Monday, March 3, 2025

Greenup, Village Board Meeting Minutes

The Greenup Village Board held their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, March 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 Kimble, those members of the Village 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 the meeting.

A motion to approve payments of bills ($523,722.10) and transfer of funds ($8,000.00) Electric Bond funds 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 February 2025 Clerk’s report, the December 2024 and January 2025 Treasurer’s report was made by Trustee McCullough, second by Trustee Harris.

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

A motion to approve February 2025 Meeting minutes was made by Trustee Blade, second by Trustee Parker.

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

During Public Comments, Sarah Ruholl (Greenup Chamber and Growing with Greenup) spoke regarding what Growing with Greenup is and what their goals are for the community and what volunteers of the groups have been doing to achieve these goals over the soon to be past year.

Sarah asked that the Clerk to put the Chamber of Commerce & Growing with Greenup on the monthly board meeting agenda for each month, so they can keep the Village informed.

Kim Ryan and husband (Small Town Real Estate) spoke to the board regarding the recent payment they made towards utility deposits for apartments they recently purchased. The Village Clerk’s office charged the Ryan’s for each meter associated with each apartment (16 x $500.00 = $8,000.00). The Ryans disagree with the payment and stated that the ordinance does not state that the landlord and the tenant will pay a utility deposit. Per the Ryans, they have check with other utility providers and there are no other providers that require both the landlord and tenant to pay the deposit, they would like the Village to re-evaluate the collection and be willing to work out some sort of agreement on landlord deposit placements when tenants move in and out.

The Village board asked Attorney Peck to review the ordinance and give his opinion of what the ordinance requires of a utility deposit placement.

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 Parker, second by Trustee Blade.

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

This Regular Session of the meeting closed to the public at 6:17 p.m. At 7:28 p.m. the Village Board returned to Regular Session with Roll Call being taken, members of the board answering Roll Call were; Mayor Bauguss, Trustees Blade, Kingery, McCullough, Parker, and Wright. Trustee Harris did not return to the meeting after the Executive Session. Attorney Erik Peck was in attendance.

There was no report or discussion regarding the February 11, 2025 Personnel Committee meeting.

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Trustee McCullough reported from the February 17, 2025 Electric Committee meeting, stating that the nature of the meeting was to meet and discuss with BHMG representatives the purpose of an electrical rate study. The committee recommends proceeding with a Rate Design Study to evaluate the Village’s electric rate structure to provide for future services, maintenance, and improvements. The last study and any rate changes made was eight years ago.

Mayor Bauguss is concerned with the cost of their proposal, $31,800.00.

Electric Lead J. Reisner provided two (2) estimates for tree removal of various trees within the Village that need to be taken down and that are too big for the Electric Dept. to handle. Wayne’s Tree Service estimated $61,450.00 and Buff’s Tree Service $98,500.00 both estimates are for the same list of trees.

A motion to hire Wayne’s Tree Service to remove trees withing the village at an estimate amount of $61,450.00 was made by Trustee Blade, second by Trustee Parker.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Harris

Motion carried.

A motion to approve BHMG Engineers, Inc. to conduct an Electric Cost-of-Service Study/Rate Study in the amount of $31,800.00 was made by Trustee McCullough, second by Trustee Blade.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Harris

Motion carried.

Trustee Blade reported from the February 19, 2025 Finance Committee meeting, stating that the committee met with Clerk Kimble and Chief of Police E. Wicke. Clerk Kimble suggested that the committee discuss the need to amend the Municipal Retailers Tax by .25% (.50% to .75% of one percent of gross receipts) and to implement a Grocery Sales Tax of 1% to begin January 2026 (the State of Illinois Grocery Tax is set to expire January 1, 2026). Chief Wicke has been contacted by Village of Toledo officials inquiring if the Greenup Police Department would take over Police coverage for Toledo. Chief Wicke is willing to assume responsibility and has worked up a proposal of associated cost. Currently Ramsey, St. Elmo and Brownstown have an interjurisdictional agreement for shared policing.

Per Trustee Blade, due to uncertainty of state and federal funding, the Committee’s recommendation is to increase the Non-Home Rule Tax to ¾% and to continue with the 1% Grocery Tax. Present to Toledo, Chief Wicke’s proposal of cost for adding an officer and necessary expenses to add coverage of policing Toledo.

A motion to approve an Ordinance Amending Title Three, Chapter 3.08.40 & Chapter 3.16.020 of the Village Code with Respect to the Municipal Retailers’ Occupation Tax and the Municipal Service Occupation Tax was made by Trustee Blade, second by Trustee Wright.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Harris

Motion carried.

Clothing Allowances will be addressed in an Ordinance amending the Personnel Policy and Handbook

A motion to approve setting the Fair Solar Credit Value (Solar Generation) for the year 2025 to .0537 was made by Trustee Parker, second by Trustee Blade.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Harris

Motion carried.

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A motion to approve An Ordinance Amending Chapter 5.04 of the Village Code with Respect to Liquor License and Control was made by Trustee Parker, second by Trustee Kingery.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Harris

Motion carried.

A motion to approve An Ordinance Amending Chapter 5.33 of the Village Code with Respect to Video Gaming Regulations was made by Trustee Parker, second by Trustee Kingery.

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

Nays: None

Absent: Harris

Motion carried.

Attorney Peck reported that he has been working with property owners and/or renters, most are working on cleaning up their properties, one is unable to be located, and another is being difficult but has been directed by the Judge to fix the issues..

Clerk Kimble reminded all officials to turn in their Statements of Economic Interest. 80 delinquency notices were sent by mail on this day.

Treasurer Hornbeck had nothing to report.

Chief Wicke reported that the new squad is scheduled to be ready April 28th, 3 of 4 squad video cameras have been installed, twenty (20) more nuisance letters for property clean up have been sent and he will be working with the Attorney’s on amending the Motorized Bicycle ordinance.

Trustee Blade gave thanks and her approval to the Ryans (Small Town Real Estate) for investing in our small town.

Trustee McCullough mentioned/reminded that what is discussed in Executive Session stays in Executive Session, with both Trustees Kingery and Parker agreeing to his statement.

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

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

Nays: None

Absent: Harris

Motion carried.

This Village Board meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Jill Kimble

Village Clerk

Greenup, IL