**Village of Ashland**

**Board Meeting**

**10/14/2020 – 6:pm**

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

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

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

Dave Kunken, General Manager of RCM Coop and Dwayne Farmer Manager of RCM were in attendance to discuss and look at potential future plans for elevator expansion. They currently run 11 facilities and are looking at options to potentially expand the facility in Ashland. Mr. Kunken stated that Main street, as we see It today, would change. RCM Coop owns properties on the south side of Main Street, (existing elevator) and 3 properties on the north side. RCM Coop would need Main street unencumbered by traffic all the way to 123; Niagara to Main and Winooski to Main. He would like the affected streets deeded to the RCM Coop. After much discussion it was decided that the street committee meet with him again to discuss further and bring information back to the board.

Treasurer’s report was presented by Vanessa Doellman. We are about half way through the fiscal year. We are in good shape. Looking at starting the tax levy ordinance which has to be turned in by the last Tuesday in December 2020. The Board requested Vanessa to increase up to 5% from last years’ numbers and bring back to the board for review. Assessed valuations are going up. We will email to the board members prior to the next meeting so they have a chance to review prior to the meeting. Motion by Judy Reiser to accept treasurers report as presented. Seconded by Nathan Grieme. Motion carried.

Bills were presented for payment with no corrections. Motion by Brian Rennecker to pay bills as presented. Seconded by Nathan Grieme. Motion passed by roll call vote.

We have received insurance renewal information from Snedeker’s with a $2000 savings. Nathan Grieme made a motion to renew our insurance policy with Snedeker ICRMT. Payment structure was 25% down with 6 equal payments starting in December 2020. Seconded by Frank Wallace. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Trick or Treat – Discussion regarding surrounding towns. It was decided to continue with trick or treating as usual per our ordinance. Two nights, October 30 and 31st from 5pm – 8pm both nights. Notice will be put on the Facebook page and website. There was emphasis on turning on your porch light if you wish to participate.

Christmas in the Village. Ameren IL has offered to add a larger line to support the 100 -amp service needed for our Christmas tree line at no cost to the Village. Bud Willing (Village electrician) will install a new pole and service for $2,100.00. After discussion, the board has agreed to put a cap of $3,000.00 on this project. Then once the pole is set, Will Harris and employees will run the service for the Christmas tree line. Motion to go forward by Brian Rennecker, seconded by Judy Reiser. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Public Works report by Will Harris.

Fire Department report by Tyler Lathom

Police Report by Jim Birdsell.

Kitty Mau was approached by Curtis Cosner with the possibility of installing a 3 stall car wash. Two manual stalls and one automatic stall. He is working with a company in Iowa and is looking at the possibility of purchasing property near Dollar General on Route 125.

Will Harris mentioned the lift station pump is getting fixed. Cost should be about $9,298.00. Once it is fixed, it should last a long time.

Norrine Hammond’s office called regarding any COVID related payroll expenses for police from March 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020. The Village was allocated $54,995.00 from this grant program known as CURE. In order to qualify, we must supply detailed expense documentation and supporting narratives of the expenses incurred and why we believe we qualify for reimbursement. We are currently working on compiling the expenses.

Motion by Frank Wallace to adjourn; seconded by Nathan Grieme. Meeting adjourned at 7:17pm.

Pamela Gardner, Clerk