

Village of Goodfield

BOARD MINUTES

Regular Board Meeting – December 19, 2024

Village President Hank Melton called the regular board meeting to order at 7:00p.m. Roll call showed the following board members present: Terry Nohl, Matt Ginder, Roger Mullins, and Terri Kuebler. Also present: Attorney Mike Gifford, Engineer Dave Brown, PWA Josh Nohl, Clerk Sheri Martin, Treasurer Emily Zobrist, Police Chief Bill Lally and 1 visitor.

Attending electronically was Trustee Todd Perry.

Motion was made by Nohl, seconded by Ginder for Trustee Todd Perry to attend electronically due to work. Motion passed with the following roll call vote: Nohl – yes, Ginder – yes, Mullins – yes, Melton – yes. Once Trustee Perry was called the reason to attend electronically was not due to work, but a family sickness. Based on new information motion was made by Nohl, seconded by Ginder to allow Trustee Perry to attend electronically due to a family sickness. Motion passed with the following roll call vote: Nohl – yes, Ginder – yes, Mullins – yes, Kuebler – yes and Melton – yes.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Citizens Request and Input - None.

Police Report

Chief Lally reviewed the Police Report with the Board of Trustees. Bill has hired 2 new part-time officers. Bill spoke with the new manager at the campground and they asked if Bill could send her a list of all calls in a month at the campground and which lots they happened on. Bill said the new officers will come to meet the Board in January.

Meeting Minutes

11-15-24 Regular Board Meeting

Motion made by Mullins, seconded by Nohl to approve the minutes, as amended. Motion passed with the following roll call vote: Nohl – yes, Ginder – yes, Perry – yes, Mullins – yes, Kuebler – yes and Melton – yes.

Treasurer's Report

Motion was made by Nohl, seconded by Melton to approve the Treasurer's Report as amended to the warrants dated December 19, 2024. Motion passed with the following roll call vote: Nohl – yes, Ginder – yes, Perry – yes, Mullins – yes, Kuebler – yes and Melton – yes.

Warrants/Accounts Payable

Motion was made by Ginder, seconded by Mullins to approve the payment of bills as listed on warrants dated:

12-18-24	\$ 44,979.04
12-06-24	\$ 33,650.89

Motion passed with the following roll call vote: Nohl – yes, Ginder – yes, Perry – yes, Mullins – yes, Kuebler – yes and Melton – yes.

Transfers

Motion was made by Nohl, seconded by Ginder to approve the following transfers:

- \$ 29,826.33 from O&M Checking to General Fund Checking
- \$ 0.00 from General Fund Money Market to General Fund Checking
- \$ 4,000.00 from General Fund Money Market to Building Fund Money Market

- \$ 0.00 from O&M Checking to O&M Money Market
- \$ 10,000.00 from O&M Money Market to Bond Repayment Fund
- \$ 0.00 from TIF Fund to General Fund Checking
- \$ 0.00 from Bond Repayment Fund to General Fund Checking
- \$ 2,500.00 from O&M Money Market to O&M Depreciation Fund
- \$ 7,300.00 from General Fund Checking to Police Fund
- \$ 5,000.00 from General Fund Money Market to Equipment Depreciation Fund

Motion passed with the following roll call vote: Nohl – yes, Ginder – yes, Perry – yes, Mullins – yes, Kuebler – yes and Melton – yes.

Payment of outstanding invoices upon request of Village Engineer

There were no outstanding invoices.

PUBLIC WORKS ADMINISTRATOR/VILLAGE ENGINEER REPORT

PWA Nohl said there is a ComEd project in town doing all the pot holing/boring. They are IDOT permitted and all work will be done on IDOT right of way. We have received some citizens' complaints. After boring is done they typically hire subcontractors to do restoration. PWA Nohl will keep an eye on the restoration.

One or two years ago Engineer Yockey and PWA Nohl came across a storm sewer in Heinold Subdivision that did not ever have an easement (between 410 & 413 E Robinson). Letters were sent to homeowners but he didn't hear back from them. We let it lay because Village was busy and Duane was busy. Late this afternoon one of the owners called about a sink hole over the storm sewer. Josh is going to get a camera crew out to assess it.

WATER TREATMENT PLANT/DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

Work has been done on the contact on the Miex Unit.

SEWER TREATMENT PLANT/COLLECTION SYSTEM

Nothing discussed.

SANITARY SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM ISSUES

Nothing discussed.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Chief Lally and PWA Nohl brought to Mike's attention there's an issue at the campground. There are a couple of people living in a garden shed with propane for heat. No one seems to know if they have electricity, water or sanitation. When we begin code review in January, the part of Chapter 8 that deals with the campground needs to be addressed first. Before then we will sit down with Michelle, the district manager of the campground, and tell them we are going to clean up our code we want their input on what works for them. The Village wants to clean up the campground and we think you do too, tell us how can we work together to do that. The eviction process would be slow and cumbersome. So if we can draft an ordinance violation that Chief Lally can write up it may be quicker. Trustee Kuebler asked if we should include other temporary housing problems that other towns are having. President Melton said we are getting off to a new start with the campground and we need to make the campground understand that when there are code violations we need to know who is responsible - the person committing the violation or the campground for allowing it. Attorney said could be both depending on how the code is written. Attorney said first we need to have the code violations. PWA Nohl commented the RIV section of the zoning code is the first chapter we will focus on. We will adopted the changes then go through the rest of Chapter 8. Attorney Gifford said we could look at the

Campground & Recreational Licensing Act. They have to keep a log of the residents in the campground including the date they came in and the lot number and that is open to Police Department.

Attorney Gifford also reported that as far as Tazwood Industrial Park Mr. Dietrich has been ill so things are on hold for the time being. Dietrich's are working on the punch list items.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Melton stressed again how important it is to attend the Board meetings, if possible. Trustee Ginder stated he has to miss meetings because he is out of state for work. He discussed attending the meetings electronically.

OLD BUSINESS

Ingress/Egress Easement for Sanitary Sewer Trunk Main

Still need to get easements. PWA will work on this and talk to railroad.

Discussion on proposed revisions to Village Code

This topic was discussed earlier in the meeting.

Timberline Road Improvements & Right of Way

David Brown said they had been working on right of way. Dave asked if the Village is still working with Dr. Merheb. The Village met with him but they didn't want to make any decisions about it. With the annexation of the Steidinger property the Village got the easements and right of way we needed from him. The adjacent home owner to the north of the Dr.'s property has given verbal agreement to give an easement. We need to meet with Dr. Merheb again. PWA will send Engineer Brown minutes from the meeting with Dr. Merheb. It will be a substantial project for the budget so we will need to set aside money for several years.

West Robinson Street Improvement

This project will be put out to bid soon.

Donation for New Playground Equipment at Park

PWA Nohl spoke with Park Chairman Mike Carr. They are still trying to decide what new unit they would buy. Jack Kuntz, Jr. said he would come up with suggestions on what to add. The committee will possibly reach out to businesses for donations for the park equipment.

2025 Consolidated Election

Nothing discussed.

Guard rail – Deer Lakes Drive

At last month's board meeting it was discussed that this project is not a funded project in this year's budget. A Streets & Alleys Committee meeting will be scheduled sometime in March and they will make a recommendation to the Board for what they want to do.

Tax Levy Ordinance- Ordinance 24-07

Motion made by Mullins, seconded by Ginder to approve the Tax Levy Ordinance as written including a street lighting tax set at 5% in accordance with 65ILCS 5/11-80-5.

Motion passed with the following roll call vote: Nohl – yes, Ginder – yes, Perry – yes, Mullins – yes, Kuebler – yes and Melton – yes.

Annual Salary Review – Executive Session 2(c-1) of the Open Meetings Act

Motion was made by Melton, seconded by Ginder to enter into Executive Session for Annual Salary Review 2(c-1) of the Open Meetings Act. Motion passed with the

following roll call vote: Nohl – yes, Ginder – yes, Perry – yes. Mullins – yes, Kuebler – yes and Melton – yes.

Board entered into Executive Session at 8:20pm. PWA Nohl, Sheri Martin and Emily Zobrist left the room. Once Annual Salary Review was discussed all returned back to the meeting.

Motion to reconvene and go back into Regular Session was made by Ginder, seconded by Nohl. Motion passed with the following roll call vote: Nohl – yes, Ginder – yes, Perry – yes, Mullins – yes, Kuebler – yes and Melton – yes. Meeting reconvened at 8:36p.m.

No action was taken in Executive. Session.

Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Annual Salary Review

Motion made by Ginder, seconded by Mullins to approve raises as discussed in Executive Session. All hourly employees will receive a 4% raise. Motion passed with the following roll call vote: Nohl – abstain, Ginder – yes, Perry – yes, Mullins – yes, Kuebler – no and Melton – yes.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion & Possible Action regarding Holiday Gift Ordinance – Ordinance 24-07

Last month there was discussion about employee holiday gifts. After the meeting the President asked Attorney Gifford to look into the issues that had been raised and what could or couldn't be done. Mike had to concede there was some potential merit to the argument that was raised last month about the state constitution not allowing use of public funds for strictly private purposes. However there is a clear about of human resources, logic and not law but teaching saying holiday benefits have a benefit to the employer it's not just a hand out to the employee. He gave information to the Trustee of a collection of various articles, human resources, online information and blog articles about the benefit to the employer about paying holiday gifts. It is a morale booster, helps employer with recruiting, with retention and their reputation in the community. The Village Board can determine that the provision of a holiday gift has a benefit to the public and the village and not just a hand out to the employees. To make the determinations the Board is working in a legislative capacity considering information and evidence and making a finding of fact. The facts suggested are in the Holiday Gift Ordinance. Trustee Kuebler asked Attorney Gifford if it legal or illegal to hand out bonuses. Attorney Gifford said the articles are talking about private sector rather than public, the provision in the constitution doesn't say you can't pay people a salary or performance bonus. It is up to the Board to make a determination that they see the benefit to the Village of paying the employees a bonus. Motion made by Ginder, seconded by Melton to approve the Holiday Gift Ordinance. Motion passed with the following roll call vote: Nohl – abstain, Ginder – yes, Perry – yes, Mullins – yes, Kuebler – no and Melton – yes.

Discussion and Possible Action regarding Award of Holiday Gift

Motion made by Melton, seconded by Ginder to approve Holiday bonuses as follows:

Full time employees \$125, Part-time employees \$75, BOA & Planning Commission Chairmen \$50, Storm Spotter Chairman \$60. Motion passed with the following roll call vote: Nohl – abstain, Ginder – yes, Perry – yes, Mullins – yes, Kuebler – no and Melton – yes.

Possible IMRF Enrollment of Employee

Treasurer Zobrist is not enrolled in IMRF. Going forward she will likely reach the 1,000 hour limit. If you reach the 1,000 hours in one year you must enroll. Motion was made by Melton, seconded by Ginder to allow Treasurer to enroll in IMRF at the beginning of the calendar year. Motion passed with the following roll call vote: Nohl – yes, Ginder – yes, Perry – yes, Mullins – yes, Kuebler – yes and Melton – yes.

Schedule Committee Meetings

Special Board Meeting will be scheduled to review Village Code on January 13, 2025.

Municipal Calendar

Tax Levy Ordinance will be filed with Woodford and Tazewell County tomorrow.

Other Business

Chief Lally introduced newly hired Assistant Police Chief Elizabeth Blair. She has been in law enforcement for 31 years, retired from Peoria police department. Liz is currently working part-time with Metamora police department and full time with Woodford County Sheriff's office as a detective. In law enforcement Liz has worked patrol, gang unit, Intel, field training officer, swat team and hostage negotiator. She has a PHD in law enforcement management and has taught 15 at University of IL Springfield and some smaller colleges as well as some training classes. Liz is looking forward to being part of Goodfield police department. President Melton and the Board welcomed Liz to the department.

Engineer – None.

Public Works Administrator – None.

Trustees

Nohl – None.

Ginder – None.

Perry – None.

Mullins – None.

Kuebler – None.

Clerk – None.

Treasurer – None.

Next Board Meeting January 16, 2025.

Adjournment

Motion for adjournment was made by Melton, seconded by Ginder. Meeting adjourned at 8:42p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sheri Martin
Village Clerk

Approved by the Village Board on _____.