

Village Board Meeting Minutes
April 6, 2021
7:30pm

The meeting at Village Hall was called to order at 7:30pm. Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Trustees Yoch, Becherer, Rogers, Elbe, Henning and Mourey answered roll call.

CLERK'S REPORT

The Board received a copy. A motion was made by Trustee Yoch which was seconded by Trustee Becherer to approve the minutes from the board meeting held on March 16, 2021. Roll call was taken: Trustee Yoch, yes; Trustee Becherer, yes; Trustee Rogers, yes; Trustee Elbe, yes; Trustee Henning, yes; Trustee Mourey, yes. Motion was granted.

TREASURER'S REPORT – No report.

GOOD OF THE VILLAGE

ANNEXATION HEARING ORDINANCE 962 – (3137 S. ILLINOIS STREET)

Trustee Yoch made a motion which was seconded by Trustee Rogers for Clerk Parker to read Ordinance 962 by Title Only. Roll call was taken: Trustee Yoch, yes; Trustee Rogers, yes; Trustee Becherer, yes; Trustee Elbe, yes; Trustee Henning, yes; Trustee Mourey, yes. Motion was granted. After Parker read Ordinance 962 by Title Only, Trustee Yoch made a motion which was seconded by Trustee Rogers to pass Ordinance 962 – An Ordinance Annexing Certain Territory to the Village of Smithton, St. Clair County, State of Illinois, Pursuant to the Terms and Provisions of 65 ILCS 5/7-1-1 et seq. Including But Not Limited to 65 ILCS 5/7-1-8. Roll call was taken: Trustee Yoch, yes; Trustee Rogers, yes; Trustee Becherer, yes; Trustee Elbe, yes; Trustee Henning, yes; Trustee Mourey, yes. Motion was granted.

COMMERCIAL CLUB POKER RUN

Trustee Mourey made a motion which was seconded by Trustee Elbe to allow the Smithton Commercial Club to hold a Poker Run in the Village.

Raquel Vice asked on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce if rental properties require an inspection. Trustee Yoch stated that an Ordinance has recently been passed that requires rental property owners and renters to complete a form at Village Hall giving information about the property, but an inspection is not required. Vice also asked if there are any plans on improving internet reception in the Village. Mayor Smallwood reported that the internet providers that the Board has spoken to are not interested in investing the money that would be needed to bring internet to the areas South of town.

Health Officer Nancy Rogers reported that there have been good comments made on Facebook about the good job that the Street Department has done in maintaining the Park.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Neff reported that the Police Department received 83 calls for the month of March.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

RESOLUTION 2021-1 – TRAIL STUDY GRANT

Engineer Saeger reported that Trustee Henning will make a motion to support the grant application for a study to be done for a walking/bike trail extending from the Village to the subdivisions South of town.

RESOLUTION 2021-2 – MFT

Engineer Saeger stated that a Resolution will need to be passed for the expenditure of MFT funds for the 2021 fiscal year. Trustee Rogers made a motion which was seconded by Trustee Yoch to pass Resolution 2021-2 authorizing the expenditures of MFT Funds for the 2021 fiscal year. Roll call was taken: Trustee Rogers, yes; Trustee Yoch, yes; Trustee Becherer, yes; Trustee Elbe, yes; Trustee Henning, yes; Trustee Mourey, yes. Motion was granted.

4509 BARLEYRIDGE DRIVE – EXPANSION JOINT

Engineer Saeger reported that the homeowner of 4509 Barleyridge Drive has asked that an expansion joint be installed in his driveway. Mayor Smallwood stated that this item will be discussed under Executive Session later in the meeting.

WILDWOOD LAKE DISCHARGE – RIP RAP

Engineer Saeger reported that Wildwood Lake Subdivision has asked if the Village would share the costs for the installation of rip rap to the stilling basin along White Oak Drive. Mayor Smallwood would like this item on the agenda for the next Committee As a Whole meeting.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT – No report.

SAFETY COMMITTEE

Mayor Smallwood reported that there is a Safety Committee Meeting scheduled for May 6, 2021, at 10:00am if needed.

ZONING BOARD REPORT

GEROLD ANNEXATION

This was voted on earlier in the meeting.

HUNTERS POINT ZONING BOARD HEARING

Zoning Administrator Saeger reported that there will be a Zoning Hearing at the Senior Center on May 5, 2021 to review the preliminary plat for Hunters Point. They will also decide on a wall height variance for another property.

SUPERVISORS REPORT

Supervisor Klein reported that they have opened the Park. The broken concrete has been removed from the back of the Park. They will try to reduce the limb pile from the back of the Park also. The swing will be installed later this week.

ATTORNEY’S REPORT

17 N. HIGH STREET

There is a court date set for the ordinance violations this property.

408 SOUTH JULIA

Trustee Mourey reported that the owner is rehabbing this property.

GRANITE DRIVE

Trustee Mourey reported that there will be a letter sent to the homeowner to provide the information on which bank owns the property so that notices can be sent. Mourey will forward that information to Attorney Durso.

Trustee Yoch made a motion which was seconded by Trustee Becherer to accept the Officer’s reports as given. All were in favor. Motion was granted.

COMMITTEE AS A WHOLE

Mayor Smallwood reported that there was a Committee As a Whole meeting on March 23, 2021. The items will be discussed under the Committee Reports. Trustee Yoch made a motion which was seconded by Trustee Becherer to approve the minutes from the Committee As a Whole meeting on March 23, 2021. Roll call was taken: Trustee Yoch, yes; Trustee Becherer, yes; Trustee Rogers, yes; Trustee Elbe, yes; Trustee Henning, yes; Trustee Mourey, yes. Motion was granted.

FINANCE & INSURANCE COMMITTEE

BUDGET

Trustee Becherer reported that the budget should be ready for a vote at the next Board meeting.

STREET & UTILITY COMMITTEE

STREET DEPARTMENT VEHICLES

Trustee Rogers reported that attachments to the new truck haven’t been completed yet.

RECYCLING CENTER

Trustee Rogers reported that the bins will be emptied for the last time on April 16, 2021, but the containers cannot be removed until April 19th. Supervisor Klein will put up barricades to block entrance to the bins until they have been removed. The fencing will be taken down on the 19th after the bins have been removed.

PART-TIME SUMMER HELP – STREET DEPT.

Trustee Rogers reported that a new part-time summer Street Dept. employee may be needed if the full-time summer employee retires.

POLICE COMMITTEE

FOP

Trustee Elbe made a motion which was seconded by Trustee Mourey to approve the new FOP contract for May 1, 2021 through April 30, 2024. Roll call was taken: Trustee Elbe, yes; Trustee Mourey, yes; Trustee Yoch, yes; Trustee Becherer, yes; Trustee Rogers, yes; Trustee Henning, yes. Motion was granted.

PARK & CEMETERY COMMITTEE

PARK SWING - This item was reported on under the Supervisor’s report.

SAA/PARK BUILDING

Trustee Henning will check on available grants for this project.

SAA BATTING CAGE REQUEST

Trustee Henning has not heard from SAA to confirm the site for the new batting cage. Henning and Engineer Saeger will verify that the site is okay for a batting cage after they contact him.

TRAIL STUDY GRANT

Trustee Henning made a motion which was seconded by Trustee Rogers to pass Resolution 2021-2 to support a grant application for a study for a bike/walking trail extending from the Village to the subdivisions South of town. Roll call was taken: Trustee Henning, yes; Trustee Rogers, yes; Trustee Yoch, yes; Trustee Becherer, yes; Trustee Elbe, yes; Trustee Mourey, yes. Motion was granted.

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

ORDINANCE 963 – PART TIME EMPLOYEES

Trustee Yoch made a motion which was seconded by Trustee Rogers for Clerk Parker to read Ordinance 963 by Title Only. Roll call was taken: Trustee Yoch, yes; Trustee Rogers, yes; Trustee Becherer, yes; Trustee Elbe, yes; Trustee Henning, yes; Trustee Mourey, yes. Motion was granted. After Parker read Ordinance 963 by Title Only, Trustee Yoch made a motion which was seconded by Trustee Rogers for Clerk Parker to pass Ordinance 963 – An Ordinance Adopting Chapter 12 “Employees” Section 12-1-8, “Salaries” for the Village of Smithton, St. Clair County, Illinois. For the hiring of part-time summer Street Dept. employee Ron Mertens. Roll call was taken: Trustee Yoch, yes; Trustee Rogers, yes; Trustee Becherer, yes; Trustee Elbe, yes; Trustee Henning, yes; Trustee Mourey, yes. Motion was granted.

ANNEXATION AND BUILDING COMMITTEE

WILLOW OAK PROPERTY

This item will be discussed during Executive Session.

GROCERY STORE – No update.

SALT STORAGE BUILDING – No update.

VILLAGE HALL GENERATOR – No update.

BILLS AND PAYROLL

Trustee Becherer made a motion which was seconded by Trustee Yoch to authorize Clerk Parker to pay the bills and the payroll from March 6, 2021 through March 19, 2021. Roll call was taken: Trustee Becherer, yes; Trustee Yoch, yes; Trustee Rogers, yes; Trustee Elbe, yes; Trustee Henning, yes; Trustee Mourey, yes. Motion was granted.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Smallwood shared a thank you letter from St. John the Baptist Catholic Church. Two of the Street Department employees climbed through the crawl space under the Church to extract a dead cat which was giving off a bad odor. Father Stan Konieczny and the congregation were very grateful.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS – No items.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Trustee Yoch made a motion which was seconded by Trustee Rogers to go into Executive Session to discuss possible litigation and/or negotiations concerning the transfer of property. Roll call was taken: Trustee Yoch, yes; Trustee Rogers, yes; Trustee Becherer, yes; Trustee Elbe, yes; Trustee Henning, yes; Trustee Mourey, yes. Motion was granted at 8:10pm.

Trustee Yoch made a motion which was seconded by Trustee Elbe to return to regular session. Roll call was taken: Trustee Yoch, yes; Trustee Elbe, yes; Trustee Becherer, yes; Trustee Rogers, yes; Trustee Henning, yes; Trustee Mourey, yes. Motion was granted at 8:49pm.

Trustee Yoch made a motion which was seconded by Trustee Rogers to adjourn. All trustees were in favor. Motion was granted to adjourn at 8:50pm.