# Village of Ashland

# Meeting Minutes

04-13-2022

The meeting was called to order by President Mau at 6:00 PM with roll call taken with all members present. Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Invocation by David McHenry.

Minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed. Motion to accept the minutes by Kim Scholes and seconded by Frank Wallace. Motion carried by roll call vote.

At the request of President Mau, Frank Wallace made a motion to move item 18 on the agenda (David Hays; Benton & Associates) up to item 7 since Cass Rural Water was removed from the agenda. Motion seconded by Nathan Grieme. Motion carried by roll call vote.

David Hays from Benton & Associates was present to discuss the need for a new lift station. He mentioned the State has not awarded the Rebuild Illinois Grant funds as of yet. After review of the different funding options that may be available to the village; USDA Program Loans looks to be the best fit. The EPA program has a wait period. Once the information for USDA gets approved the project can start. The Engineers Service Agreement was sent to each board member for review and discussion. Exhibit C of the Agreement is the cost portion. The engineer gets paid through rural development funds for 1) Preliminary Engineers Report for $15,000.00; Environmental report for $10,000.00; 2) Lump sum for design of project for $113,000.00; 3) construction observation at the job-site for $72,000.00; 4) additional services which includes anything not covered in the agreement (funding assistance and grand administration) for $15,000.00. After discussion, the board agreed to approve the Engineers Service Agreement for a total of $260,650.00 which includes a 5% overage on engineering costs of $113,000.00. An additional $30,000.00 to cover legal fees and bonds is also included. Motion to accept the Engineering Service Agreement from Benton & Associates according to the cost in the contract by Nathan Grieme, seconded by Frank Wallace. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Motion by Frank Wallace, seconded by Nathan Grieme to ear-mark the NEU/ARPA funds for the lift station project. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Vanessa Doellman gave the treasurer’s report and mentioned an adjustment that is needed in the Motor Fuel section as follows: She recommends moving $500.00 from 603 MFT repairs & maintenance to 602 MFT equipment purchase. Nathan Grieme made a motion to move $500.00 from 603 to 602 as presented; seconded by Richard Turner. Motion carried by roll call vote.

 Brian Rennecker made a motion to move item 14 on the agenda (Midwest Meter presentation) to item 10 (after payment of bills). Seconded by Frank Wallace. Motion carried.

Bills were presented for payment. Motion to accept bills as presented by Judy Reiser, seconded by Brian Rennecker. Motion passed by roll call vote.

Joe Morell from Midwest Meter was present, along with Matt Carls, VP of Sales and Nick Clark, IT to explain the laptop and software upgrades needed for the water program. Our current laptop was the original one that was purchased in 2010. A new laptop with receiver will cost $18,250.00. New meters will be supplied with compatible software as the need for replacement occurs. Joe suggested to start replacing several meters at a time before they start failing which can be read from the office computer. Training will be onsite for the new equipment at no additional cost. The new software has an interface with CUSI, which is the current water billing vendor. If we decide to change billing vendors from CUSI to someone else this new software will still work fine. Frank Wallace made a motion to approve the purchase of the new laptop with receiver and software upgrades for $18,250.00, seconded by Nathan Grieme. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Monthly activity reports were presented by Public Works Supervisor, Will Harris; Ashland Volunteer Fire Department Chief, Tyler Lathom and Police Chief Marty Fanning.

Marty Fanning, Police Chief reported that the county is going to e-citations. The village can piggy-back with the county on to this order for a cost of $1000.00 per unit. There will also be a one-time fee. After discussion the Board approved the purchase of 2 e-citation units with up to $4,000.00 total cost. Motion made by Brian Rennecker, seconded by Judy Reiser. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Frank Wallace mentioned that he was trying to figure out why his pressure was lower than normal at his home. He found out that the expansion tank on his water heater has a life expectancy of 5-10 years. This makes a difference in the water pressure. Good to know when residents call in expressing poor water pressure.

President Mau announced we have a fire hydrant that is leaking and needs to be replaced. The price to replace the hydrant is $6,100.00 and the cost for a line stop is $3,300.00. This is located at the corner of Honolulu and Washington streets. Frank Wallace made a motion to approve the purchase of a new fire hydrant and line stop at location mentioned, seconded by Nathan Grieme. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Approval of a resolution to final out the 2021 MFT program by Benton’s was presented. Motion to approve the resolution by Frank Wallace, seconded by Brian Rennecker. Motion carried by roll call vote.

President Mau presented the Appropriation Ordinance for adoption of FY 2022-2023. Motion by Nathan Grieme, seconded by Judy Reiser for approval. Motion carried by roll call vote.

President Mau announced she had been contacted by village residents Phil Thomas and Jim Savage regarding riding side-by-sides on village streets. After little discussion, the board chose to not revisit this subject and the original decision stands; no side-by-sides on village streets.

President Mau was also contacted regarding allowing golf carts to be on streets later than dusk. Currently the ordinance states that golf carts are allowed on streets no later than dusk. This cannot be changed since the State law states dusk and we cannot override state law.

President Mau and Will Harris, Public Works Supervisor have been looking at the time involved in picking up yard waste and trees taken down by the residents or a service they have hired. This has turned in to a major ordeal and the village does not have the time or manpower to continue with this service. This requires the use of the backhoe, dump truck and labor for 2 – 3 men. We are going to have to stop doing this or start charging. After discussion, if there is yard waste/trees that fill the village dump truck then the resident will be charged a rate. If the resident has a service remove or trim trees, then that resident is responsible for having the service remove the debris at the resident’s expense. Currently the rates will be changing to cover this. This has been tabled to the next meeting.

President Mau discussed the garbage pickup. The old ordinance did not get transferred into the new ordinance book which states that the rates cannot be changed without board approval. Currently the rates are $17.00 per month. Tom Veith, Village Attorney will draft a resolution regarding the rate which will be voted on at the May meeting.

Easter Egg Hunt and City Yard Sale will be Saturday 4/16/2022. City Yard Cleanup will be Saturday, 4/23/2022.

Old business – Frank Wallace retracted statement regarding state law on golf carts. Issue tabled.

New Business –

Brian Rennecker wanted to know if the Village was looking at having the township help with the road program this year. Brian thought that if we get into anything we need to have an intergovernmental agreement with the township.

Motion to go out of regular session to discuss personnel by Frank Wallace. Seconded by Nathan Grieme. Motion carried at 7:58pm.

Motion to go back in to regular session by Brian Rennecker, seconded by Nathan Grieme. Motion carried.

Motion to approve salary increase recommendations with edits by Frank Wallace, seconded by Judy Reiser. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Motion to adjourn by Richard Turner, seconded by Kim Scholes at 8:08pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted

Pamela Gardner, Clerk