

VILLAGE OF KINCAID
115 CENTRAL AVE. KINCAID, IL. 62540
TIME- 6:00 P.M.
MONDAY, APRIL 22, 2024
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was brought to order by Mayor Robert Morris. The time was 6:00 p.m.
Roll call was taken by the Village Clerk.

Gibson- absent, Paso- here, Lawrence- here, Warren- here, Dees- here, Nelson- here
The pledge of allegiance was recited by all who attended the meeting.

● Special Guest- Michelle Andaya with IM-Sustainable- Michelle introduced herself and her co-worker Ben. Ben spoke up and stated that they were grateful for the Village inviting them to speak. He stated that they put a few proposals together for the board to look over regarding solar panels. He started with the first proposal for the building next to the Village Hall. He went over the KW usage for each building and what the total cost would be. So, for the Village Hall and the garage building next to it, with the kwh usage of 37,992 per year, total estimates after tax credits and incentives would be \$18,191.43. He also gave an estimate for the kitchen down at the park. The system size would be a total of 19,958 kwh per year. The total estimate after tax credits and incentives would be \$10,499.46. He stated that the panels are all American made and come with a 25-year warranty. He stated that typically after they are installed, you would see a difference within two years. He also stated that there is a utility collateral. He spoke in regard to a 5% collateral that would be paid back in the year 15, once you produce the number of reps in the contract. He spoke about the estimated annual savings for signing up with them. Trustee Lawrence spoke up and asked which buildings he was speaking regarding. Ben stated that it was the Village building and garage that is beside it. Foreman Mark Wolfe spoke up and stated that the two buildings are on two separate meters. Trustee Lawrence asked just to make sure that it was for both buildings and he asked if it was going to be roof mounted. Ben stated that yes, it would be roof mounted. Ben stated that the first step would be a structural review and then they would go from there. So, it was clarified that that the building that would be covered would be the garage outside of the Village Hall.

● Discuss purchasing another recorder- Mayor Robert Morris spoke up and stated that he and Mike Lawrence had been speaking about using a different recorder for the closed session minutes. The clerk spoke up and stated that she took the minutes off the old recorder and put them on a flash drive. So, now the old recorder would be ready to go and could be used for just the closed session minutes. Trustee Lawrence spoke up and stated that the whole idea was to be able to give the Attorney the recorder with the closed session minutes, so he could keep them and type them up.

● Discuss weekly scheduling for ordinances- Trustee Lawrence spoke up and stated that he had something he wanted to add to this. He stated that we have discussed this repeatedly. He stated that this is the police department's job, and it is in the ordinance book. He stated that it is not the board's job to do the ordinances. Trustee Nelson spoke

up and stated that in his opinion, in his own thoughts, that to be effective in this, he just felt it would be in our civic duty to follow up with these. He also stated that the committee meetings should be where we discuss issues and then they are voted upon at the next meeting. He then stated that he thought maybe the board members could pair up and go out each week to look for ordinances in the community. He also stated about using a log sheet to track which places they had gone to. He just wanted to make sure they the board was being proactive and taking care of these issues. He stated that the idea is to make all of us aware of what is going on in the community and to be proactive to take care of the problems as they come about. Trustee Lawrence spoke up and stated that we have talked about the ordinances repeatedly and the bottom line is that the police department should be handling them. He stated that he is not going to take on the ordinances and that Trustee Warren does not want to do them either. Mayor Robert Morris spoke up and stated that we just need to leave the ordinances to him and to Chief Mathon. Trustee Nelson spoke back up and asked Chief Mathon if he was gone last week. Chief Mathon stated that, yes, he had gone to a conference the week prior. Nelson asked Chief Mathon how many ordinances were done while he was gone. Chief Mathon stated that there were no ordinances done while he was gone. Trustee Warren spoke up and wanted to know how many officers were on duty while Chief Mathon was gone. Chief Mathon stated that officer Mahan was on duty several days, as was officer Hubbs. Officer Mahan was gone for a few days for K-9 training. The point that Trustee Warren was trying to make is that there were officers on duty, but there were no ordinances that were done. Chief Mathon spoke up and stated that he spoke with Trustee Lawrence about this, and Mathon spoke to Taylorville about their ordinances. Mathon stated that Kincaid has written more ordinance than Taylorville has. Chief Mathon wanted to defend himself and his officers, stating that they have been writing out ordinances and that he could show the board the stats of how many in comparison to other communities. Trustee Nelson spoke back up about the fact that he just cannot get past the fact that he feels it is still the civic duty of the board members to be handling them. He stated that we are walking into the time now when resident's yards are not being mowed or the grass is too tall. Trustee Dees spoke up and asked, do we want our officers out there keeping us safe on the streets, or do we want them to see how tall someone's grass is? He stated that if they see a problem, then they see it and do something about it. Dees stated that if they get a DUI, then it could take them quite awhile to get everything done with it, or if someone has a gun and they must take care of that problem. Trustee Lawrence stated that he understands these things do come up, but he wanted to make it clear that it is the officer's duty to write the ordinances. Trustee Nelson spoke back up and stated he still thinks that it would be a good idea for the board members to do them on a weekly basis. The whole point of it was that they are getting done. Chief Mathon spoke back up and stated that at the last board meeting it was discussed that the mayor and himself would be doing the ordinances. He stated that they are doing the best they can with the time they have. He stated that every department across the nation are struggling for man hours. He wanted to make it clear that they are handling them now, even when there were some issues 9 months ago that were not being done, but now they are. He stated that now the way the ordinance reads are that the ordinances go to the clerk, and she mails them out after they are signed by the mayor.

● Discuss using a different electric supplier with a cheaper rate- The village clerk had brought this to the boards attention about the supplier on the Village's electric bills. She stated that right now we pay .07485 per kwh. The company that reached out to her was Eligo Energy and their rate was 0.04 per kwh. This rate would be good for one month of a trial period and then you would have to call before the month was up to lock in the price. She stated that you would still have Ameren but the electric supplier would be the Eligo Energy company. Trustee Paso asked how long the rate would be good for and she also asked about a contract. The clerk stated that to lock in the price you would have to call them before the month was up and then the contract would be for a year. She also stated that there is no penalty fee for backing out either. Paso spoke back up and wanted to know if the clerk had ever spoken to Sarah Thomas with CEFS. The clerk stated that she had not. Paso stated that Sarah deals with quite a few customers and helps them pick their supplier. Paso also stated that Taylorville pulled a fast one with the electric, where they signed up all the businesses with Constellation and they are .03 cents higher per kwh. The clerk stated she would get in touch with Sarah at CEFS and see what she could find out. Trustee Lawrence spoke up and wanted to know what all we had through Ameren. It was stated that we have quite a few places in the Village that use Ameren electric. Foreman Mark Wolfe stated that we have a good repour with Ameren and they do a lot for the Village of Kincaid. Trustee Lawrence wanted to know if we could contact Ameren on some things with regards to rates. Trustee Nelson stated that maybe it would be a good time to investigate Solar. Trustee Lawrence spoke up regarding solar and stated that he has not really heard or seen anyone that has come out ahead using solar and that it does cost quite a bit just to get them mounted and installed. He stated that he has been hearing from people that they wish they had not gone with solar. Mayor Robert Morris spoke up and stated that right now the solar that we have down at the sewer plant doesn't even work.

● Discuss Sexual Harassment training- The clerk stated that according to the Illinois Municipal League, you are required to have this training once a year. She spoke to Jeff Tumiaty, who is with Illinois Rural Water. He stated that he would bring his projector or TV for the Village to conduct the training. He already sent the clerk the links for the training. The clerk stated that the board just needed to decide on a date when they wanted to conduct the training. Trustee Nelson spoke up and wanted to know how long the training would take. The training would be around 30 minutes. Nelson had stated that maybe they could do it before a committee meeting or even during a closed session. Trustee Paso spoke up and stated that in addition to this training, there is also an ethics training that should be conducted. Both videos would be around 30 minutes. Nelson suggested that we do the training during a committee meeting and that way we would have it done and everyone would be here. Foreman Mark Wolfe stated that him and CJ already took the training, but that was because they are in the apprenticeship program.

● Discuss marketing and media for the Village of Kincaid- President Robert Morris asked who had put this on the agenda and Trustee Warren said he had no idea. The clerk spoke up and stated that they did not decide at the last meeting, but Mayor Robert Morris stated that he thought they wanted to put in the paper first. The clerk stated that at the last meeting they had stated about creating a position first. Trustee Nelson stated that it was if the board had felt if we needed the position. Mayor Robert Morris spoke up again and

stated that he did not put this on the agenda. The clerk spoke back up and stated that it was tabled from the last meeting. Mayor Robert Morris stated that maybe we should put it in the paper, but then he asks the part-time clerk if she wanted to do it. The part-time clerk stated that she would go ahead and do it. Trustee Paso stated that she wanted us to utilize the staff we have now. She stated that this was her opinion, especially before the board goes to spend more money. The clerk spoke up and stated that if anyone was on the Village page recently, they would have seen the pictures that the part-time clerk had taken and posted to the page.

- Discuss mosquito spraying- Trustee Lawrence spoke up and stated he wanted this on the agenda because prices are going up. Foreman Mark Wolfe spoke up and stated that they use a 55-gallon drum for spraying. It is \$2815.00 for the spray. The company is called Mug-a-Bug in Forsyth. Wolfe stated that this is the company that pretty much everyone uses. Wolfe stated that in March they usually have classes going on. He stated that the state has free training if you buy the spray from them. Wolfe stated that the prices are going up now. He stated that they can make this last for the year. Trustee Lawrence stated that he called almost 7 different places who are still doing mosquito spraying. Mayor Robert Morris stated that he feels like it helps a lot. Wolfe stated that he spoke with Mike Mann from Taylorville, and they spend around \$50,000 a year. The board stated that this is something we must have.

- Discuss employee raises- this will be discussed in closed session

- VISITORS:

VISITORS- A PERSON SHALL BE PERMITTED AN OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS OFFICIALS UNDER THE RULES ESTABLISHED BY THE VILLAGE OF KINCAID (3 MINUTES PER PERSON)

5ILCS 120.2.06g- April Wolfe wanted to speak up and just let everyone know about the Solar Panels. She stated that she and her husband, Mark, have them out at their home. She stated that they have been dealing with this company for about a year now. She wanted to make everyone aware that the 30% tax credit is in fact a credit that is taken off each year. It is not just a lump of money given to you. She stated that percentage could be different for homeowner's verses municipalities. She stated that it was presented to them that they would be given around \$24,000 for the panels that would be put towards the loan. She stated that now they are in litigation with them, since they lied about it. She stated that the Village is pretty much the same size as they do with their home. She stated that since it is pretty much comparable that she can speak about this. She referenced the Illinois Shines program, and that the Village should get in contact with them and make sure this company is on their list. She stated that the company that they used has been suspended, so they are considered abandoned customers. She stated that if your system does not produce what they say it will produce, then you are liable to pay back that money. She just wanted to make everyone aware of using Solar Panels. Mayor Robert Morris spoke up and stated that the panels that are down at the sewer plant aren't even working right now. He stated that this will probably be a no for them on Solar right now. April stated that they are producing quite a bit of power, but it is not getting back to Ameren. Trustee Lawrence stated that the Solar companies are going around town and hitting people hard with trying to buy them.

Chief Mathon wanted to bring back up the ordinances again. He stated that there is a specific property in the commonwealth that everyone is pretty much aware of. He stated that his goal is to get rid of the stuff on the property. The owner has been warned several times. He wanted to see if the city employees could go around with dump trucks and remove anything that is on the city property. He was stating that maybe we could store the stuff somewhere for the time being. He stated that anything that is on city property can be removed legally. He stated that maybe we could talk to the owner and see if he would be willing to just pay his ordinances, but if not to try and remove the items from city property. There was discussion amongst the board about where they could even store the items. Trustee Lawrence asked if they could maybe try and work out an agreement with the owner and just what he would be willing to do. Chief Mathon stated that really the times up and something needs to be done. Foreman Mark Wolfe stated that they could go get the items, but they do not have any place to store right now. Trustee Warren stated that Chief Mathon has been down to this address several times. Chief Mathon stated that this is the course of action that needs to be taken and he has issued several citations to this owner for the same offense. Chief Mathon did say that the homeowner has been working on getting rid of some of the things, but when 2 things leave, then 6 more show up. Chief Mathon suggested that we start removing the items and then asking the owner to pay his citations for his items, or the Village will take them to the scrap yard. Wolfe stated that they do have a small scrap pile down at the sewer plant.

A motion was made to go into closed session by Trustee Nelson. A second motion was made by Trustee Lawrence. All Ayes. The time was 6:45 p.m.

A motion was made to come out of closed session by Trustee Lawrence. A second motion was made by Trustee Warren. All Ayes. The time was 7:35 p.m.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Trustee Nelson. A second motion was made by Trustee Warren. All Ayes. The time was 7:36 p.m.

The minutes were typed up by the Village Clerk

Stephanie Brown

