

The regular meeting of the Village of Divernon Board of Trustees was held at the Village Hall on Wednesday March 23, 2022. Mayor Jim Copelin 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”, and Larry Baer “Here”. Also present were Superintendent Rhodes and Chief Martin.

A motion was made by Bukantos seconded by Apgar to approve the minutes of March 9, 2022. The motion passed 5-0 with Bramley voting present.

Baer made a motion seconded by Brenning to approve the bills with the addition of \$2381.90 for Speed Tech Lights, \$70.00 for Alice O’Keefe, \$1764.08 for TruGreen and \$5280.00 for Masten Mosquito Control. The motion passed 6-0.

Visitors

Dawn Hayes, manager of the Corner Bar, was present to request that the street between First and the alley behind the bar be blocked off on May 14, 2022 from noon - 6:00 P.M. for a motorcycle ride. John Masten was present to discuss continuing the mosquito abatement service for the Village. Masten indicated the same service as the prior year would be offered. Darryl Spellman was present as an observer.

Public Works:

Superintendent Rhodes reported that alleys had been rocked. The water fountain on the square was repaired and concrete was poured around the base. Vandals caused some damage to the new concrete. The Village will look into having surveillance cameras installed. The sidewalk at First and Lewis Streets, where the old Divernon News building was located, either needs to be removed or replaced. It was determined the sidewalk should be removed. The First Street water main replacement will begin as soon as the weather permits.

Police:

Chief Martin reported the new police car has been received. Once all of the required equipment is installed, the car will be used on patrol.

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

Apgar reported the application process for business assistance grants for those businesses impacted by the pandemic is still being developed. Mayor Copelin reported there is interest in the south gas station property. Nextsite is also working with the Village to bring businesses to both gas station properties. Demolition of the south property should occur in the next several weeks.

Public Utilities Water, Gas and Sewer

Bukantos reported Jerald Green is requesting the \$20.00 late fee be waived due to mail delivery service. Bukantos made a motion to approve the waiver seconded by Baer. The motion passed 6-0. Bukantos is looking into bids for power washing the water tower.

Finance, Personnel, GIS:

Baer requested the vote on the 2023 appropriations be held until the next meeting. Renewal of the Comcast Service Agreement was discussed.

Public Safety, Health and Safety:

Busch made a motion to approve the contract with Masten Mosquito Control in the amount of \$5280.00 seconded by Bramley. The motion passed 5-1 with Bukantos voting no. Apgar reported the Sangamon County Hazard Mitigation plan is being developed by the county. Apgar reported movement on the old IGA building is currently still tied up in court.

Public Works, Streets, Alleys and Sidewalks:

Nothing to report.

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

Apgar reported he's gathering information for the May newsletter.

Old Business:

Mayor Copelin reminded trustees to get a copy of the completed Economic Interest Statement or the confirmation of submission email to Hedges for filing.

New Business:

Mayor Copelin reported that Encounters is seeking a donation to help offset the cost of their Easter Egg Hunt. Discussion followed. There was also some discussion on the content of the board minutes.

The meeting ended with a motion by Baer at 8:35. p.m.

Jim Copelin
Mayor

Gail Hedges
Village Clerk