Monday, September 9, 2024

Greenup, Village Board Meeting Minutes

The Greenup Village Board held their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, September 9, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers 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 Jill Kimble, those members of the board answering Roll Call were; Mayor Bauguss, Trustees Alene Blade, Josh Kingery and Sherry Parker. Trustees April Harris, Max McCullough and Tony Wright were absent.

A motion to approve payments of bills ($605,427.19) and a transfer of funds ($8000.00) Electric Bond funds was made by Trustee Parker, second by Trustee Kingery.

Yeas: Blade, Kingery, Parker

Nays: None

Absent: Harris, McCullough, Wright

Motion carried.

A motion to approve the August 2024 Clerk’s report and the July 2024 Treasurer report was made by Trustee Blade, second by Trustee Parker.

Yeas: Blade, Kingery, Parker

Nays: None

Absent: Harris, McCullough, Wright

Motion carried.

A motion to approve the August 2024 Meeting Minutes was made by Trustee Blade, second by Trustee Kingery.

Yeas: Blade, Kingery, Parker

Nays: None

Absent: Harris, McCullough, Wright

Motion carried.

During Public Comments, Julie Pointer spoke to the board informing them that a group of them met with the Building Committee to discuss a Bandstand on the lawn of the Greenup Municipal Building stating that there is so much the community could do with this addition. Mayor Bauguss and members of the board all spoke that the idea of a Bandstand is a great idea, but they just can not do it at this time. Julie Pointer said that the group is looking at other revenues to get the Bandstand.

Bonnie Starwalt asked to speak, speaking about upset citizens over the electric sign, tables benches and tree removal of the Municipal lawn. Bonnie wanted to assure the Village that she thought the purchases were wonderful.

Nicholas Helton (Kemper CPA Group) was present to go over the findings of the 2023-2024 Fiscal Audit. Per Nicholas there was no issues this year, there was a re-statement on the AMI meters but no impact, and the Ambulance was still part of the Village during the fiscal year creating a balance that will create an impact for the next fiscal year. Nicholas stated that FY2023 the ending audited balance was $7,279,510.00 , this FY balance was $6,151,072.00 , a decrease of $1,128,438.00, and that the approximate number of months operating cash in reserves for FY2024 is 16.

A motion to approve the Village of Greenup 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Audit was made by Trustee Parker, second by Trustee Blade.

Yeas: Blade, Kingery, Parker

Nays: None

Absent: Harris, McCullough, Wright

Motion carried.

Jay Watkins (Greenup Chamber of Commerce President) was present to request closure of the 100 block of E. Illinois and 100 block of S. Kentucky Street during the 2024 Apple Festival.

On the agenda for the festival were items to approve a Parade Resolution to provide to the Illinois Department of Transportation for closing down IL RT 121 during the Festival parade, closure of village streets and possible contribution to the Chamber for the 2024 Festival.

Trustee Blade questioned Jay about how much of the village funds that were contributed last year was left over. Jay was unable to answer Trustee Blade but did state that marketing for last year’s festival was $1,900.00.

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A motion to approve Resolution 2024-7, a Parade Resolution was made by Trustee Parker, second by Trustee Blade.

Yeas: Blade, Kingery, Parker

Nays: None

Absent: Harris, McCullough, Wright

Motion carried.

A motion to approve closure of the 100 blocks of E. Illinois St. and S. Kentucky St. during the Apple Festival was made by Trustee Parker, second by Trustee Kingery.

Yeas: Blade, Kingery, Parker

Nays: None

Absent: Harris, McCullough, Wright

Motion carried.

A motion to contribute $2,000.00 to the Chamber of Commerce for the 2024 Apple Festival was made by Trustee Parker, second by Trustee Blade. (Hotel/Motel funds)

Yeas: Blade, Kingery, Parker

Nays: None

Absent: Harris, McCullough, Wright

Motion carried.

Trustee Kingery in the absence of Trustee Wright reported from the August 19, 2024 Building & Grounds Committee meeting. The Committee met with Kathy Yocum, Julie Pointer, and Susie Beaumont over the possibility of building or purchasing a Bandstand for the Municipal lawn and potential application for a T-Mobile grant to help with funding. Also discussed was replacement of sidewalks, playground equipment and trees. The committee recommends a 5-year plan for grounds, move existing playground equipment to a centralized location (closer together), and to get a plan established before doing anything.

On the agenda, as requested was a possible motion to build or purchase a Gazebo/Bandstand for the lawn of the Greenup Municipal Building, No motion was made.

A motion was made 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) of the Open Meetings Act by Trustee Kingery, second by Trustee Parker.

Yeas: Blade, Kingery, Parker

Nays: None

Absent: Harris, McCullough, Wright

Motion carried.

This regular session of the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m. to enter into Executive Session. At 6:31 p.m. those members of the Council returned to regular session, with Roll Call being taken by Clerk Kimble. Those members of the Village Council answering Roll Call were; Mayor Bauguss, Trustees Blade, Kingery and Parker.

Mayor Bauguss commented that no action taken in Executive Session.

Personnel Committee meeting reports were tabled this month since Trustee Harris was not in attendance.

Trustee Blade reported from the August 28, 2024 Committee meeting stating that the committee watched the TIF presentation by Adam Stroud, they also reviewed information regarding loss of the Grocery Tax. The committee recommends encouraging 2 board members who have not watched the TIF presentation to do so. Further study implications of A TIF or other Taxing vehicle, grocery tax repeal, and the possibility of passing an ordinance to have a local grocery tax.

Makenzie Healy (Farnsworth Group) presented the Water Treatment Plant and Water System Improvements Contract along with an outline for the Water and Sewer Committee to clearly understand the Engineering Agreement and the scope of the project. There are three (3) divisions of the Water Treatment Plant and Water System Scope of the contract (A. Water Treatment Plant Scope, B. Route 130 Water Main Replacement Scope, C. Lead Service Line Replacement Scope).

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Engineering Services to be provided for the three (3) divisions were listed and Additional Services to be provided. Makenzie also spoke from the outline of a suggested water rate increase to fund the project. Per Makenzie the preliminary cost estimate for the Water Treatment Plant and Water System Improvements outlined is $6,702,775.00. Currently the Village water base rate is $24.50 for the first 1,000 gallons and the variable rate is $6.10 per 1,000 gallons thereafter. The annual repayment is estimated to be $275,157.78 if the Village were to receive an interest rate of 1.4% and qualify for the maximum loan repayment period for 30 years. If the annual loan repayment is divided by the 740 services, the village would require each customer to pay approximately $32.00 a month.

The proposed rate increase to help fund the annual loan payment is $31.55 a month per customer. This is assuming the village will receive no principle forgiveness for the loan or does not receive DCEO Grant funding.

Andy Hanfland (Farnsworth Group) spoke to the board stating that the Water Treatment Facility will be the same as currently operating with the quality of the water not changing, same; (existing) location, capacity, treatment, three filters (3), chemical feed. There will be after-hours communication, more of an informational facility, using all Water wells that the village have now, no need of new or abandonment of wells, room for growth to the system.

The Village will apply for two (2) separate loans through the Illinois EPA for the Lead Line Replacement project and Route 130 Water Line improvement and make application for a DCEO grant pending on an income survey that Farnsworth will be sending out to residents. There could be some principle forgiveness on an IL EPA loan of (30 years). Hopefully, a forgiveness of 100% on the Lead Line Service Replacement loan will be considered.

A motion to approve the Farnsworth Group Water Treatment Plant & Water System Improvements Contract for Engineering Services was made by Trustee Blade, second by Trustee Parker.

Yeas: Blade, Kingery, Parker

Nays: None

Absent: Harris, McCullough, Wright

Motion carried.

Makenzie Healy (Farnsworth Group) then reported that the application for the DCEO grant to help with refurbishing the Porches has been denied for 2024. Since the porches are on private property, the village was going to need to come up with 50% matching funds. Application can be made again next year, but the village needs to see if the owners of the properties with porches would want to help match DCEO funding.

Andy Hanfland (Farnsworth Group) then suggested that the Village consider a 5-year plan (Master plan) when discussing and funding improvements/updates to the Municipal Bldg. lawn, stating that Anthony Jansen at Farnsworth has design experience in park improvements and could put together a Master plan to follow while also helping with funding and budget constraints.

There were no reports this month from the Attorneys, Clerk Kimble or Chief of Police Ethan Wicke.

Utility Dept. Office Coordinator Kay Hornbeck thanked the Utility Department for getting the new Welcome to Greenup and Haughton Park signs put up.

Trustees Parker and Kingery both commended Chief Wicke on his letter of request to IDOT for “Flashing” Stop Signs at the four-way stop of IL RT 130 and IL RT 121.

Mayor Bauguss stated that he took Chief Wicke’s request letter to IDOT to IL State Rep. Adam Niemerg who was interested in the situation and would be reaching out to IDOT on placement of “Flashing” Stop signs.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Trustee Blade, second by Trustee Parker.

Yeas: Blade, Kingery, Parker

Nays: None

Absent: Harris, McCullough, Wright

Motion carried.

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This Village Board meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Jill Kimble

Village Clerk

Greenup, IL