

Village of Spring Bay

ATTENDANCE ROSTER:

X Ralph Atherton – President ProTem / Trustee
X Jerry Bishel – Trustee
X Brenda Eichhorn - Trustee
Tony Regenold – Trustee
X Kim Schilling – Trustee

X Scott Selburg - Trustee
X Betty McCarty – Treasurer
X Maria Warner – Clerk
X Norm Schaer – Zoning Officer
Josh Herman – Village Attorney

REGULAR MEETING

May 8, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

The members of the Board were present as indicated above.

Kim Schilling motioned to approve the minutes of the April meeting as presented. Scott Selburg seconded the motion. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Ralph Atherton reviewed the balances in the accounts. Jerry Bishel motioned to accept the treasurer's report. Ralph Atherton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

CDS: There were no CDS needing attention at this time.

BILLS: Jerry Bishel motioned to pay the bills as presented with three additional; \$480.00 to Draggist Mowing for park mowing; \$2,278.25Mug-A-Bug for mosquito spay and \$157.32 to Ralph Atherton for street maintenance. Kim Schilling seconded the motion. Motion carried.

At this time newly elected Village Trustees Donald Bishel, Jerry Bishel, Trevor Hodge and Sonny Hufeld and newly elected Village Mayor Dave Tilley were sworn in and took their seats.

Dave Tilley thanked the outgoing board members for their years of service and contribution to the community.

Appointment of Treasurer and Clerk: Mayor Tilley appointed Maria Warner as Clerk and John Kelly as treasurer. Dave Tilley thanked Betty McCarty for all her years of service.

Meeting Rules Of Conduct: Dave Tilley reminded all Board members that fellow Board member and the public should be treated with respect at all times. Those that do not do so will be asked to leave the meeting.

Meeting Documentation: Dave Tilley would like to begin audio recording of the meetings. Jerry Bishel motioned to authorize the purchase of audio recording equipment. Don Bishel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Additionally, Dave Tilley requested that the financial report(s) be provided to the Board members at least a week prior to the meeting and, upon approval, be posted to the Village website.

Committee Appointments: Dave Tilley made the following committee recommendations, with additional recommendations to follow. He asked that any Village resident wishing to be involved please contact him.

- Health – Dave Tilley
- Parks – Ralph Atherton
- Streets and Alleys – Scott Selburg
- Economic Development Opportunities
- Volunteers
- Communication
- Zoning/Ordinance – Norm Schaer
- Police– Dave Tilley

Building and Equipment: It has been a great number of years since the building locks have been changed and it is possible that people that no longer have a relationship with the Village may have a key. Ralph reported that a new lock/door knob has been purchased for the main hall entry door and just needs to be installed. At that time new keys can be issued to the appropriate individuals.

Streets and Alleys: Dave Atherton has been working with Scott Selburg to transfer the road maintenance knowledge.

Police Department: Per the minutes of the executive session held during the February 8, 2019 special meeting a vote was taken to dissolve the Village police department. Per the Open Meetings Act no vote may be taken while in executive session. Because the vote was taken improperly, it is believed that the action is nullified. Questions regarding the proceedings of that meeting and what action to take as a result have been sent to attorney Josh Herman and are pending a response.

Jerry Bishel explained that if improper actions were taken it was not intentional.

The Board generally agreed that the subject of the Village Police Department should be revisited from both a financial and a need basis. For the time being, however, due to the cancelation of insurance coverage and other issues, there is no Village Police Department and Norm is not to perform any police related duties at this time.

Norm requested access to the police department office in order to access information related to bug spraying and zoning.

Scott motioned to provide Norm access to the office for the purpose of zoning and bug spraying. Sonny seconded motion. Motion approved.

Ralph Atherton motioned to hold a special meeting on Wednesday, May 15th at 7pm. Sonny Hufeld seconded the motion. Motion carried. Norm may have access to the computer to finish his cases but he may not respond to calls or otherwise function as a police officer.

Legal/Attorney: Dave Tilley reminded the Board that no trustee may contact the attorney unless authorized to do so by a majority of the Trustees or the Mayor. If a Trustee contacts the attorney without proper those authorization it will be expected that the individual pay for any costs incurred.

Animal Control: Calls are currently addressed by Woodford County. It was agreed that this plan would remain in place.

Bug Spraying: Norm reported that the sprayer needs to be serviced. Once that is done, and the weather is acceptable, mosquito spraying can begin.

PARKS: Ralph has not had an opportunity to contact anyone about repairing the boat.

New Business: Kim Blickenstaff, a former resident of Spring Bay, is interested in investing in development of the Village. He is currently investing in Peoria Heights and Peoria. He has met with Dave Tilley and Roy Bockler. Some ideas discussed were reviving the Watermelon Festival, rebuilding the Village Inn, and other investments and development. Discussion will continue along these, and other, economic development lines.

Ralph Atherton suggested that we employ a few teenagers to work around the Village during the summer. Both Dave Atherton and Ralph Atherton will volunteer to supervise them. It would be a way for the Village to promote some positive interaction with the youth in the Village. Dave Tilley is aware of an individual that is in need of some community service hours.

Jerry suggested that there may be adults that need a similar program. Dave Atherton explained that he has tried to find adults, but has not had any success. Dave Tilley will add it to the agenda for next month.

Unfinished Business:

Public Input and Comments:

Joe Greer stated that he is not in favor of a local individual serving as the police officer in the Village. He believes there are better solutions. He is happy with a new beginning and a new start. He thanked both the new and the former Board members.

Brenda Eichhorn expressed concern that if the melon festival were to be revived there could be significant liability to the Village if an accident or something along those lines occurred. Regarding the police force; when the special meeting was held all of the financial considerations were reviewed. She is also concerned for Norm's personal safety. Brenda inquired as to the why the February special meeting was held improperly. It was explained that it was the action that took place during the executive session, particularly the vote, which was improper, not the meeting itself. She mentioned that during their house fire there was not a working fire

extinguisher in the police car and doesn't understand how that could happen nor believe that it should have. Dave Tilley expressed regret that the situation occurred as it did. Brenda said that it is about responsibility. Dave Tilley explained that through his career and volunteer activities he understands responsibility and agrees.

John Kelly mentioned that he used to deal with a foundation in East Peoria. He suggested that we could look into creating neighborhood watch programs. He believes we need to have community events, such as a community picnic, so that residents can develop relationships and get to know one and other. Dave Tilley mentioned that a volunteer committee is in the plans.

Angie Tilley mentioned the traffic that is going very fast up and down the streets. She would like to get some street signs installed reminding people to go slowly. She stated that her neighbors would like to see a police officer to help curb the speed and reckless driving.

Kim Shilling explained that she is glad to see new people. Things have changed since the police department has been abolished. She also asked if Norm would be entitled to back-pay.

Dave Atherton spoke regarding contacting the attorney. Dave reminded all that when he was on the Board there was a motion approved that required any communication between the Village and the attorney to be in writing. He suggested this would negate the need to have the attorney attend the meeting on a periodic basis. Dave Tilley confirmed that that will be continued. Related to the police department situation; in his opinion he believes that Norm is entitled to back-pay. He also believes that a police officer needs to be back on the street as soon as possible. Dave Atherton volunteers in the park at his expense and on his time. If there is not a police officer to protect the park he will not continue to do so.

Norm explained that the information sent to the Village about the number of tickets he wrote in a particular time period neglected to include the number of hours spent during that same time period writing required reports.

Pam Greer is of the opinion that the police officer should not be a resident of the Village, but that there should be a local police presence. She understands that Norm has contributed much to the Village.

Kim Schilling explained that Norm is not a 24 hour police officer. He will not always answer a call.

Jim McCarty mentioned that when he was on the Village Board the police department was an issue at that time. He believes that Village residents are paying twice for police protection – once to the County and once to the Village. He requested that the Board seriously consider the financial implications of having a local police department.

Brenda expressed her trust and faith in the Board to review the issue completely.

Roy Bockler encouraged the Board to review the Woodford County Board minutes from last month. The Village of Germantown and Village of Roanoke entered into their agreement with the County for police protection. Roy will investigate any grants that may be available for police departments.

Roy informed the Board that he has met with Kim Blickenstaff. Mr. Blickenstaff is sincere in his desire to assist the Village and the central Illinois area.

Kim Schilling asked about plans for getting yards and the Village cleaned up. Dave Tilley explained that the zoning committee will address the issues.

Jerry Bishel asked about any update on the Revolving Fund grant request. Roy explained that the requests were not due until the 15th of this month. There will then be considerable analysis. It will be a lengthy process.

Teresa Benson congratulated the new board and thanked Roy for attending the meeting. She is looking forward to progress and being able to be happy that she is a Spring Bay resident.

Dave Tilley informed the Board that there is a class this Saturday for newly elected Board members.

Jerry Bishel motioned to adjourn the meeting Trevor Hodge seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Maria Warner, Village Clerk