Village of Kincaid

115 Central Ave. Kincaid, IL. 62540

Time- 6:00 P.M.

Monday, December 09, 2024

Regular Meeting Minutes

The meeting was brought to order by Mayor Robert Morris.

Roll Call was taken by the Village Clerk. Lawrence-here via phone, Paso-here, Gibson-here, Warren-here, Dees-here, Nelson-here.

The pledge of allegiance was recited by all who attended the meeting.

Approval of minutes from November’s Meetings – Trustee Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes. It was seconded by Dees. All ayes.

Special Guest Chastain & Associates – No one from Chastain was present.

New Business

Bidding Ordinance- Trustee Lawrence said he didn’t know what the process was as far as are we going to change it like they have done the last three prior. David Fines started it, and he thinks Jarred has it also. He just wants to make it clear in how we are going to do the process and make it fair to everyone. Attorney Rahar said if we want to do that it has to be done for each specific property otherwise, we go to the default which is sealed bid only. If we want to use that process, you’re talking about with the ordinance you previously sent me a month or so ago we must do it beforehand. So, if we want to sell a piece of property and we want to use that format or that process then we need to pass a certain ordinance for that piece of property. Lawrence said he doesn’t care how it is done, just that it is done fair and equal across the board. Jarred said the next time we sell a property we just need to remember that if we want to do it with that process, we specifically draft an ordinance that way. And the board approves it.

Special Meetings- Trustee Warren spoke up and said he agrees with some of the folks that mentioned the special meeting pay at the last special meeting. If we coincide with a committee meeting it just doesn’t make sense for us to be paid for the special meeting too since we are already being paid for the committee meeting. Warren made a motion that we do not get paid for the special meeting if it coincides with a committee meeting. Nelson seconded the motion. All Ayes.

Discuss current monthly charge for police service in Tovey- Trustee nelson spoke up and said he asked DJ if we had a contract with them. If so, he was going to see if they would maybe pay eight hundred dollars a month since we are giving our police raises and he wasn’t sure when their contract will end, and he doesn’t want to make it where they don’t want a contract anymore either. Chief Mathon said they currently pay seven hundred dollars, and, in his opinion, it is pretty good where it is at. He doesn’t see why we would go to them now with change. Service calls in Tovey are very minimal. Lawrence stated he believes it is fair also.

Old Business-

Aeration system – The clerk said this was more of a status update on the fountain. She asked if we had gotten any more donations or if she needed to give those who have donated their money back. Lawrence said he hadn’t heard anymore but if we aren’t going to move forward with this then we should give their donations back to them. Trustee Nelson made a motion to give everyone their donations back for the fountain and aeration system. It was seconded by Lawrence. All Ayes.

Christmas bonus – Mayor Morris said this was going into a closed session.

Hiring a part time police officer- Mathon said right now we have one qualified candidate; training standards just approved him over in Thayer so he knows he will pass for us also. He has done a background check and followed up with other departments that he has worked at. He is qualified, he is not here today. It is Tim Sullivan, I think most of you met him at the last meeting. He said he can put in some part time hours here especially on the weekends where we are kind of lacking right now and more nights. Lawrence asked what kind of time frame or a specific date yet for when Tyler was leaving. Mathon said no, he isn’t sure of an exact date Tyler is going to Taylorville. Lawrence said he would like the boards approval and would like to make a motion to hold off on hiring anyone right now until Tyler comes back and is finished with the Village of Kincaid. Mathon said he has leave, military leave. He is back Friday but is not coming back here Friday since he is on orders for six months he will be gone even longer and still on military orders but at home. So, we still won’t have anyone here that can cover for us while he is gone. His opinion is, say Tyler comes back for a month or two and we just don’t give hours, ya we still need that cap on hours that we are working. That will also still give me time to get the training standards board to do their investigation and to approve Tim to work here because there will be a time gap between when he is hired and when he can actually work the street. Dees said he agrees and thinks we need to hire the guy. Lawrence again stated he makes a motion that we hold off hiring until Tyler comes back, and puts in his official resignation here. Paso asked how long does it usually take for the training standards board? Mathon said anywhere from a week to a month – month and half. Dees said if we get him hired its not like we are going to put him to work immediately if we don’t have the hours. We don’t have the police presence now and it’s not like you are paying Tyler full wage anyway. Nelson said his only concern is once again we are paying an officer that is not putting hours in for us and right now, we don’t know exactly when he is coming back. I am on board for hiring a part time police officer, what I am not on board with is paying for the police and not have everybody on board or he would say yes. If that meant tabling until we find out with an exact date of when Tyler is done. He doesn’t support it if we are still paying for someone who isn’t here. Trustee Lawrence again made a motion to table hiring an officer until we know what is going on with Tyler. Nelson seconded the motion. Paso- No, Gibson- No, Warren- abstain, Dees-No, Nelson-Yes, Lawrence-Yes. The motion did not pass.

Trustee Dees made a motion to hire the police officer. Nelson asked how soon we would hire him; we didn’t say for sure. Dees and Mathon explained that even if we hire him now, we do not have to give him hours until Tyler gets his job or we have hours. DJ said he has more vacation time January first and then there is time that we have coming up. A motion to hire the part time police officer was seconded by Gibson. Paso-Yes, Dees-Yes, Lawrence-No, Gibson-yes, Nelson-yes, Warren-abstain.

Discuss upcoming purchase of vac truck and street sweeper- Paso said we are all in agreement that we need a new vac truck, and we need a new street sweeper because what we have is in poor shape. We did send Dallas and Tommy over to look it over and they assured us that they are both of good quality and that they have replaced a new vac pump for the vac truck and that there has been a certain amount of improvement on it. The problem coming out of the finance committee is that we are having a general discussion on how we are going to pay for this. It’s not that we are disputing that we don’t need the equipment. Just how we are going to pay for it. We are going to use a little bit of money coming from the EPA through Chastain’s that will go to the water fund and right now that fund is in need. Also, we know that we need the vac truck. It's it an imperative that so that we can dig our own pot holes and save ourselves forty five thousand dollars from having someone else come in and scope out for lead pipe. The issue lies not within the need but how to pay for it between getting money from Chastain’s and the EPA vs whether we want to use a CD that is coming due the 17th and taking that money and putting it towards the purchase price which is half. My concern as I think it is for Kip and everyone else. We don’t want to cash strap the Village by having to go get a loan from the bank at eight percent and pay a huge monthly payment of upwards of twenty-five hundred to three thousand dollars. Morris asked how many CDs we have and how much are they for. Treasurer Merano replied we have 4 and have close to half a million dollars. Morris asked why don’t we just cash in on the CDs. Paso said the issue we are having is that we make a good amount of money off of the CDs and that is always good for the Village. But we also know that we are looking at the sewer renovation payment of eighty-five thousand a year. We don’t want to put ourselves in a position where we have ten thousand dollars going out every month for a payment. That is where their concern lies. Some think we should use that CD that is about to come due and use it to cut back on a payment and also then if we get money back and it goes in the water or general fund we can at some point perhaps put that money back in a CD at a later date. Nelson said that when the finance committee had met and tried to get together to figure out different options we knew that getting a loan at some ridiculous eight percent wasn't going to be an option so we wanted to find different options and also making sure that all of the other board members were all on board with us getting these two pieces of equipment before we figured out exactly how we are going to move forward. Nelson said the most important thing right now is to figure out where this money is coming from. We do have a large amount coming back from the EPA. He recommends as far as the committee would be that A. we don’t ever borrow money if we don’t have to and B. we don’t ever need to get into a habit of cashing in CDs. We can make that two hundred thousand dollars of equipment happen without having to borrow money and without having to cash in a CD, we just need to make sure all other board members are on the same page as us. Paso asked Mark to inform them what the outcome was of sending the two guys over to look at the equipment. Foreman Wolfe said the vac truck only has eighteen thousand miles on it, they just got It on trade in from another municipality. They put a new main pump on it, all new hoses, did some patch work inside the hopper and recoated it. The sweeper all new brushes, belts, everything and all working parts are brand new. They have both been refurbished. The hydro kit will be brand new as well. On the next phase of the sewer project having another company coming in was forty-five thousand dollars instead of us doing it. Merano asked where our thirty-thousand-dollar grant money went for the lead service line? Mark responded, to engineering. Nelsons only concern is that it is a lot of money going out, but we can make it happen just need to know where it will come from. Paso asked how everyone would feel about cashing in a CD for the equipment. Warren said one thing he knows is that it doesn’t make sense to go get an eight percent loan when we get five percent on a CD. If we have the money in a CD or money coming from Chastain. Paso said she knows that the equipment does need to be replaced, the sweeper looks like a rolling death can. We are in this position because we run this equipment until its dead. It takes days to get it up and running. Dees said it would be a good asset. Mark stated the old jet rodder is pretty much sold for fifteen thousand dollars to Macon. Gibson asked about how much money we were getting back from Chastain. Nelson responded for sure two hundred and eighty-one thousand dollars. Beverly suggests that we cash in the CD for one hundred thousand. When the two eighty-one comes in we take a hundred thousand of that. She does not want to strap the water fund. Once this project is done, we are going to have to start making payments of eighty-five thousand dollars a year for twenty years. Mark stated that the rodder needs to come out of the general fund not the water, the vac can come out of the water or split between the general and water. Lawrence asked if there was some sort of warranty that comes with this equipment. Mark said this equipment comes with a one-year warranty. Warren said if we already have the old equipment sold for fifteen thousand, then we are looking at one hundred and eighty-five thousand for both pieces. Nelson stated we just need to make sure that everyone is on board for purchasing, it is a no brainer on how we need to pay for it. Mark said it is a packaged deal, it would have been two hundred and twenty-seven thousand but since we are going to purchase both he knocked it down to two hundred thousand for the two. Paso made a motion to go ahead and purchase both pieces of equipment by relinquishing the CD that is going to be coming due and put it in an account and hold on to it until the other money from the EPA comes in and then another one hundred thousand will be taken out of the EPA/Chastain refund when it comes in in January to be used to purchase the equipment. It was seconded by Warren. Gibson-Yes, Nelson-No, Lawrence-Yes, Dees-Yes, Paso-Yes, Warren-Yes.

VISITORS:

VISITORS- A PERSON SHALL BE PERMITTED AN OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS OFFICIALS UNDER THE RULES ESTABLISHED BY THE VILLAGE OF KINCAID (3MINUTES PER PERSON) 5ILCS 120.2.06g

Clare Duran asked about the closed session and wanted to make sure there were no decisions being made in closed session. Mayor Morris replied that it was coming back out of closed and if needed will be voted on.

John Durbin said on the lead pipe grant do you guys have a licensed plumber on that, and of course Mark should have and answer on that. Mark said yes, we aren’t done but it is contracted out. Second is when you guys had those closed bids on that house on Springfield Street and when you opened it and you had an eleven hundred bid and a two-thousand-dollar bid, my understanding is how come you guys didn’t know that the higher bid should have taken it instead of going back and forth. Attorney Rahar said this has already been cleared up at the last meeting. The process was that the two parties were aware that we were going to conduct it one way but the general population was not so to go back and remedy it, we went back and followed the general ordinance and that is what Mr. Lawrence was saying earlier so we went back and did it as the way the ordinance has adopted. John said when he was on board we would have taken it. The third is the house on Springfield Street, Lawrence you were gung hoe on tearing it down I was just curious why it is still standing. Lawrence replied that he is waiting for a contractor to come in and he has subcontractors coming in on that also. It is now wintertime; we just got this approved so I can’t just snap my fingers and get it done. Everyone has jobs and stuff going on also. We are on the list, and it should be done here quickly. Clare asked if the EPA ever came out and had it tested for asbestos. Morris said yes, and they are supposed to come out and clean it. She asked if we had a report for that and the answer is yes. The siding was asbestos, and the environmental people are coming to get the siding off here soon and then it is clear, and we can tear it down.

Approval of bills – Trustee Warren made a motion to approve the bills. It was seconded by Dees. All ayes.

Zoning Report – Lawrence said 4 building permits were issued.

Approval of Treasurer’s report- Trustee Nelson made a motion to approve the treasurer’s report. It was seconded by Dees. Dees- Yes, Warren- No, Nelson- Yes, Gibson- Yes, Paso- Yes, Lawrence- Yes.

Clerk’s report- Jayme said she provided everyone with a copy of her report.

Police Report- Chief Mathon stated everyone had a copy of his report, obviously not listed was all of the time we spent on the ordinances in the last month.

Foreman’s report- Foreman Wolfe gave everyone a copy of his report as well. He said they have been spending a lot of time over trying to get the leaves picked up, and a lot of time doing locates for El Pruitt. He has been spending most of his time with the EL Pruitt guys and Chastain.

Attorney’s report- Attorney Rahar said just ordinance violations and DJ just alluded to it, there are seven or eight news ones that were just prepared. One has been dismissed because they have removed the issue. The mayor told him to go ahead and dismiss it, otherwise the others are set for January 15th, including the Daum matter which their attorney is involved and the day before or the day of the previous hearing he sent me the letter we are going over but still in negotiations if necessary. Will probably take place in the January meeting in a closed session.

Trustee’s report and comments- Nelson asked Jayme if she had the committee’s posted on the website, she responded no but would have them posted the next day. Each committee is to meet with their different departments so we can come up with the action plans for 2025, we all agreed that we would report back on the 23rd meeting. The park committee, which are Dannie and Gary, if you guys want to look at some dates and possibly do something like a fish fry at the park kitchen during lint, maybe he doesn’t want to be in competition with anybody. Easter isn’t until like late April. So, if you guys want, I can help organize and get a date set for that. Warren spoke up and said Jayme got the books back from Frank for the revised code updates, we have the drafts, and we have seven copies. Trustees can pick their copies up as we leave today. In the front of the book, there is a ten page document that is all numbered and highlighted and coincides with the numbers throughout the ordinance book. He wants everyone to go through it and look at it and make sure we are good with it. There are some comments in there that Frank made, some things that we need to do, some things that we did very well, and he just needs everyone to look at it for the next committee meeting so that way we can discuss it and get Frank down here and get this thing finalized.

President’s report and comments- Mayor Morris didn’t have anything.

Motion to go into closed session- Trustee Nelson made a motion to go into closed session. It was seconded by Dees. All ayes. The time was 6:38 P.M.

Motion to go back into open session – Trustee Nelson made a motion to go back into open session. A second motion was made by Dees. All Ayes. The time was 6:52 P.M.

Mayor Morris said he needed to swear in our new officer. He asked Tim Sullivan to come forward. Timothy Sullivan took the oath of office.

Trustee Paso let everyone know that they need to look at the newest issue from the IML, reading through it there is a calendar of all of the obligations that we have to meet for the following year.

Adjournment- Trustee Nelson made a motion to adjourn, it was seconded by Dees. All ayes. The time was 7:20 P.M.