

The regular meeting of the Village of Divernon Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday September 13, 2017 at the Divernon Village Hall. Mayor Jim Copelin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance, Copelin called roll: Jim Copelin "Here", Wayne Jones "Here", Melissa Layton "Here", Daryl Spelman "Here", Larry Baer "Here", Derek Hedges "Here", Dianne Brenning "Here". Also in attendance were Police Chief Barclay Harris, Treasurer Christine Nichols and Superintendent Jeremy Rhodes. Rod Molnar arrived at 7:05 p.m.

A motion was made by Hedges and seconded by Baer to approve the minutes of August 23, 2017. The motion passed 5-0. Jones voting present.

A motion was made by Spelman and seconded by Baer to approve the minutes of the special meeting of September 1, 2017. The motion passed 5-0. Jones voting present.

Brenning presented the bills with a motion that they be approved. Baer seconded, and the motion carried 6-0.

Visitors:

Bobby Britz was in attendance to request to have three parcels of property annexed into the Village. He passed out copies of a proposal along with a map. Parcel "B" is already in the Village, and he would like to annex parcels "A", "C", and "D". Britz owns "A". "D" is in a trust. The owner of "D" is willing to sign a quit claim deed to Britz. The owner of "C" is unknown, but it is thought to be the same as the owner of "D". Britz will submit a petition for annexation, the Village Attorney will prepare an ordinance for annexation and give notice to the Fire Department, Township and Library boards. Britz will require some documentation from the Village to acquire the quit claim deed. Copelin will take care of supplying it. Hedges will get together with the Village Attorney to make sure everything is in order.

Copelin reported that Maddy's Tavern will have a food truck parked in front of the bar for the Deb Dyment benefit. They may need to have the road closed in front of the tavern.

The Party in the Park committee would like to have 2nd Street closed north of the Legion Hall for food trucks this Saturday.

Amy Patton of Patton and Associates was in attendance to present the Village's annual audit. She gave the Board a summary. In the general fund, income tax revenue was down. Gaming revenues were up. Overall expenses were down. Water, sewer and gas revenues were up. Expenses for salaries in all three funds increased. A motion was made by Brenning to accept the audit as presented. Hedges seconded and the motion carried 6-0.

Supervisors Reports:

Public Works:

Superintendent Rhodes presented to the Board a request to have public works employee Craig Cox reimbursed retroactively for his obtaining his gas certification license. The Board gave Cox a \$3.00 per hour increase for the getting the certificate when he completed his probation on August 13, 2017. Cox completed the certification on April 20, 2017. Rhodes would like to see him rewarded for taking the initiative to take the time to become certified. The Board will

consider the request for some type of compensation. Treasure Nichols will give the Board a cost estimate. Rhodes also reported that the water main has been installed and passed the pressure test. Samples have been submitted to EPA. When approved services can be connected. Larry Baer said that the Methodist Church will be using the north side of the park on October 30 for their Trunk or Treat party.

Police:

Copelin reported that he and Molnar had spoken with the County Clerk and Treasurer's offices regarding the tax sales on the two lots on State Street. If sold, the Village would lose the liens on each of the properties that the Village had filed for the cost of the demolition of the houses. Per Copelin's request, the properties were pulled from the pending sale, and the Village would be given first chance to buy each of the properties after which, they could put the properties for sale. A motion was made by Hedges and seconded by Spelman to purchase the properties at 333 State Street and 609 State Street at a cost of \$600.00 each. The motion passed 6-0. Chief Harris reported that he was making some progress on getting yards cleaned up and abandoned vehicles removed from properties. Copelin reported that Officer Hays would be taking an online course instead of an on campus course which would save the Village around \$1000.00.

Committee Reports:

Zoning, TIF, Building Permits:

Hedges reported that he had spoken with Sangamon County regarding the Intergovernmental Agreement for Plat Officer Designation. He had some concerns about some of the language in the agreement, but felt it was best to enter into the agreement. Some changes will need to be made to some of the Village's ordinances. He will have it finalized by the next meeting. The County recommended that the Village have a Comprehensive Plan in place to allow them to have some control on building near the corporate limits. He also presented some changes in the wording of the Village's Zoning Ordinance. Copelin reported on a letter he had received from the Greater Springfield Chamber of Commerce. Casey's has been in touch with the receiver of the property of the old gas station. Representative Sara Wojcicki Jimenez's office has been working to try to get this issue resolved.

Public Utilities, Water, Sewer and Gas:

Nothing to report.

Finance, Personnel, GIS:

Treasurer Nichols reported that as part of the GATA enrollment that the Village needed to adopt a fraud prevention plan. Her research has led her to a book that should take care of it. She will purchase it and if the Village Board chooses, it will be adopted. Copelin distributed an update to the budget billing situation. It has improved dramatically.

Public Safety, Health and Safety:

Layton gave an update on the recent electronic recycling event held at the Village Hall. It was a major success. The contractor had to call in an extra employee and additional trucks to handle all of the recyclables.

Public Works, Streets, Alleys and Sidewalks:

Baer reported that employee health insurance costs will increase by 17% this year. The Village will be changing agencies for life insurance which will reduce costs from \$87.00 to \$63.00 for each employee. Dental and Vision will be offered to employees at their cost. At least four employees will need to enroll.

Village Communication/Building Grounds and Lights, Parks, Recreation:

Copelin reported that he contacted Illini Tech about the recent incident where the Village Hall did not have access nearly all day. They will review the contract and will be submitting to Copelin exactly what the Village is paying for and what services we can expect. Copelin, Spelman, and Layton will be working on getting the Village Newsletter mailed out by the end of the year. A discussion was held concerning purchasing new computers for the police department. The item was tabled. Of the twenty new socket covers put on the outlets under the pavilion, only three remain. Options were discussed that ranged from installing cameras to putting in a curfew on the park. Spelman reported that Don Kern has looked at the pavilion and will be submitting a couple of ideas. Steve Curry, who built the current Village website is not interested in continuing working on it. Spelman also reported that Sterling Codifiers would put the Village ordinances on the website at a cost of \$200.00 and a \$500.00 per year management fee. No action was taken.

Old Business:

The Board was in agreement that the liquor ordinance should not be changed to allow liquor to be sold at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday's

New Business:

Layton and Brenning each said they had received several requests for the Village to begin clean-up day. The Village had not done this for two years because of the cost. Several people said they would be willing to pay for this service to help defer the costs. It was agreed that in the spring a clean-up day and that there would be some type of charge. Tentative dates are May 5 for the annual garage sale and May 12 for clean-up day.

A motion was made by Jones to go into executive session at 8:21 p.m. to discuss personnel issues.

The Board returned to regular session at 8:54 p.m.

A motion was made by Spelman to accept the resignation of Office Manager Sue Covi effective September 30, 2017 and to wish Sue the best of luck in her retirement. Hedges seconded and the motion carried 6-0.

Motion by Hedges to adjourn at 8:56 p.m.

Jim Copelin
Village President

Rodney Molnar
Village Clerk