**Village of Ashland**

**Board Meeting**

**8/12/2020 – 6:pm**

Call to order by Village President Kitty Mau. Roll call with the following members present: Nathan Grieme, Brian Rennecker, Judy Reiser, Richard Turner, Dave McHenry. Frank Wallace was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Invocation was given by Dave McHenry.

Minutes of the previous meeting were presented. Tyler Lathom requested the minutes of the July 8, 2020 meeting be changed on page 2 regarding the committee report on the fire protection district to include “all the bills for the fire dept. are currently paid by the village **and rural subscriptions**”. Judy Reiser made a motion to accept the minutes with the above correction, seconded by Nathan Grieme. By vote, motion carried.

Citizen recognition by Nathan Grieme. Logan Cuba came to the Village several years ago and ask for any Eagle Scout projects he could work on. The Village had purchased lots of paint for the tennis court which needed to be used. Logan scraped the tennis court of tar and repaired the cracks. He painted the tennis court; spending 1 ½ years to completion. His dedication and perseverance goes above and beyond the work of an Eagle Scout and the Village will honor his project by placing a plaque outside the tennis courts recognizing Logan and his Eagle Scout project.

Treasurer’s report was presented by Vanessa Doellman. We have received the 1st installment of our county real estate taxes. Will see a bump in the general fund, fire prevention and special tax. Accounts look good. Motion to accept the treasurers report by Nathan Grieme, seconded by Brian Rennecker. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Bills were presented for payment with a few corrections. North Morgan’s bill should be $2,671.45; Petefish Skiles Visa should be $1,220.25 and Truck Centers should be $1,732.25 for a new total of bills of $51,152.43. Motion to pay bills with changes by Nathan Grieme, seconded by Judy Reiser. Motion carried by roll call.

Village President Mau presented a supplemental resolution for the road project; which allows the Village to use the Rebuilt Illinois Bond money in our road program. Nathan Grieme made a motion to accept the supplemental resolution for the road project, seconded by Richard Turner. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Village President Mau opened bids Monday regarding the road project and was happy to see the bids were below the estimates by $52,105.00. Dunn will be doing the pulverizing and IRC will be doing the oil and chip. Hoping to start by the first week of September. Mike McKevers will send the forms into the State for approval; which will take 10 days to get this back prior to getting started. Nathan Grieme made a motion to accept the road project bids, seconded by Brian Rennecker. Motion carried by vote.

Report by Public Works Director Will Harris.

Report by Police Chief Jim Birdsell

Report by Fire Chief, Tyler Lathom. Planning on doing a fund raiser pork chop lunch during city wide garage sale Sept. 19 (drive up only) and possibly another one in October.

Fire Protection District meeting update by Nathan Grieme. Tyler Lathom presented a couple of handouts which showed the estimated expenses the fire department would incur if a fire district was formed; he also explained how the taxes on an assessed value of a home would increase. Several scenarios of cost increases were presented. He also mentioned the income generated from rural subscriptions is usually between $23,000-$24,000.

Tom Veith mentioned he would like to see how the fire district would be structured. He went on to say the Village could donate the assets to the fire department; the Village could lease the assets to the fire department or the Village could have a paper fire district. Nathan Grieme will schedule a meeting weekly of the committee and then call a board meeting to discuss restructuring of the fire department.

Zoning officer, Brian Rennecker, has been working on a new building permit and distributed to the board for their input. He added the JULIE section and would like to proceed that they cannot get a permit without a dig number. The fee schedule will be added to this permit. He also added a section on public works for sewer and water and will add a demolition permit section. The finalized permit will be returned at the next board meeting for review and approval.

Tom Veith will prepare an Ordinance to present at the next board meeting.

City wide clean-up. Area Disposal informed us they will not be giving us free dumpsters this year. WCB will pay for two dumpsters at $500 per dumpsters and the Village will pay for two. The available date is September 26, 2020. This will come out of our general fund. Free to our residents. We can be there to supervise but residents will have to unload their own due to Covid-19. Nathan Grieme made a motion to pay for two dumpsters at $500.00 each and schedule to city cleanup on September 26 from 9am-12:pm, Judy Reiser seconded. Motion carried by vote.

In May 2019 at the board meeting the sewer rates were increased. Usage over 1000 gallons were authorized to be raised to $4.70 but it was transposed in the computer at $7.40. This error was caught by our auditors and is in the process of being corrected. The July 2020 billing was corrected but we will be sending refunds to all the customers June 2019 through June 2020 period that were affected. We have a list of 580 customers totaling $39,304.08 that will be getting refunds. There are some that are under $1.00 which will also be receiving a refund check. The cleanest way to get this done is to cut checks and get them out as soon as we can. Checks plan to be issued by December 31, 2020.

Village President Mau announced there are no applicants for Troy’s job. We will continue with ads in the paper.

Park project. Joan Gaston of the Garden Club has sent $925.00, which was collected from area businesses for new mulch at both parks. Brian Rennecker indicated that fabric filter should be used on this project.

Old Business – Siren is completely installed and operational at the south east end of town. Thanks to Richard Turner.

Nathan Grieme made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Judy Reiser. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15pm.

Pamela Gardner, Clerk