

The regular meeting of the Village of Divernon Board of Trustees was held at the Village Hall on Wednesday May 25, 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”, Larry Baer “Here”, and Dianne Brenning “Here”. Also present were Superintendent Rhodes and Chief Martin.

A motion was made by Bukantos seconded by Brenning to approve the minutes of May 11, 2022. The motion passed 6-0.

Baer made a motion seconded by Brenning to approve the bills. The motion passed 6-0.

Visitors

There were no visitors.

Public Works:

Superintendent Rhodes reported that work on the First Street water main project had begun. New flags were raised for Memorial Day in honor of the fallen. Austin Kane was recommended to become the new public works employee. Kane is a Divernon resident.

Police:

Chief Martin reported that he is looking into new stop signs for high traffic areas. No decisions were made.

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

Mayor Copelin reported a meeting has been scheduled with the bank to discuss the status of the old gas stations coming into Divernon from I55. Busch reported that David Catlin will be adding an addition to Maddy’s. Hedges reported the Zoning Board of Appeals has denied the request to replace the trailer/mobile home located at 121 S. State St.

Public Utilities Water, Gas and Sewer

Hedges reported a lien is being placed on the property located at 28 N. First Street for outstanding utility payment.

Finance, Personnel, GIS:

Baer made a motion seconded by Brenning to hire Austin Kane as a new public works employee with a starting date of June 6, 2022. The motion passed 6-0. Baer made a motion seconded by Bramley to hire Austin Cronister as a part-time police officer beginning immediately. The motion passed 6-0. Baer reported he is researching CD interest rates as the UCB CD is coming up due for renewal.

Public Safety, Health and Safety:

Nothing to report.

Public Works, Streets, Alleys and Sidewalks:

Brenning reported that she and Baer had determined that three more trees were needed coming into Divernon on Brown Street.

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

Brenning made a motion to add a new street light at the corner of Henrietta and Whiting Streets at a cost of \$504.00 plus regular monthly charges. The motion was seconded by Busch and passed 6-0. Public Works staff will dig the trench for the wiring to save costs.

Old Business:

Busch reported that signage for Encounters and Snack Shack could not be added to the highway informational signs because their business practices do not satisfy IDOT requirements.

New Business:

Hedges reported that the Village had received notice that the property located at 209 E. Dodds was in foreclosure.

Baer made a motion to go into executive session at 7:37 p.m. The Board returned to regular session at 7:42 p.m.

A motion was made by Baer seconded by Brenning to approve a 5% salary increase for all full-time employees' retroactive back to May 1, 2022. Baer also reported that Austin Kane would start at \$18.00 per hour.

The meeting ended with a motion by Baer at 7:45. p.m.

Jim Copelin
Mayor

Gail Hedges
Village Clerk