

The regular meeting of the Village of Divernon Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday, August 11, 2021, at the Village Hall. Mayor Jim Copelin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance, Clerk Gail Hedges called roll: Craig Busch “Here”, Joe Bukantos “Here”, Chuck Apgar “Here”, Tyler Bramley “Here”, Dianne Brenning “Here”, and Larry Baer “Here”. Also present were Chief Martin and Superintendent Rhodes.

A motion was made by Baer seconded by Busch to approve the minutes of July 28, 2021. The motion passed 5-1 with Bramley voting present.

Baer made a motion to approve the bills requesting to add a \$600.18 bill for Wacky Rental dba Tag and a \$19.48 bill for IMRF paid in May 2021. The motion was seconded by Brenning and passed 6-0.

Visitors

Luke and Alisha Hilley were present to discuss an alleged ordinance issue with the construction of their privacy fence. The situation will be reviewed, and the Hilley’s will be informed of the decision.

Ben Spreen was present to share the status of the bidding of the water tank repair. Bids will be opened, and a decision made on September 7, 2021. The bid will be awarded September 8, 2021. The repair is scheduled to be completed prior to the onset of winter. Spreen also reported that the permit for the water main extension was received.

Ryan McCrady, with the Springfield Sangamon County Growth Alliance, was present to share the status of the proposed Nextsite partnership to bring development to Divernon. Charles Branch, Nextsite Senior Vice President of Business Development, spoke of what Nextsite will do to promote Divernon as a good site for development.

Supervisor Reports:

Public Works:

Discussion on the Hilley privacy fence issue took place including review of the approved building permit vs where the fence was built. Brenning made a motion seconded by Bukantos to hire Randy Smith to remove the trees located on village property at 533 S. State Street. The motion passed 6-0. Rhodes reported that crosswalks are being painted in ready of the school opening. Rhodes also reported that sidewalks are completed for the year.

Police:

Sergeant Kenny Reardon is doing well in his new role. Matt Hulsland has informed Chief Martin that he is no longer interested in being a police officer. Part-time officers Porter and Williams are doing well in their training and should be completed with all training by the first of the year. Tall grass ordinance violations are being issued as necessary.

Committee Reports: Economic Dev., Zoning, TIF, Building Permits:

Busch made a motion seconded by Apgar to approve the Nextsite agreement. The motion passed 6-0. Once signed by Nextsite, discussions with developers will begin. Vi's Tavern has been torn down, and Maddy's Beer Garden will expand into the space.

Public Utilities Water, Gas and Sewer

Nothing to report.

Finance, Personnel, GIS:

The Annual Treasure's Report is completed and will be submitted to the Sangamon County Recorder. The audit is complete and will be presented at the August 25, 2021, board meeting.

Public Safety, Health and Safety:

Apgar made a motion seconded by Busch to approve the amended Weapons and Firearms Restrictions Ordinance to reflect the revised conceal carry laws. The motion passed 6-0. There continues to be no movement on the IGA building although the Village continues to push forward.

Public Works, Streets, Alleys and Sidewalks:

Nothing to report

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

Nothing to report.

Old Business:

The Village will review how new business registration is being enforced.

New Business:

None

Baer made a motion to adjourn at 8:17 p.m.

Jim Copelin
Mayor

Gail Hedges
Village Clerk