

Bowerston Village Council  
Regular Meeting, Tuesday, February 15, 2022

All Council present: Paula, Polly, Jon, Melodie, Karen and Juliet, Bart, Janeen, Heidi, Justin and Jacquie.

Visitors: Kelly Love and Dustin Corder.

Dustin Corder, candidate for Harrison County Commissioner, running in preliminary. Mr. Corder introduced himself and gave a brief overview of his ideas. Believes it's time for a change.

Paula moved to accept January minutes, Julie seconded, unanimous.

Melody moved to pay bills, Julie seconded, unanimous.

Paula moved to pass financial report, as presented, Julie seconded, unanimous.

#### **Solicitor's Report**

1. Hein pre-trial date is February 28th, 10:30, this is a phone conference. If not resolved at this time, the judge will set a time frame for proceedings.
2. Jenna had submitted the water & sewer rate agreement prior to meeting. Bart noted a correction was needed and he made the update. Bart has already emailed to LJ Smith.

#### **Mayor's Report**

1. Jacquie noted that the limit for visitors is 4 minutes for those who have requested to be placed on the agenda prior to a meeting, and 2 minutes for drop ins. She said she would rarely enforce these rules if issues to discuss were valid.
2. Jacquie noted that she had met with both the Park and Street committees.

#### **Village Administrator's Report**

1. Bart reported that the furnace at the park building is not working again and that he has a quote for a new furnace from Lucky HAC in the amount of \$4,200.00. Bart will obtain another estimate prior to purchasing.
2. Bart reported that he would like to remove the bushes in Gateway Park. Jenna advised that Council did not need to officially approve, this is a function of the Maintenance Department, of which Bart is in charge.

#### **Fiscal Officer's Report**

1. Heidi reported that \$101,000.00 amendment needs to be made, Resolution 2022-001, for receipt OWDA funding. Paula moved to approve, Julie seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.
2. Heidi reported that the 2022 permanent appropriations are complete and are the same as the temporary. Juliet moved to approve, Melody seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.
3. Heidi reported that the Harrison County Regional planning commission is meeting and she feels that it would be advantageous for the Village to have a representative there. Karen made motion to appoint Paula, Melody seconded, unanimous.

4. Julie moved to appoint Melody to the Harrison County Public Health Commission, Polly seconded, unanimous.

#### **Utility Administrator's Report**

1. Janeen reported that 42 notices had went out in January but there were no shut offs, there are still 2 who owe.

2. Janeen presented a Landlord Ordinance for Council's review. She explained that landlords will be responsible for advising the Village as to who is living in their properties. The first reading of Ordinance 2022-001 was heard.

3. Janeen inquired as to how long Council wanted to let the bills to go for the sewer maintenance fees, for unconnected properties. She said that there are several who are not paying at all. Jenna suggested no longer than six months, Juliet moved to approve, Paula seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.

4. Bart reported that there was a rental at the Park Saturday and the heat went out, he would like to send their money back. Paula moved to approve, Juliet seconded, unanimous.

5. Bart asked if any more thought had been given to the rental of the park building deposit being paid separately from the rental fee. Heidi advised that the payment of \$100 for the rental should be made at the time of the reservation, but they can hang on to the deposit check until after the rental. Council discussed and agreed on \$50.00 for the amount of deposit, Melody made motion, Juliet seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.

6. Bart reported that Trey will be coming back for four weeks through the County program and Jayden will be here once school is out.

#### **Income Tax Administrator's Report**

1. Janeen said all is well, computer is working now.

#### **Old Business**

1. Paula reported that she and Janeen had been corresponding with Paystar and the current billing software is too old to export spreadsheets. The upgrade would \$3,500.00. Janeen does not think that many customers will use this option.

2. Janeen inquired of Jenna if it would be permissible for customers to keep a credit card on file for use. A discussion took place regarding upgrading the utility software. No action taken at this time.

3. Jacquie reported that the WC is checking on whether the school can pay for installation of the video board.

#### **Park Committee**

1. Melody reported that the park committee is holding off on planting trees at Gateway.

2. Bart has found one grill for the park, committee will shop for another.

3. Committee is looking for new Christmas lights.

4. A discussion took place regarding the Christmas lights that have not yet been taken down.

5. Discussed having a couple of community events to boost morale in the Village. Jenna advised that the Village may not pay for gift cards to be awarded as prizes.

6. Melody would like to see the basketball court painted.
7. Paula inquired of Jenna as to if it is permissible for the Village to have a community event. A discussion took place regarding the matter and other community organizations assisting.

Julie made motion to go into executive session, Melody seconded, 7:04.  
Juliet moved to come out of executive session, Melody seconded, 7:21

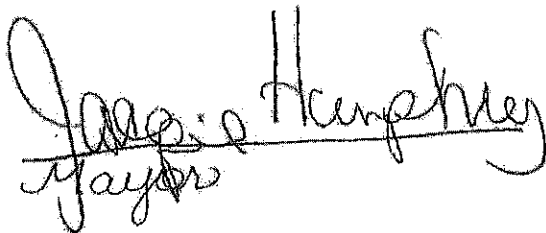
1. In regards to fines issued to Kimmy Hanshaw, Karen moved to forgive fines, except \$500, if property is kept clean for 180 days, \$500 due within 30 days, Juliet seconded, All in favor, except Paula, by roll call vote.
2. In regards to Hanshaw encroachment on Village easement: Juliet made motion to allow up 180 days for Hanshaw's to have survey and all legal work completed for variance of the porch structure, Paula seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.
3. Heidi requested that a building permit Ordinance be put in place. Jenna advised that a board would have to be formed and that she will draft the ordinance.

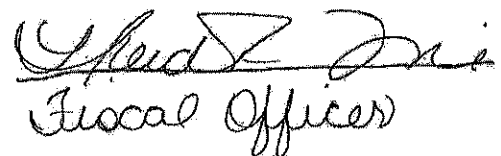
#### **Loan/Grant Status**

1. Paula made a motion to put a public notice in the paper of the Village's intent to apply for USDA funding, Juliet seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.

#### **Adjournment**

Juliet made motion to adjourn 7:33

  
~~Mayor~~

  
Fiscal Officer