

The regular meeting of the Village of Divernon Board of Trustees was held at the Village Hall on Wednesday February 9, 2022. President Pro Tem Larry Baer called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Clerk Gail Hedges called roll: Craig Busch “Here”, Joe Bukantos “Here”, Chuck Apgar “Here”, Tyler Bramley “Here”, and Dianne Brenning “Here”. Mayor Jim Copelin was absent. Also present was Superintendent Rhodes. Chief Martin was also absent.

A motion was made by Bukantos seconded by Apgar to approve the minutes of January 26, 2022. The motion passed 4-0 with Bramley voting present.

Brenning made a motion seconded by Bramley to approve the bills. The motion passed 5-0.

Visitors

There were no visitors present.

Public Works:

Superintendent Rhodes reported that he had discussed with Ben Spreen of Benton and Associates the cost of replacing the water main from North First St. (Bob Brown property) to just beyond the sewer plant. Spreen presented a cost estimate of \$483,200 for full-time monitoring of the project or \$427,200 for part-time monitoring. This project would be paid by the \$200,000 DCEO grant and Village funds. Rhodes reported that snow removal kept them busy for several days. Board members complimented Rhodes on the great job the crew had done keeping the roads cleared.

Police:

Apgar made a motion seconded by Bramley to approve the purchase of the AEDs for the police vehicles, public works building and Village Hall at a cost of \$8407.70. The motion passed 5-0.

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

Apgar reported that the attorney for the owner of the IGA has quit. The owner has until February 15, 2022 to hire a new attorney. Should he fail to replace his attorney by the due date, the Village attorney will move for an order to demolish the building. Mayor Copelin has a meeting scheduled with the Swieca to discuss the status and maintenance of the grounds of the two vacant gas stations.

Public Utilities Water, Gas and Sewer

It was noted that many calls were coming in regarding the increase in gas bills. The increase was due to higher usage due to the colder weather and a higher gas rate from the Village’s supplier.

Finance, Personnel, GIS:

Baer reported the Finance Committee will be meeting this week to prepare the 2023 Village appropriation. Baer also reported he continues looking for an auditor to conduct the 2022 Village annual audit.

Public Safety, Health and Safety:

Nothing to report.

Public Works, Streets, Alleys and Sidewalks:

The Village is still studying the need for additional street lights.

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

Apgar reported the February newsletter should go out this week.

Old Business:

The Village-wide yard sale is scheduled April 29 – 30, 2022. The Village-wide cleanup and electronics recycling is scheduled for May 7, 2022

New Business:

Nothing to report.

The meeting ended with a motion by Bukantos at 7:03. p.m.

Larry Baer
President Pro Tem

Gail Hedges
Village Clerk