

The regular meeting of the Village of Divernon Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday, February 27, 2019 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, Melissa Layton called roll: Jim Copelin "Here", Craig Busch "Here", Wayne Jones "Here", Melissa Layton "Here", Larry Baer "Here", Derek Hedges "Here", Dianne Brenning "Here". Also in attendance were Superintendent Jeremy Rhodes, Treasurer Christine Nichols and Police Chief Jason Martin. Clerk Rod Molnar was absent.

A motion was made by Hedges and seconded by Jones to approve the minutes of February 13, 2019. The motion passed 4-0. Baer and Brenning voting present.

Brenning presented the Village bills with a motion that they be approved after adding invoices for United Community Bank for \$30.00, ILEAS for \$125.00 and True Green for \$1260.00. Baer seconded and the motion carried 6-0.

Visitors:

Sangamon County Clerk Don Gray was in attendance. He reported that early voting for the Consolidated Election is now in full swing and can be done at the County Building in room 101. Voting by mail is going strong with nearly 4000 ballots already cast. Polls for the election will open on April 2, 2019 at 6:00 a.m.

Jerod McMorris of Homefield Energy was in attendance to present the Village with an option to save on electric costs for street lights and the Villages usage. The Village has 13 accounts for various facilities. A motion was made by Jones to enter into a two year contract for the facilities and street lights. Baer seconded and the motion carried 6-0.

Supervisor Reports:

Public Works:

Superintendent Rhodes reported that he has spoken with both Auburn and Pawnee concerning the proposal from USDI to keep all natural gas records electronically. They both like the program but agree that it is expensive. There is a one time startup fee of \$3500.00 and an annual cost of \$3750.00. Lindsay Enloe will be invited to attend a meeting to make a presentation. The item was tabled. An aerator motor at the sewage treatment plant needs to be replaced. The cost for the motor and wiring will be \$3082.56. A motion was made by Hedges to approve the purchase. Brenning seconded and the motion carried 6-0.

Police:

Chief Martin reported he has been in touch with Dianne Otte of State Farm about a grant for new laptops and one desktop for the Village. He will have more information later. He has spoken with Tim Porter who works at the VA hospital in St. Paul Minnesota. He will be providing the Village with two ballistic shields free of charge. The only cost to the Village will be shipping. Martin would like to see the speed limit reduced on Reichert Road coming into the Village from the south. He will contact the Illinois Department of Transportation to see if it is possible. The Sangamon County Health Department has not been able to contact the owner of the old IGA store on the square.

Steve Hall of the Health Department said if they continue to be unable to reach the owner, the Village can begin proceedings to obtain the building and have it demolished. The question arose as to whether or not TIF funds could be used for the project. Treasurer Nichols will contact the TIF attorney to get her opinion.

Committee Reports:

Zoning, TIF, Building Permits:

Mayor Copelin has been in touch with Representative Mike Murphy regarding the gas station properties. According to Murphy his office has been in touch with the EPA and they are ok with the properties being sold, but there is some concern that there may be some additional cleanup needed. The properties are going through foreclosure which may take a few months. Zoning Board Chairman Randy Rhodes has been in touch with Copelin regarding the most recent Zoning Board meeting. There are a few items they would like to address if the Board would approve. They want language regarding trailers better defined, they have concerns regarding repairs on existing commercial properties as not to hinder businesses, and would like to address the code's impact on non for profit businesses or building repairs properties owned by taxing bodies.

Public Utilities, Water, Sewer and Gas:

Letters with updated information was sent out to budget billing customers. A motion was made by Jones and seconded by Hedges to approve one request for a utility adjustment. The motion was approved 6-0.

Finance, Personnel, GIS:

Brenning presented a draft of the annual Appropriation Ordinance. The Board determined a list of line items that should be added to the appropriation. They include under the police fund a line for tasers and a camera for the new police vehicle. A line item will be added in case Henrietta Street is extended. Also an item will be added in case the Village decides to pay off the EPA loan on the sewage treatment plant. Another item will be added for a new phone system for the office. Hedges asked about low interest loans available through the EPA. Treasurer Nichols will look into it. Nichols asked that the Board approve a new sub account be added to the TIF account for repayment to Bert Barlow. A motion was made by Brenning and seconded by Baer to create TIF sub account 09-010. The motion passed 6-0. \$98.69 will be transferred into the account. A transfer will be made before December 1st of each year.

Public Safety, Health and Safety:

Nothing to report.

Public Works, Streets, Alleys and Sidewalks:

Alley cleanup will begin next week.

Village Communication/Building Grounds and Lights, Parks:

Busch reported that a jobs opportunity tab had been added to the Village Website. Information will be added to the front page regarding early voting.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

None.

Motion by Hedges to adjourn at 8:23 p.m.

Jim Copelin
Village President

Rodney Molnar
Village Clerk