Monday, February 3, 2025

Greenup, Village Board Meeting Minutes

The Greenup Village Board held their regularly scheduled board meeting on Monday, February 3, 2025 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 Tom Bauguss, Trustees Alene Blade, April Harris, Josh Kingery, Max McCullough, Sherry Parker and Tony Wright. Attorney Erik Peck was in attendance at this meeting.

A motion to approve payments of bills ($369,295.13) and transfer of funds ($8,000.00) Electric Bond fund was made by Trustee Blade, second by Trustee Harris.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Parker, Wright.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

A motion to approve the January 2025 Clerk’s report and the November 2025 Treasurers report was made by Trustee Wright, second by Trustee Kingery.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Parker, Wright.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

A motion to approve the January 2025 Meetings Minutes was made by Trustee Harris, second by Trustee McCullough.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Parker, Wright.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Public Comment – David Yaw (Chances R. Sportsbar and Grill) spoke of concerns he has with the request for application to be made for another Video Gaming Permit. Yaw commented that gaming revenue is down in Greenup, significantly down for the Clubs. Yaw also reminded that the Village Board a few months declined a permit to Casey’s General Store. Yaw requested that the Village of Greenup does not hand out any more Liquor Licenses or Gaming Permits to support the establishments currently in business.

Julie Pointer (The Greenup Mill), her son Jesse Pointer and Attorney Garth Fygare were present to request a Video Gaming Permit (2 machines). Julie stated that she is asking for a chance to be successful, successful means bringing more money into Greenup. Julie believes that 50% of her customers have been from out of town and some customers she has pointed to the direction of Chances R. for her establishment may not have been what customers were looking for, she is providing a different demographic. Per Julie she is doing it for Greenup.

The Village board reminded Julie that when she came to the board for a liquor license, she mentioned that she did not want a Gaming Permit. Julie does not remember it that way, she believes it was mentioned that she did not want one at this time.

Attorney Flygare asked if this was a concern of businesses being taken away from another, private business competing against each other is it Village concern? Flygare also questioned why the Village Board denied a license to Casey’s, with Mayor Bauguss stating that they Village of Greenup did not have a pour license for them and did not want to create another. Flygare stated that the Village is going to need a reason to deny this request and may want to consider what might be done if they choose between the businesses.

Village Attorney Erik Peck stated that he does not want the Village to be pushed into issuing the permit. Attorney Peck also questioned Julie Pointer did you make the statement you did not want a gaming permit, with Julie answering she did, but added I am sure I did say not at this time.

(There was verbal confrontation started by Jesse Pointer at David Yaw, which had to be stopped by Mayor Bauguss).

A motion to grant a Video Gaming Permit to the Greenup Mill was made by Trustee Blade, the motion died for lack of a second.

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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 Purchase of Property, Section 2(c)(5) of the Open Meetings Act was made by Trustee Harris, second by Trustee Blade.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Parker, Wright.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

At 7:29 p.m. the Village Board returned to Regular Session of the meeting with Roll Call being taken by Clerk Kimble. Those members of the Village Board answering Roll Call were Mayor Bauguss, Trustees Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Parker and Wright.

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

A motion to accept the Employment Resignation Letter from Officer Michael Hall was made by Trustee Parker, second by Trustee McCullough.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Parker, Wright.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

A motion to transfer part-time Officer Dreyton Ruholl as full-time Officer at an hourly wage of $23.50, with no probationary period effective February 17, 2025 was made by Trustee Parker, second by Trustee McCullough.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Parker, Wright.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Trustee Blade mentioned that she requested to put advertising with the Effingham Daily News back on the agenda. Blade does not thing there is a need to advertise in the 2025 Progressive Magazine but would like to reconsider advertising in the “A Day Away” brochure. Advertising helps to bring tourism to the area.

A motion was made to purchase advertisement in the Effingham Daily News 2025 Spring & Fall “A Day Away” brochures in the amount of $825.00 each brochure was made by Trustee Blade, second by Trustee Parker.

Yeas: Blade, Kingery, McCullough, Parker, Wright.

Nays: Harris.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

A motion to renew Cumberland County Development Cooperation membership for the year 2025 in the amount of $1,000.00 was made by Trustee Wright, second by Trustee Blade.

Yeas: Blade, Kingery, Parker, Wright.

Nays: Harris.

Abstain: McCullough.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Trustee McCullough reported from the January 3, 2025 Electric Committee Meeting stating that the nature of the meeting was discussion of Il RT 121 electric feed, upcoming Mediacom Franchise Agreement & pole fees, and the 2025 tree cutting program. The recommendation of the committee at this point is to take no action on the Il Rt 121 Line Feed until further research as to viability, need, expansion and cost is done. Review Mediacom Franchise Agreement and possible pole use increase in fees to Mediacom by the Village. Take action to protect the Village electric grid by authorizing the proposed 2025 tree mtc. program to include face to face contact with affected property owners.

Estimates for tree removal were provided but not acted on because it was not placed on this month’s agenda.

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A motion to pay invoice #20246593 ($17,128.85) and invoice #20246624 ($8,170.33) for farm tap leak repairs was made by Trustee Parker, second by Trustee Blade.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Parker, Wright.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

It has been suggested by the Gas Engineers that the Village consider installing a Gas Odorizer to the system. An Odorizer provides a continuous drip of Mercaptin (additive that provides the smell). USDI stated that if the ICC can not smell the odor when smelling the gas pipes during inspection, they will write up the provided (Village), plus this daily drip will allow daily checks of the system to be eliminated.

A motion to approve purchase and installation of a YXLVO Injection Odorizer from USDI, Inc. in the amount of $37,610.00 was made by Trustee Wright, second by Trustee Kingery.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Parker, Wright.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

Utility Coordinator Hornbeck informed the board that the sewer line and manhole had collapsed and needed taken care off immediately. B&T Drainage was already in town working on a sewer project of Greenup, so with the approval of the Water/Sewer committee she got B&T Drainage to work on it immediately. There are issues with this sewer line that needs to have further review of problems causing issues with the line.

A motion to approve B & T Drainage, Inc. cost estimate to replace (IL RT 130) sewer manhole in the amount of $20,190.00 was made by Trustee McCullough, second by Trustee Parker.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Parker, Wright.

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

Utility Coordinator Hornbeck reported that four (4) of the utility employees have CDL – A licenses, two (2) have CDL-B licenses and two (2) have no CDL licensure. Per Hornbeck the CDL-B licenses are not sufficient to operate larger trucks and equipment, they really need CDL-A’s.

Hornbeck is requesting the Village Board to consider paying for employees to attend classes at Lake Land to gain or upgrade a licensure, three (3) of the four (4) with only CDL-B’s or no licenses are willing to attend.

A motion to approve an Ordinance Allowing Travel, Meal, and Lodging Expenses for the Village of Greenup, IL was made by Trustee Blade, second by Trustee Harris.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Parker, Wright.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

There were no reports from Attorney Peck or Clerk Kimble this month.

As Treasurer, Kay Hornbeck had nothing to report. As Utility Coordinator Hornbeck informed all that there are signs to be posted “No Parking” along Kentucky St., customers and residents are already aware. Hornbeck stated that there has been many complaints about high utility bills with the new AMI meters, and she wants to remind the board and customers that some of the meters that were replaced were old, that some of them had been installed in the 1960’s so they were probably not metering correctly. Hornbeck also stated that customers need to be aware that space heaters/Eden Pure heaters take a lot of electricity to run and that meters have not been averaged as a few residents have been inquiring as to if they were. Electric and Gas reads are never averaged.

Chief of Police Ethan Wicke wanted to welcome Dreyton Ruholl to the Village of Greenup as a full-time Police Officer. Trustees Harris, McCullough and Parker stated the same.

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Trustee Wright stated disappointment and mentioned that complaints were made regarding snow plowing during the last snow. Wright mentioned that the paths plowed needed to be wider and there were many calls from residents and businesses of driveways being plowed in and they cannot get out of their drives. Wright also thanked the Police Department for their help with the Interstate during the 40 car pile caused by the snow slick roads. (Wright was not in attendance of the January meeting, to voice his concerns)

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

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Parker, Wright.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

This Village Board meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Jill Kimble

Village Clerk

Greenup, IL