

The regular meeting of the Village of Divernon Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday, October 24, 2018 at the Divernon Village Hall. Village President Jim Copelin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance, Clerk Rod Molnar called roll: Jim Copelin "Here", Wayne Jones "Here", Larry Baer "Here", Derek Hedges "Here", Dianne Brenning "Here". Also in attendance were Superintendent Jeremy Rhodes and Police Chief Jason Martin. Melissa Layton was absent.

A motion was made by Hedges and seconded by Jones to approve the minutes of October 10, 2018. The motion passed 4-0 with the Mayor voting. Baer voting present.

Brenning presented the Village bills with a motion that they be approved after adding invoices from Paycor for \$146.62 and Illinois Risk Management for \$40,476.67. Baer seconded and the motion carried 4-0.

*Visitors:*

Copelin then nominated Craig Busch to fill the vacant seat on the Board. Jones made the motion to approve the nomination. Hedges seconded and the motion carried 4-0. Busch then took his seat on the Board.

*Supervisor Reports:*

*Public Works:*

Superintendent Rhodes reported that an official from the EPA was onsite to inspect the Village's sanitary sewer system. No violations were found. Mark Conner of the Illinois Commerce Commission was in town today to audit the Village's natural gas public awareness program. Some minor issues were noted. A report will be forthcoming. The new water main has passed EPA testing and is now in service. Existing services are being connected. Darrin Copelin has completed his online natural gas training. His field evaluation testing will be next week. Rhodes plans to have Christmas decorations installed soon. He will check with Mike Bolash to see if he is interested in installing them again this year.

*Police:*

Chief Martin addressed the Board about having Officer Bill Price promoted to Sergeant with a \$1.00 per hour raise. The Board will discuss this further in executive session. A new computer has been added to the Police Department for Price. Illini Tech will charge an additional \$50.00 per month to the contract covering all Village computers. The in car camera system will be installed in the new truck next week. Martin gave the Board an update on recent activity in the Village. The Mayor will meet with the Chief to review the police manual.

*Committee Reports:*

*Zoning, TIF, Building Permits:*

Copelin had spoken with the Village Attorney to get his opinion on zoning violations. It is the Zoning Administrator's job to issue violations. The Zoning Board of Appeals would then hear any appeals of those violations. Hedges recommended that the Village look into the liability that the Village would bear regarding the movies being shown in the park. He is aware that even

though the program seems harmless, copyright laws may come into play. Molnar will check with Illinois Risk Management to determine the Village's liability should the issue arise.

*Public Utilities, Water, Sewer and Gas:*

No action was taken regarding informing landlords if tenants were behind on utility bills. Office Manager Heather Rideout asked that she be given time to determine the capabilities and limitations of the MuniBilling system. Rhodes and Hedges attended a meeting of United Gas Management where they heard a proposal that could save the Village on natural gas purchases. The agreement would lock the Village in for several years. The item was tabled in order to get more information. Jones distributed a report on the budget billing system. Changes that were made earlier this year seem to have the system heading in the right direction. A motion was made by Jones and seconded by Hedges to approve one request for an adjustment this month. The motion passed 5-0.

*Finance, Personnel, GIS:*

Baer pointed out that he had scheduled a meeting with the Village employees and a representative of the health insurance company to go over options to the program. He said that only two employees attended. He could have rescheduled if notified that the date was a problem.

*Public Safety, Health and Safety:*

No action was taken on the highway agreement proposed from the contractor hired by EPA. It was decided not to relocate the stop sign at the northwest corner of State and Dodds streets.

*Public Works, Streets, Alleys and Sidewalks:*

Baer presented the wording for the plaque to be placed on the monument acknowledging Charles G. Brown for the donation of the land for the Village Park.

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

Copelin reported that the pages for the new website have been sent to Office Manager Rideout. The webmaster is in need of documents, photos, and other information to add. He hopes to have it in production by the first of the year.

*Old Business:*

A discussion was held concerning finding a substitute for the Office Manager position when she is away. Molnar reported that notices would be put in the Auburn Citizen and Divernon News regarding the sale of the two properties on State Street. Layton will have the same information posted on the internet.

*New Business:*

Copelin recommended that Cory Busch and David Goddard be appointed to the Zoning Board of Appeals. A motion was made by Hedges to approve the appointments. Jones seconded and the motion was approved 5-0.

A motion was made by Hedges to go into executive session at 8:31 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

The Board returned to open session at 8:50 p.m.

No other action was taken.

Motion by Baer to adjourn at 8:51 p.m.

Jim Copelin  
Village President

Rodney Molnar  
Village Clerk