VILLAGE OF ASHLAND

BOARD MEETING

MARCH 10, 2021 – 6:PM

The meeting was called to order by Village President Kitty Mau at 6:00pm. Members present were: Judy Reiser, Richard Turner, David McHenry, Brian Rennecker, Nathan Grieme and Frank Wallace.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited and invocation was given by David McHenry.

Minutes of the previous meeting were presented. Motion to approve by Nathan Grieme, seconded by Judy Reiser. Motion carried.

The RCM Coop elevator was well represented regarding their plans for future expansion. Dave Kunken distributed maps of property they acknowledge as owned by RCM along with a full title search with no easements on record and a survey. Per Mr. Kunken the survey results show that RCM Coop owns a portion of Niagara street from Mechanic to Main and that it was never a city street, Mr. Kunken said it was railroad property, which RCM bought. They would like to develop the property and the project they have in mind right now is an in ground scale to the east of the existing office. Truck traffic would cross the east side of the roadway to the west and go to the unload pits. Per Mr. Kunken OSHA and their insurance company is not going to want traffic using Niagara street, which he states is private property and went on to say the segment south of Main down to Mechanic was never a street, per the survey and the court house. President Mau indicated that the village attorney believes the street is owned by the Village. Due to medical reasons, the village attorney was not present.

The Village Attorney has mentioned that the Village owns Niagara Street and has cited “adverse possession and impeding the flow of traffic”. President Mau let RCM know about the concerns of the village residents regarding noise, dust and red eye.

Further discussion was made regarding the upgrading of equipment from 1970 standards to current standards which will slow down emissions and the replacement of smaller bins with larger ones.

Per President Mau, bottom line is – “who owns the road”. And that will have to be addressed by our attorney. RCM’s legal people will need to contact our attorney and discuss any further action.

Treasurer Vanessa Doellman reported the February 2021 utility tax came on March 1st for $6604.96. March distribution check from the Trust for the cemetery was $3,655.65. Appropriation meeting March 24, 2021 at 6:pm at the fire house. Police account – need to transfer $100.00 from 205 misc. police to 219 dispatch fees. Motion to accept the treasurers report with the transfer of $100 from account 205 misc. police to 219 police dispatch fee by Nathan Grieme; seconded by Judy Reiser. Motion carried by roll call.

Bills were approved as presented by Judy Reiser; seconded by Nathan Grieme. Motion carried by roll call.

President Mau introduced to the board Anthony Smith who was hired in September 2020 to replace Troy Smith and Mary Gross who is replacing Betty Griffin as Deputy Clerk.

Police report presented by Jim Birdsell. Several ordinance violation notices were mailed with several more being mailed soon.

Public Works Superintendent Will Harris presented his report. He mentioned that we received the old pump for the lift station from Vandevanters; which was on a pallet in pieces. New lights were installed at the water plant. Two water breaks with the largest break on Main & Alta. Worked on pumps at the lift station; pumps getting a lot of trash in them.

Tyler Lathom AVFD Chief. 3 fire calls, 8 medical calls and no weather calls. Served 440 drive through dinners at the pancake and sausage breakfast. Ashland Fire Protection District will be on the ballot this April 2021. Prior to election day, there will be a Town hall meeting March 22 at 7:pm at the firehouse. Second meeting will be March 29, 2021 at 7:pm (location to be determined). Town and country residents will be canvassed on March 27 and 28, 2021. April 6, 2021 election.

Bid for a new Lift station pump is $17,931.00 from Vandevanters. Second pump bid is from Jo Lee for $16,450.00, which includes parts to redesign and install. Will is also waiting for a quote from Jo Lee on repairing the old pump (he is pretty confident that he can fix the pump) so we would save $4000.00 labor to retrofit which is included in the $16,450.00 quote. Will is waiting for a return call. Vandevanters quoted approximately $9298.99 to repair the old one. Will mentioned that if we have the pump rebuilt we will be able to just put it back in verses a new pump that would need to be retrofitted with new piping. After much discussion, Frank Wallace made a motion that if we can get the pump fixed for $9298.00 to go ahead and fix it, seconded by Brian Rennecker. Motion carried.

Brian Rennecker, Zoning Officer reported that property/vehicle violations have been mailed. A new list has been given to Jim with 5 additional vehicle violations. Brian is working the Village in quadrants.

Brian Rennecker introduced the idea of a rennovation project for the downtown area. Sammy Jo Hill was present and is interested in helping. The use of Tiff money is a possibility. Much discussion led to the formation of a Downtown Project committee with Brian Rennecker as chair. Judy Reiser and Nathan Grieme are also on the committee. A meeting will be scheduled for March 31, 2021 at 6:pm with the Tiff committee and the Downtown Project committee at the Village Hall shop.

President Mau announced that the City wide garage sale will be 4/17/2021 and the City Wide cleanup will be 4/24/2021. President Mau is waiting to hear from Area Disposal regarding the use of 4 dumpsters. Last year we did not get any free dumpsters so the Village split the cost with West Central Bank.

We have been notified by the AC Central Band Director that they will have an Easter Parade on April 3rd at 10:30am. Route has been determined. Easter Egg hunt will start at noon at James Park.

Economic Statement forms have been distributed and need to be filled out and returned to Pam.

New Business - President Mau ask for a motion to hire Mary Gross as Deputy Clerk to fill Betty Griffin’s position. Motion by Frank Wallace to hire Mary Gross, seconded by Nathan Grieme. Motion carried.

Motion to Adjourn by Brian Rennecker, seconded by Frank Wallace. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Pamela Gardner, Clerk