

The regular meeting of the Village of Divernon Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday, October 28, 2020 at the Masonic Lodge. After the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance, Village President Jim Copelin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Clerk Rod Molnar called roll: Jim Copelin “Here”, Craig Busch “Here”, Wayne Jones “Here”, Gail Hedges “Here”, Tyler Bramley “Here”, Larry Baer “Here”, Also in attendance was Superintendent Jeremy Rhodes, Treasurer Amanda Kessler 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 14, 2020. The motion passed 4-0. Bramley voting present.

Baer presented the Village bills with a motion approve. Hedges seconded and the motion carried 5-0.

Visitors:

Chuck Apgar was in attendance. He had taken out an election packet. He said there was a discrepancy on number of signatures required in the packet with those on the Sangamon County website. Molnar will check with the county to see which is correct.

Jim Mayes was in attendance. He is interested in a full time Police Officer position with the Village. He has lived in the community for eight years. He has been on the fire department for six years and has worked his way to a Lieutenant’s position. He plans to raise his family here. He has a passion for helping people and is willing to work hard for the residents of Divernon.

Supervisor Reports:

Public Works:

Superintendent Rhodes said work would be completed with the water main project tomorrow. He then must get two good water tests results from the EPA. At that point he will connect 18 residences to the main. He will be getting out the Christmas decorations soon to be put up. He requested the purchase of a hydraulic trash pump at a cost of \$2045.15. A motion was made by Busch and seconded by Jones to approve the purchase. The motion passed 5-0. The shop is cleaned up and ready for the flu clinic on November 2nd. The Village received a letter from the Regional Planning Commission requesting the Village issue a citation for the residence at 201 S. Third Street for piling up old concrete in the Flood Plain.

Police:

Chief Martin asked the status of the UTV ordinance. Copelin and Hedges will be meeting soon to work out some small changes. Martin asked if motorized bikes could be added to the bicycle ordinance. Busch requested the Police Department look into a few areas of town where there are junk cars and other trash. He also asked about the old IGA. Officer Kenny Reardon believes a vehicle ran into the building from the inside while they were cleaning up.

Committee Reports:

Zoning, TIF, Building Permits:

TIF attorney Kathy Orr responded to the questions put forth by the Board considering changes to the TIF district and a possible Business district in the truck stop area. The Board does not want

to make any changes to the TIF but would like to get some more information concerning the Business district before possibly moving forward.

Public Utilities, Water, Sewer and Gas:

Jones presented three requests for adjustments of late fees. A motion was made by Jones to approve the requests from Deb Kelly, John Dipasquale and Coy Ralston. Baer seconded. The motion was approved 5-0.

Finance, Personnel, GIS:

Kessler presented to the Board a policy regarding the use of a credit card for the Board to consider. She said she tried to balance the regulations of using the card with the needs of the Village as to not slow down work. The card can only be used for purchases through Amazon. Purchases under \$500.00 must be approved by Kessler and Copelin, while purchases exceeding \$500.00 must be authorized by the entire Board. A change will be made to allow for purchases from other than Amazon and those purchases must be approved by the entire Board. A motion was made by Baer and seconded by Jones to approve the policy with changes. The motion carried 5-0. Hedges met with Kessler regarding the purchasing policy the Village is using. Kessler checked with the auditing firm used by the Village. They are satisfied with the current policy. The policy is consistent with those in other similar sized communities. Kessler will compile the current policy used by the Village.

Public Safety, Health and Safety:

It was determined no new streetlight was needed on Faithorn Street. Jr. High School will begin attendance on November 2nd, and the trailer parked on Kenney Street has been moved to allow busses to make the turn off of State Street. A fine was paid and the property cleaned up to some degree on South State Street. Bramley asked if the Village was prepared if additional mitigations in regards to the Covid pandemic are put in place in Sangamon County.

Public Works, Streets, Alleys and Sidewalks:

Nothing to report.

Village Communication/Building Grounds and Lights, Parks:

Busch found less expensive picnic tables from the company that the new playground equipment was purchased from. The item will be taken up in the spring.

Old Business:

Copelin said he has spoken several times with Chris Swieca of Wintrust Bank and Representative Mike Murphy regarding the old gas station properties. He said there was nothing firm at this point, but hoped he could have some news to report soon.

New Business:

None.

A motion was made by Baer to go into executive session at 7:46 p.m. to discuss personnel issues.

The Board returned to regular session at 8:16 p.m.

No other action was taken.

Motion by Busch to adjourn at 8:16 p.m.

Jim Copelin
Village President

Rodney Molnar
Village Clerk