

MINUTES
SMITHTON VILLAGE
COMMITTEE AS A WHOLE MEETING
October 13, 2020

This meeting was held at Village Hall using Covid 19 precautions. Mayor Smallwood called the meeting to order at 7:15pm. Trustees Yoch, Becherer, Rogers, Elbe, Henning and Mourey were present.

NORCOM 2000 – HARRY NORTON

Harry Norton spoke to the Mayor and the Board about options of internet service in the Village. Norton stated that he is aware of complaints about the internet service in the Village. He said that the best solution would be to install a fenced in communications shelter under the water tower. Fiber optic would be pulled from the concrete vault on Highway 159 to the shelter and propagate 5G service when it is activated in this area, which could be this year or early next year. Norton stated that they would use a pole every 100 yards. The 5G or broadband could be extended South of town. He stated that the government is offering grants for expansion of fiberoptic network. Norton stated that installing fiberoptic to every home in the Village would be a huge expense and he would not want to initiate the process and then have a competitor come into town and offer a cheaper option which would cause him to lose customers. Mayor Smallwood asked him what Norcom could do now to improve service. Norton replied that every home would need new equipment installed. He stated that the government is trying to regulate the spread of the 5G network. Smallwood stated that Norton told him in January about options to boost signals which would increase speed and reach. Norton stated that the process that he spoke of is almost obsolete already and it would be too costly to replace the equipment in the customer homes only to have a newer service option available. Smallwood stated that there are a lot of unhappy customers and the water tower is pretty much locked up with Norcom equipment that isn't providing good service. Norton stated that that is the way wireless service is now. Data is more, and then video needs a wider bandwidth. Earlier this year he could have widened the bandwidth, but he doesn't think that is would be what customers need now. He said that the industry has had to jump forward about 2 years with 5G. He stated that he would have to put some numbers together before he might offer it South of town. He said that the signal from the equipment on the water tower doesn't reach to Wildwood or Tall Timbers. He said that building a tower near Wildwood would be an option but it would probably be fiber as opposed to wireless. Norton stated that as soon as fiber starts getting pulled into the Wildwood area he would get a lot of calls from new customers. It would be very costly to Norcom to install the equipment at every household. He stated that all of the companies have to decide if they want to spend the money to change out equipment only to have something better come along, such as 5G. He stated that when 5G comes out there could be a lot of companies trying to use the existing poles to attach sensors to them. Smallwood asked again if there was anything that Norcom could do now. Norton replied not really. Everything is on hold right now with the FCC because the head of the FCC is appointed, so the path that is taken may depend on the election results. Smallwood asked if he was

correct in summing it up that we will have to wait for 5G and the first company to bring it to the Village will get the business. Norton stated that he will try to update the Board next month.

DRIVEWAY SETTLEMENT AT SEWER MAINS

Trustee Rogers and the Board reviewed the bids for repair of the driveways that are showing settlement. Some of the driveways have been there for years. Not all of them have settled due to Village street work. Mayor Smallwood will check with Engineer Saeger regarding any repairs in the past and how old the homes are. This item will be discussed further after more information is obtained.

GRADUATED RATE PAY – STREET DEPT. ORDINANCE

Mayor Smallwood and the Board reviewed options for a Street Dept. graduated rate pay ordinance. This ordinance will be voted on at the next Board meeting.

DISPOSAL OF OLD PICNIC TABLE FROM PARK PAVILIONS

Trustee Henning asked the Board if they had any ideas of how to get rid of the 24 picnic tables from the park pavilion that are to be replaced. The Board decided to sell the tables as is for \$10.00 to anyone who wants them. This will start after the new tables are delivered.

ORDINANCE 953 – NOISE

Trustee Yoch reported that Attorney Durso had recommended passing Ordinance 953 which would eliminate sections of the ordinance. The trustees reviewed and compared the language throughout the ordinance for conflicting language. Mayor Smallwood will speak to Durso about the ordinance. This item will stay on the agenda until decisions are made.

RISK MANAGEMENT INSURANCE 2021

Trustee Becherer informed the Board that the bill has been received for the risk management insurance for 2021. The Village rate has not increased. The trustees agreed to use option A for payment, which will save the Village about \$1000.00. The total payment will be \$100,457.82. This item will be brought to a vote at the next Board meeting.

GOOD OF THE VILLAGE

Trustee Rogers informed the board that one of the handheld wands used for meter readings needs to be replaced. Some of the other equipment will be phased out. The Board reviewed options for replacement of equipment. Rogers will get some prices and report back to the board. This item will be on the agenda for the next Committee As a Whole meeting.

Trustee Henning informed the Board that Weiss Monument has repaired four of the six gravestones that need repairs. He would like to withhold the second half of the payment until all six have been finished. The trustees agreed.

Trustee Yoch made a motion which was seconded by Trustee Rogers to adjourn. All were in favor. Motion was granted. Meeting adjourned at 9:18pm.