2024 Clerk’s Report and the April 2024 Treasurer’s Report was made by Trustee Blade, second by Trustee Parker.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, Parker, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: McCullough

Motion carried.

A motion to approve May 2024 Meetings minutes was made by Trustee Blade, second by Trustee Harris.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, Parker, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: McCullough

Motion carried.

Public Comments – Bonnie Starwalt requested permanent placement of the Military Scene on the Municipal Lawn. Currently the Military is portable, and the Utility Department is having issues with it when mowing, asking it to be removed. Bonnie stated that the local Veterans Associations would like to have it permanently placed and they would like to add to it. Placement will be reviewed and be on the July agenda.

Mike Bauguss (1785 US RT 40) was on the agenda but not in attendance at the meeting.

Two (2) request for reimbursement of payment for professional services of Natural Gas leak checks have been submitted to the Village by residential customers Nancy Kinsel (403 N. Clark St.) and Marvin Oakley (212 N. Clark St.). Each resident had issues of concern, turning off their gas supply during the ICC Audit non-compliance issue. Discussion was held whether the Village reimbursed for the weather-related natural gas issue in 2022, leading to no motion being made for reimbursements.

Kristin Scott (Cumberland Co. Fair Pageant Director and Fair Queens Hailey Achenbauch, Addie Neese, and Alaina Lake were present to request a donation toward the 2024 Cumberland Co. Fair Queen Pageant. A donation of any amount would be greatly appreciated and will be used for the crowns, sashes, and for the state wardrobe of the 2024 Miss Cumberland Co. Fair Queen.

Kristin Scott and Queens also spoke regarding a possible donation from the Village toward the 2024 Cumberland Co. Fair

A motion to contribute $500.00 to the Cumberland Co. Fair Queen Pageant (Hotel/Motel funds) was made by Trustee Blade, second by Trustee Parker.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, Parker, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: McCullough

Motion carried.

No motion was made to donate/contribute to the 2024 Cumberland Co. Fair

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Makenzie Healy (Farnsworth Group) gave an update on the rehabilitation of Well #5 which has been dormant for many years. A test pump was performed, pumping up to 125 gpm, but the water in the Well has no place to go. The valve is either closed or it is plugged, they will need to dead-head and potholing around the Well to locate the valve etc.

Utility Coordinator Kay Hornbeck stated that there needs to be a Water/Sewer Committee Meeting to go over issues.

A motion to approve Ordinance #726, An Ordinance Vacating Village Right-of-Way On Pine Court in the Prairie Pines Subdivision was made by Trustee Parker, second by Trustee Harris.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, Parker, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: McCullough

Motion carried.

A motion to approve Ordinance #727, An Appropriation Ordinance For the Village of Greenup, Illinois was made by Trustee Parker, second by Blade.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, Parker, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: McCullough

Motion carried.

A motion to approve Ordinance #728, an Ordinance Amending Section 5.01 of the Village Code with Respect to Liquor License & Control was made by Trustee Parker, second by Trustee Blade.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, Parker, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: McCullough

Motion carried.

MG Utilities & Lost Creek Electric emailed Clerk Kimble about the possibility of renting, leasing, or purchasing the property of 400 Mill Rd. (old utility storage and office space). Currently the buildings are still being used by departments for storage of squad cars, police equipment, Christmas, and files of the Village Clerk waiting for review and disposal. When the new drug cabinet is being installed then the Police Department will need an area for evidence items. MG Utilities & Lost Creek Electric’s interest in the property was discussed, it was decided to not rent or sell the property at this time.

Trustee Kingery reported from the May 13, 2024, Electric Committee meeting. The Committee met with Electric Lead Jason Reisner regarding Village trees and private property trees growing into power lines and hindering use of sidewalks. Reisner also suggested the creation and use of “door hangers” for use of all departments in notifying utility related issues to private property owners. Recommendation of the committee is to create or amend ordinance related to private property trees that threaten power lines and that encroach on sidewalks of the Village and door hangers are a good idea.

Trustee Kingery reported from the May 13, 2024, Gas Committee meeting. The Committee met with Gas Lead Lance Holsapple, Michael Ryder and Austin Matteson. Holsapple spoke regarding the latest ICC audit inspection (potential violations and fines). High pressure Farm Taps need repaired or replaced by USDI at an estimated cost of $3,000.00 to $3,500.00 per tap. Low pressure taps and valves can be done by the Gas Department with parts estimated at $300.00 per repair. There was another issue found by the ICC, a low level of odorant in the Gas system. Per Holsapple the Gas Dept. will be working on a yearly schedule for out-of-town route maintenance and there are issues with cathodic protection. Holsapple asked for consideration of a yearly maintenance budget, and an increase in authorized department spending and it has been recommended by Gas Engineer Tyler Enloe to review the Natural Gas Transportation Agreement with the Village of Toledo.

Recommendations of the committee is to schedule all necessary work and maintenance as noted by the ICC and to work toward budget, spending and the Natural Gas Transportation Agreement.

Utility Coordinator Kay Hornbeck stated that USDI (Engineers) will be writing a letter on the behalf of the Village of Greenup to the Illinois Commerce Commission, and that the Gas Department is currently working on maintenance and repairs as much as possible.

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Trustee Kingery reported from the May 20, 2024 Building and Parks Committee meeting. The Committee met to discuss and view possible Municipal Building improvements and purchase of Marquee/Electric Sign for Municipal lawn and placement. Nancy Kinsel was in attendance of the Committee Meeting with concerns of the cost to improve the front of the Municipal Building that would be better spent on infrastructure. Also feels that the previous chosen option for the Marque signs is too big and that more information needs to be added to I-70 signage listing activities.

Recommendation of the committee is to review and discuss concerns of Marque sign size, design, location, and cost based on a new proposal from Double D. Signs. Improvements to the front of the Municipal Building are retain metal sheeting as with exception to adding wainscotting to match Marque Sign design and repair block work around main entrance.

Much discussion was held on both topics by the board: Cost of the sign, placement of the sign (blocking vision), matching brick of the sign to current colors of the building, sign will be well used for Village information and community promotions, signage needed at east end north/south sides (Interstate & RT 40 & IL 121 junction) pointing visitors/tourist to the downtown, complaints of the front exterior (brown sheet metal), quote to paint brick of the Municipal Building, retention of paint work etc.

Utility Coordinator Hornbeck informed all that she and Michael Ryder stopped and inspected both signs entering into Greenup from the South and North, stating that each sign is in dire need of replacement as well as the landscaping. They have been in contact with Jake’s World and Karen Brumleve regarding new signage.

A motion to purchase an Electric Message Center Sign & brick work in the amount of $47,621.00 was made by Trustee Kingery, second by Trustee Wright.

Yeas: Harris, Kingery, Wright

Nays: Blade, Parker

Absent: McCullough

Motion carried.

A motion to enter Executive Session to discuss Personnel (appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body), Section 2(c)(1) and Personnel (salary schedules for one or more classes of employees), Section 2(c)(2) of the Open Meetings Act.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, Parker, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: McCullough

Motion carried.

This open session of the meeting closed to the public at 6:50 p.m.

At 8:01 p.m., the Village Board reconvened an open session to the public, with Roll Call being taken by Clerk Kimble. Those members of the board answering Roll Call were Mayor Bauguss, and Trustees Blade, Harris, Kingery, Parker, and Wright. Trustee McCullough was absent.

Per Mayor Bauguss, there was no action taken in Executive Session.

Trustee Wright reported from the Personnel Committee meeting held on May 22, 2024, stating that is was to meet with employees for clarification of job duties. Other subjects discussed were: clothing allowance, monthly tool allowance, Dept. Heads attendance of meetings, on-call cell phone carrying fee, bid processes, not selling vehicles as decided prior, quote for utility bed on a truck, Deputy Clerk position, Clerk’s Office hours, lunch hours, posting of emergency phone numbers for after hours, full review of Village Family Medical Leave policy, Utility workers permits, certifications and licensing, and ability to take work trucks home out of town. Trustee Wright also commented that YMCA memberships and Bonuses were discussed the month before but were not approved by the board.

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A motion to approve an extension of bonuses for licenses and certifications as presented, was made by Trustee Parker, second by Trustee Blade.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, Parker, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: McCullough

Motion carried.

A motion to extend part-time summer help until October 2024 was made by Trustee Parker, second by Trustee Harris.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, Parker, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: McCullough

Motion carried.

Trustee Harris reported from the May 31, 2024 RDMS Grant “Special Meeting”, stating that the committee met with Makenzie Healy (Farnsworth Group), Kelly Lockhart and Kevin McReynolds (Coles Co. Regional Planning & Development) to discuss Rebuild Downtowns & Main Street (RDMS) Grant and priorities for grant funds. Recommendations of the committee are to apply for the grant in the amount of $1,000,000.00 with the Village having a responsibility of $250,000.00, Farmsworth Group and CCRP&DC will complete the grant application for $6,000.00. Priority list for grant; Replace or rehabilitate porches, lighting along the downtown district, road signs, and water lines.

Makenzie Healy reported that since the downtown commercial district is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, they will have requirements of materials that can be used for the rehabilitation or replacement of the porches. Healy and Kenny Weaver (A&R Materials) will be meeting this week to inspect the Porches for a decision to rehabilitate or to replace them.

The RDMS grant will not conflict with the I-TEP grant for the Water Treatment Facility.

Clerk Kimble reported that Shelli Phillipi (Awesome Blossoms) is requesting Handicap Parking along Kentucky St. ) the Mayor will be in contact with Shelli, 2022-2023 fiscal year Natural Gas purchases totaled $603,673.03 and in 2023-2024 fiscal year $251,422.69 for a difference of $352,250.34 (the difference in price is not only consumption but was also the factor that the Village of Greenup purchases Natural Gas in the spring & summer months and places in storage and uses the market futures for purchases with the help of Constellation. Kemper CPA Group were here May 28 through 31to do the fiscal year audit. Last month it was mentioned by Trustee McCullough the possibility of acquiring a larger Council Room meeting table (need to speak with Trustee McCullough to see by what he meant larger).

As Utility Coordinator Kay Hornbeck advised that work orders need to be placed and thanked Mayor Bauguss for abiding by the protocol and that if it is not an emergency at this time, hold on it will get done. So far, the restructuring of the utility department is working well. Hornbeck also stated that Dittamore Backhoe and Concrete is to be doing the reconstruction of the alley and pavilion floor next week.

As Village Treasurer, Kay Hornbeck advised and cautioned the Village Board that lots of money has been spent recently making Greenup beautiful, there needs to be a plan for the next four (4) to five (5) years to follow for the wants.

Chief of Police Ethan Wicke reported that the Flock Safety cameras are now up.

There were no reports from the Trustees or Mayor, just thanks given to the employees for good jobs done this last month.

A motion to Adjourn was made by Trustee Parker, second by Trustee Harris.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, Parker, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: McCullough

Motion carried.

This Village Board meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Jill Kimble

Village Clerk

Greenup, IL