Monday, July 1, 2024

Greenup, Village Board Meeting Minutes

The Greenup Village Board held their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, July 1, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Room of the Greenup Municipal Building. Mayor Tom Bauguss called the meeting order with all standing to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag. Roll Call was taken by Clerk Jill Kimble, those members of the board answering Roll Call were; Mayor Bauguss, Trustees Alene Blade, April Harris, Josh Kingery, Max McCullough, Tony Wright. Attorney Erik Peck was in attendance and Trustee Sherry Parker was absent.

A motion to approve payments of bills ($483,912.92) and transfer of funds ($8,000.00 Elec. Bond) was made by Trustee Blade, second by Trustee Harris.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: Parker

Motion carried.

A motion to approve the June 2024 Clerk’s Report was made by Trustee Blade, second by Trustee Kingery.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: Parker

Motion carried.

A motion to approve the June 2024 Meeting minutes was made by Trustee Blade, second by Trustee Wright.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: Parker

Motion carried.

Public Comments – Nancy Kinsel made a request for expenses and revenues to be published in the local newspaper. Nancy was told that it would be too expensive, she can view it yearly when posted in the newspaper, and she can request to view reports from the office.

Wyatt Huddlestun requested ability to place a GMRS radio repeater on top of the N. Mill St. Water Tower. Wyatt stated that the repeater could work as a communication tool for radio hobbyists, weather alerts. There would be no cost to the Village he intends to pay all cost (FCC license).

Trustee Wright mentioned that there is concern that the repeater will interfere with the radio signals between the Water Tower and the Water Wells because they would all be on the same bandwidth.

The Board suggested other entities with structures high enough for Wyatt to contact, for they do not want to cause interference in the Village water supply.

Bonnie Starwalt requested to be on the agenda this month concerning the Veteran’s Memorial and to request funding for Greenup Holiday Committee to help purchase holiday decorations. Bonnie was not in attendance at this meeting.

Growing With Greenup member and Chamber President Kyle Berghbower with the support of other members of the group gave a short introduction to what Growing With Greenup is and to what their future goals for the community are; Business Community, Tourism Hub, Beautiful Greenup, Quality childcare options & an exemplary school system.

Berghbower then explained that they were there to inform the Village Board the advantages of TIF (Tax Increment Finance) Districts in communities and to request the Village to begin consideration of developing a TIF District/s within the Village. The Village Board was very interested in what Kyle presented to them (set zone/district that captures and uses local tax dollars with no increases to the community that is to be spent on that zone/district), and is willing to speak with other communities (Dieterich) about how they began such zone/districts and what they have gained from them and/or a TIF Consultant.

A motion to approve Ordinance No. 729, An Ordinance Amending Title 10 Of The Village Code With Respect to Handicap Parking was made by Trustee McCullough, second by Trustee Harris.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: Parker Motion carried.

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Trustee Wright reported from the June 12, 2024 Water/Sewer Committee meeting, stating that the committee met with Andy Hanfland and Makenzie Healy (Farnsworth Group), Michael Ryder and Hunter Scales. The nature of the meeting was; Lead Lines, IL RT 130 Water extension, Water Treatment facility and Water Well updates.

The Water Line survey resulted in 44 Galvanized lines on the Village’s side of the meter and 74 on customers side, with no lead lines being found. A. Hanfland recommends that the Village replace those line within 5 ft of the residence with the homeowner being responsible for the rest.

Farnsworth Group gave an estimated cost of $600,000.00 (actual estimate given $562,305.00) to replace and extend the IL RT 130 Water line and another estimated cost of up to 5 million dollars to relocate the Water Treatment Facility north of I-70 at Village property 612 Wagon Rd. The extension of all utilities to the north of I-70 and increasing prices of materials and equipment driving the price of possible new construction at 612 Wagon Rd., leaving the Village to reconsider relocation to purchasing property near the existing facility.

M. Healy stated that there are funding opportunities from the Illinois IEPA of 0% up to a 2-million-dollar forgiveness that needs to be considered by the Village. Per Healy EPA Code the service lines must be replaced by the Village (contracted plumbers) up to the 1st shut-off valve or the homeowner must sign a waiver. M. Healy also stated that there are trenchless options (no digging), she will check into them and get back with the Village.

A motion to approve moving forward with pursuing purchase of property was made by Trustee Blade, second by Trustee McCullough.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: Parker

Motion carried.

Two (2) quotes for extension of a sidewalk at Haughton Park was presented, Fuesting Concrete that also included a small sidewalk replacement on Main St./Cumberland St. in the amount of $1,800.00 and another from Dittamore Backhoe & Concrete in the amount of $1,400.00. Discussion was held regarding the difference in the quote meaning the additional patch along Cumberland St., with Trustee McCullough stating that he did not know that was to be included.

At which time discussion became that various employees and officers of the Village meet with contractors and do not have specifications for them causing differences. Specifications of jobs need to be drawn up and handed to contractors for them to quote from.

A motion to approve extension of a sidewalk at Haughton Park to be done by Fuesting Concrete in the amount of $1,800.00 was made by Trustee Harris, second by Trustee Wright.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: Parker

Motion carried.

Along the 100 block of E. Pleasant St. a homeowner replaced a portion of Village sidewalk and has asked for the rest of the sidewalk to be replaced by the Village. Per Mayor Bauguss the home-owner’s daughter tripped on the broken sidewalk while holding a small child, which is why he replaced it, the other portion is broken and needs to be replaced for insurance reasons. Mayor Bauguss also informed that Board that Fuesting Concrete is who replaced the sidewalk in the amount of $3,000.00 concrete & labor and he (Mayor) requested from Fuesting a cost quote to finish replacement ($3,500.00).

Discussion was had between the Mayor and the Board about responsibility of sidewalk replacements.

A motion to approve replacement of sidewalk along 100 block of E. Pleasant St. done by Fuesting Concrete in the amount of $6,500.00, at no time does citizen’s replace sidewalk without Village approval by Trustee Blade, second by Trustee Wright, second by Trustee McCullough.

Yeas: Blade, Kingery, McCullough, Wright

Nays: Harris

Absent: Parker

Motion carried.

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Trustee McCullough reported from the June 25, 2024 Building & Parks Committee meeting held, nature of this meeting was relocation of the two (2) existing benches and placement of two (2) concrete table pads and two (2) concrete bench pads on the Municipal Bldg. lawn. The committee recommends acquiring a quote from Dittamore Backhoe for construction of these pads, which will be done at same time when replacing the concrete floor of the Pavilion.

A motion to approve a quote for (rebar) and construction of pads for tables and benches from Dittamore Backhoe & Concrete in the amount of $1,900.00 was made by Trustee McCullough, second by Trustee Blade.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: Parker

Motion carried.

A motion to approve Dasenbrock Fence Co. Inc. to replace dug outs of east ball diamond in the amount of $6,160.00 was made by Trustee McCullough, second by Trustee Blade.

Yeas: Blade, Kingery, McCullough

Nays: Harris, Wright

Absent: Parker

Motion carried.

Chief of Police Ethan Wicke informed the Mayor and Board that he wants to move forward with abatement of nuisance properties of four (4) four other properties, they are all properties owners or tenants who are ignoring his nuisance letters. One of the properties is two (2) lots that has been vacated. (110 E. Cincinnati St., 514 N. Mill St., 517-519 N. Mill St., and 507 E. Cincinnati St.) The Village Board wants to proceed with the abatements and anymore that there may be.

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) & Personnel, (salary schedules for one or more classes of employees), Section 2(c)(2) of the Open Meetings Act was made by Trustee McCullough, second by Trustee Blade.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: Parker

Motion carried.

This Open Session of the meeting ended at 7:10 p.m.

At 8:01 p.m., the Village Board entered into Open Session. Roll Call was taken by Clerk Kimble, those members of the Village Board answering Roll Call were; Mayor Bauguss, Trustees Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Wright. Trustee Parker was absent.

Mayor Bauguss commented that there was no action taken in Executive Session.

A motion was made to rescind previous action taken by the Village Board on June 3, 2024 specifically being the motion to extend a bonus to employees for certification and licenses obtained by an employee in furtherance of their position with the Village, as presented.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough

Nays: None

Abstain: Wright

Absent: Parker

Motion carried.

Questions arose from Utility Employees who were in attendance at the meeting regarding the Village Board rescinding their motion. Mayor Bauguss and Trustees informed the employees that a Personnel Committee meeting will be held soon to re-look at the bonuses, there is much confusion on how these bonuses were calculated etc.

There was no consideration of a motion to pay utility employees for on-call time. The Department Leads were told to handle on-call situations.

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A motion was made to appoint Robyn Edwards as Deputy Clerk by Trustee Blade, second by Trustee Harris.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: Parker

Motion carried.

Attorney Erik Peck stated the Oath of Office with Robyn Edwards repeating after him for her appointment.

Attorney Erik Peck brought nothing to report to the board but did speak regarding Kyle Bergbower’s/Growing with Greenup presentation and request of implementation of a TIF District within Greenup. Per Attorney Peck will provide the Village with a memorandum he wrote earlier regarding background information on TIF Districts and the implementation processes of a TIF District. Attorney Peck mentioned that assessed valuations are frozen at a base level for properties within the district and when development increases the taxes gained from those properties go to the District for purposes of the District. It is not a quick process for implementation (Statutory purposes) and not a quick receipt of earnings and there are potential problems for School Districts of residential TIF’s.

Clerk Kimble had nothing to report this month. Treasurer/Utility Coordinator Kay Hornbeck thanked the Utility Department for their time and apologized to them for she thought they would be included Executive Session discussions. Hornbeck once again stated that there need to be a plan regarding money being spent by the Village Board on projects etc. and that they need to come up with a Sidewalk Replacement Plan.

Trustee Kingery commented and gave thanks to utility employees for their work involving the streets and tree trimming/removal.

Trustee McCullough thanked the utility employees as well and stated that he likes the way the restructuring of the utility departments is currently working.

Trustee Wright mentioned that he would like Cumberland St. to be cleaned up at least 3 – 4 times a month, the Village bought a Street Sweeper, it needs to be used more than it currently is.

Mayor Bauguss mentioned that there are two (2) utility employees that a doing a great job and those employees are currently being underpaid.

A motion was made to Adjourn the meeting by Trustee Wright, second by Trustee McCullough.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: Parker

Motion carried.

This Village Board meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Jill Kimble

Village Clerk

Greenup, IL