

# Village of Smithton

## Mayor

Mike Smallwood  
Becherer

Rogers  
**Village Clerk**  
Annette Parker

Tim Hopkins

101 South Main Street

Smithton, IL 62285

618-233-4180

## Trustees

Jason

Charles

James Elbe  
Phil Henning  
Jim Mourey

## COMMITTEE AS A WHOLE MEETING MINUTES MAY 25, 2021

Mayor Smallwood called the meeting to order at 7:25pm at Village Hall. Trustees Becherer, Rogers, Elbe, Henning, Mourey and Hopkins were in attendance. Supervisor Klein attended part of the meeting.

### STREET DEPT. UNIFORMS

Supervisor Klein addressed the Board to request a uniform change for the Street Dept. workers. They would like to change the uniform pants, and they would like the Village to provide shorts instead of the employees buying them. The Board told Klein that he could check on pricing for the shorts and the uniform change from the Supplier.

### POLICE DEPT. K-9

Trustee Elbe reported that there was a Police Committee meeting on 5-20-21. Elbe reported that an anonymous donation of \$20,000.00 was made for a K-9 unit. Elbe stated that Chief Neff informed him that a 7week training program that includes room and board and the police dog would cost about \$18-20,000.00. There are local training groups available for required follow-up training days. The program is near Champaign, IL. Neff would like Officer Diecker to be the K-9 Officer. Diecker would be willing to sign a six-year employment contract with the Village. K-9 dogs can work up to 12 years, but length of service varies. The program would be in the fall, but the dogs may be available to choose earlier than that. Neff and Diecker will probably go up to Champaign earlier to choose one of the dogs. Elbe stated that Neff would like to get approval to make a reservation for the training program and a dog. Elbe reported that Neff would like to hire a seventh full-time Police Officer now so that there is someone who could cover Diecker's shift when he is gone for training this fall. Neff would like to hire part-time Officer Travis LeRoy for the full-time position. LeRoy will complete the Police Academy June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021. He would have to attend a two-week transition course at the Academy in August but would be able to work full-time right away if approved for the full-time position. Elbe will make a motion for the K-9 dog at the next Board meeting.

Trustee Elbe informed the Board that a K-9 Unit will need a vehicle equipped with a cage divided between a prisoner holding area and a larger dog holding area. The cage package would include an interior temperature monitoring system that would

turn on the horn, lights and siren if activated and a key fob to release the dog from the vehicle if the officer needed the dog's protection. The cost for a new vehicle with the cage and completely equipped with lights, computers and camera would be over \$62,000.00. Elbe stated that there is PD money remaining from a grant last year, money from sold surplus vehicles and money set aside in the budget for a new vehicle. The number of available state bid vehicles is going down fast, so Elbe will make a motion for the new vehicle and equipment at the next Board meeting.

#### SAA/PARK BUILDING

Trustee Henning reported that he researched the company that submitted a bid for the new Park Building. He did not find good ratings on the company, so he does not recommend using them. He is researching other companies and plans. When he gathers more information, he will set up a Park Committee meeting with the SAA, Engineer Saeger, and Supervisor Klein to discuss details.

#### 911 DEDICATION

The Mayor and the Trustees reviewed a rough draft of plans that Trustee Henning drew up for a dedication for the 911 Memorial this September 11<sup>th</sup>. Smallwood stated that the Memorial should be back in place by the Memorial Day service next week. Henning stated that invitations for politicians to attend the Dedication in September need to be sent out in a timely manner. Smallwood will ask the office staff to draw up an invitation. Henning suggested a breakfast at the Senior Center as part of the dedication. Smallwood asked that any and all suggestions for the Dedication be given to him or Henning.

#### MULCH PURCHASE

Supervisor Klein reported that one of the childcare centers in town asked if the Village would like to purchase their used rubber mulch for the Village Park. Klein stated that it could be stored at the Wastewater Treatment Plant until it is needed at the Park. Trustee Henning will make a motion at the next Board meeting.

#### ORDINANCE VIOLATIONS

Trustee Mourey reported that the PD has sent out 10 Notices of Ordinance Violations recently. Mourey questioned the Board about which direction to go if a certain property owner does not comply with all of the violations. Mourey will speak to the property owner and report back to the Board. It was agreed at the Police Committee meeting that Chief Neff or Officer Wilson will deliver the letters instead of sending them through certified mail. Mourey will speak to Neff and they will try to stay on top of the violations.

#### VILLAGE HALL GENERATOR

Trustee Mourey reported that he has two bids for generators that he reviewed with Engineer Saeger.

They discussed placing the generator outside of the back door to Village Hall. The Board does not want a diesel generator. There is one more bid coming which can be discussed at the next Committee As a Whole meeting.

#### TOW FEE ORDINANCE

Mayor Smallwood informed the Board that other municipalities charge an administration fee when vehicles are impounded by the Police Department.

Smallwood stated that there is a reference to a \$200.00 fee in the Ordinance Book, but it is not specific. Trustee Elbe will research it further.

Trustee Elbe reported that a car that had been seized by the PD in January has been awarded to the Village by the Court. There is a lien on the vehicle which would need to be paid, and there may be storage fees as well. Elbe will check into it further and report back to the Board.

Trustee Elbe shared a bid on an access control system for the PD and the Village Hall. To install a key card entry on Village Hall and update the PD system would cost \$11,767.00. That price would include a laptop to monitor the system. The cost was built into the budget for this year. There will be motions made at the next Board meeting for a system at Village Hall and to update the PD system.

Trustee Rogers made a motion which was seconded by Trustee Elbe to adjourn. All were in favor. Motion was granted. Meeting adjourned at 8:37pm.