

## Bowerston Village Council Regular Meeting, Tuesday, July 20, 2021

Council Attendance: Melody absent, notified mayor prior to meeting. Karen, Jon, Paula, Polly and Juliet present.

Other Village Officials: Heidi, Bart, Jenna and Jacquie.

Visitors: Megan John.

### **Loan/Grant Status**

1. Meeting with Bob Allen of EL Robinson via Microsoft Team Meetings. Bob explained the current status of both the water and sewer loan/grant applications to Council. Bob reported that he had correspondence with Misty, of RCAP, and will forward to Mayor and Council President.
2. Resolution to approve Mayor to sign necessary paperwork on Village's behalf, Paula made motion to approve, Polly seconded, unanimous.

**Visitors:** Megan was present to express concern about the stray cats in the Village. Jacquie inquired if she had contacted the Health Department, she has. Jacquie said that she believes this would take a lot of time. Jenna advised that she is not aware of any Village's having an ordinance regarding cats. Jenna explained how a Village ordinance would work and would not be enforceable. Jenna advised Megan that she can claim a personal (Civil) nuisance claim. No action taken.

Megan asked that the Village workers stay off of the road. Bart will address.

### **Minutes:**

Paula moved to approve June minutes, as presented, Juliet seconded, unanimous.

### **Council President Report**

1. Paula noted that the auditor had advised that we should post the meeting time and date of meetings on the village door.
2. Paula reported that Bob Allen and OMEGA representative suggested that every 6 months a utility rate audit be done.
3. Paula reported that the nomination had been sent to the County Engineer to be considered for HB168.
4. Paula reported that we have gotten nowhere with the returns for USA Bluebook. Jenna will contact them.
5. Paula reviewed utility billing report with Council. There is an issue with a delinquent customer having service turned on prior to Village receiving payment.
6. Jacquie inquired if we are following all Village Ordinances, this is extremely important because of the funding we are seeking. Ordinances are laws, not suggestions. Adhering to our Ordinances is an issue that Council has been addressing for over 6 months. A lengthy discussion took place.

7. Karen D. made a motion that any deviation from Village Ordinances will result in immediate termination of employee(s), Juliet seconded, Unanimous by roll call vote.
7. Paula reported that Karen K. Needs advise on how billing will be done in the future. Council agreed to continue with the post cards.

### **Mayor's Report**

1. Jacquie reported that the Village has received an application to join the Mayor's Association and advised that Senator Hoagland had suggested that the Village join as many organizations as possible. Jacquie will contact the Mayor's Association to inquire if the Village may join for a waived fee or at no cost.
2. Jacquie explained that she has had multiple complaints about the person living in a camper at 201 Main Street. A discussion took place regarding the multiple Ordinances that are in violation at this residence. Jenna will send the property owner a copy of our mobile home Ordinance and give them 30 days to have it moved.

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

1. Heidi presented Resolution 6-2021, to purse the park levy renewal. Paula made motion, Polly seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.

### **Solicitor's Report**

1. Jacquie read Ordinance 2021-2, third reading, to pass \$25.00 maintenance fee. Karen made motion to approve, Paula seconded, unanimous by roll call.
2. Jenna reported that she will have Sheriff serve Hein paperwork next week if certified mail is not picked up. Paula inquired if he should be charged the maintenance fee. Jenna advised that he probably will not pick up his mail.

### **Village Administrator Report**

1. Bart reported that he has an estimate in the amount of \$2,855.00 to remove or \$1,500.00 to trim on Main Street from A&B Tree Service. \$2,500.00 to cut down trees to meet EPA requirements. Bart explained that Encino has a grant that might help with the trees at the Park. Jon suggested putting it off until 2022 and have it in the budget. Jenna suggested contacting AEP about the tree on Main Street since the tree is close to a power line, Bart will do this.
2. Bart reported that he is having a hard time getting equal estimates for the salt bin. Jena suggested doing separately, under \$5,000.00 each, so that bids are not necessary.
3. Bart reported that the half ton pickup needs some repairs. He will get estimates.
4. Bart reported that he has met with Adam Reardon of the FD and they have requested putting a meter in before the meter. A discussion took place about the FD not being charged for utilities. Further investigation will be done regarding this matter.
5. Bart reported that the GIS mapping project is to begin soon, he will be adjusting Allan's schedule accordingly.
6. Bart reported that the program with the County is fantastic and that all workers are doing well.

7. Bart told Council that he and Heidi feels that the Village needs a credit card. Heidi explained that she and Janeen has spoken to Unified Bank about the matter, Karen made motion to approve, Paula seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.

#### **Old Business**

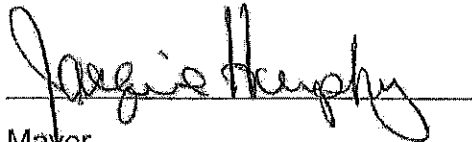
1. Jacquie reported that she has submitted the records for disposal to the State and has not heard back yet.
2. Heidi reported that she needs all new paperwork, annually, for all employees.


#### **New Business**

1. Jacquie inquired as to how Paula can be paid for all of the work that she has been doing on the Village's behalf, Jenna explained how a stipend can be paid. Jon made a motion for a one time stipend of \$1,000.00 for expenditures Paula has incurred up to present time and \$250 per month going forward, Julie seconded, unanimous by roll call, Paula abstained.
2. Polly inquired if she should contact Karen K. Prior to filling her pool. Paula advised that she read the meter before filling and then after and let Karen know what to bill as bulk. This procedure needs to be added to our Ordinance.
3. Paula reported that someone had approached her and Bart about payment of a utility bill, and that she has spoken to Karen about it. We are going to follow our Ordinances.
4. Paula inquired as to who sends letters about grass mowing.
5. Karen reported that Allan needs approval to purchase paint and supplies to paint the park building. Jon made a motion to expend up to \$400 for this, Julie seconded, unanimous.

#### **Adjournment (7:39)**

Paula made motion to adjourn, Juliet seconded, unanimous.

  
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Mayor

  
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Fiscal Officer