

VILLAGE OF WOODHULL

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING

October 14, 2024

Committees

President – D. Holmes

Building – M. Bethell, J. McCready, & D Holmes

Finance/Insur. /Audit – H. Garrett, D. Holmes, & C. Anderson

Personnel – D. Holmes, C. Anderson, & S. Francis

Pro-Tem Pres – C. Anderson

Economic Development – S. Francis, C. Anderson & D. Holmes

Parks & Recreation – C. Anderson & H. Garrett

Police/Civ. Def./Zon. – D. VerHeecke & M. Bethell

Public Works – J. McCready & D VerHeecke

Mayor Dave Holmes called the meeting to order on October 14, 2024 @ 7:00 pm.

Followed by roll call: Christena Anderson, Mark Bethell, Scott Francis, and Jeff McCready were present. Hannah Garrett and Derek VerHeecke were both absent due to scheduling conflicts.

Also present at the meeting: Dave Holmes – Mayor, Kelli Hand –Village Clerk, Garrett Adamson – Village Treasurer, Alex Wagner – Police Sergeant, and Michael Keener- Public Works Assistant. Village Resident, Carol Eiker was also present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mayor Holmes shared congratulations to the Ridgewood Middle School softball team for winning the state championship.

Resident, Carol Eiker, addressed the Board with questions about the road that runs in front of her home. At one time the road was closer to her home, and did not leave as much property for her to care for. Ms. Eiker said she has spoke with Public Works a few years ago and was promised the road would be corrected the next time blacktopping was done in the Village. However, nothing has been done over the years. She is hoping this can be fixed soon so she will not have to deal with the snow shoveling and other care that is needed in that area. She also provided the Board with pictures. Public Works Committee Chairman Jeff McCready said he would speak with Public Works and keep Ms. Eiker updated.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Trustee Scott Francis made a motion to approve the September 9, 2024, Regular Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Trustee Christena Anderson seconded the motion. Motion passed 2-0. Trustee Scott Francis made a motion to approve the September 9, 2024, Closed Minutes as presented, and Trustee Christena Anderson seconded the motion. Motion carried 2-0. It was noted that Trustee Jeff McCready and Trustee Mark Bethell abstained from voting since they were not present for the September 9, 2024, meeting.

TREASURER’S REPORT SEPTEMBER 2024:

General Fund	\$ 681,629.96
General Fund Payroll	\$ 29,953.30
Video Gaming FSB Savings	\$ 211,425.76
Veterans Memorial Fund	\$ 1,420.26
Drug Enforcement Fund	\$ 3,451.90
Playground Fund	\$ 1,008.38
WINN Checking FSB	\$ 1,134.38

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Operation & Maintenance	\$ 2,878.75
Deprec Checking	\$ 6,432.17
Debt Service #2033	\$ 58,311.78
Debt Service Savings	\$ 8,887.02
MFT Fund	\$ 96,049.62

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

General Fund September accounts payable were presented as follows:

Ameren	\$ 1,423.64
Anji Gas	\$ 404.01
B&B Lawn Equipment	\$ 93.55
Bi-State Regional Commission	\$ 283.75
Central Illinois Police Training Center	\$ 100.00
Don's Market News	\$ 20.40
Henry County Sheriff's Dept.	\$ 2,727.78
ILEAS	\$ 60.00
Kelli Hand	\$ 14.55
Office Machine Consultants, Inc.	\$ 1,447.69
Postmaster	\$ 100.00
Royal Publishing	\$ 200.00
Spencer Brothers Disposal	\$ 34.00
USABLUBOOK	\$ 148.02
V & V Storage, LLC.	\$ 125.00
Visa #0173	\$ 1,662.90
Visa #0447	\$ 58.19
Visa #0462	\$ 175.63
Visa #070	\$ 524.04
Woodhull Oil Co.	\$ 259.20
Woodhull Telephone Co.	\$ 308.71

Total September General Fund A/P \$ 10,171.06

Water Fund September accounts payable were presented as follows:

Ameren Illinois	\$ 9,568.05
City of Galesburg	\$ 20.00
Endustra Filter Manufacturers	\$ 365.00
Farmers State Bank of Western Illinois	\$ 3,175.00
Ferguson Waterworks #2516	\$ 8,319.99
Galesburg Builders Supply	\$ 3,875.00
Pace Analytical Services, LLC.	\$ 602.10
US Cellular	\$ 207.07
V&V Storage LLC	\$ 125.00
Water Solutions Unlimited, INC	\$ 867.50
Woodhull Telephone Co	\$ 123.64
Zimmer & Francescon	\$ 1,030.90

Total September Water Fund A/P \$ 28,187.98

Trustee Christena Anderson made a motion to accept the September Treasurer's Report as presented by Treasurer Garrett Adamson. Trustee Jeff McCready seconded the motion, motion passed 4-0.

Treasurer Adamson also reported that he is working with Cindy Wermuth to correct the MFT balance. They believe an error may have been made in the bookkeeping many years ago, but they will not be certain until the investigation is completed. He will continue to keep the Board updated on this topic.

Mayor Holmes reported that the August video gaming income for the Village was \$6,062.31, which is now the 7th time in ten years that the total was over \$6,000. That makes the over ten-year income \$521,671.47.

Mayor Holmes said he would keep the Board informed on the audit updates. At this time, we are waiting for an email from Mr. Odoni with what is left to complete on our end so the audit can be completed. Mayor Holmes is also contacting Ms. Kathi Orr and asking her to file an extension for the 2024 audit, since we can't begin the next audit until this current audit is completed.

After a brief discussion Trustee Jeff McCready made a motion to pay the annual bill for our IMLRMA insurance coverage now, to receive the 1% early payment discount. The payment will be \$28,178.88, which includes the discount. Trustee Christena Anderson seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0.

The Board also discussed the recent bills from Royal Publishing for ads in programs for Ridgewood sporting events. It was decided moving forward the Board would only like to run an ad if the team is in a state championship or if the program is for a season. The Board did not feel it was necessary to run an ad in programs for other schools, even if Ridgewood is participating. All future communications about ads should go through the Village Clerk.

Jeff McCready made a motion to approve the purchase of new blinds for the hall and the Village Clerk and Water Clerk's offices to be purchased from Menards for around \$170 pending Township Board approval. Trustee Scott Francis seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0. Trustee Mark Bethell will handle the purchasing and installation of the new blinds.

The Board had a brief discussion on where to put the Solar Energy Ordinance in the Ordinance book. It was decided to put it with the zoning permit items, and that the page numbers should just be continued following the normal numerical order.

POLICE/CIVIL DEFENSE/PERMITS:

Police Sergeant Alex Wagner presented the September Police Report.

In September the Woodhull Police Department responded to 21 calls for service, completed 3 follow ups, conducted 10 traffic stops, issued 9 warnings, 1 citation, and conducted 144 business checks.

There were no updates on the K9 car or Humvee. The Police Committee will continue to work to come up with the best solutions for these two items.

Sergeant Wagner also discussed some grants that he is currently working on and reported that he would keep the Village aware of any progress with grants.

Trustee Christena Anderson made a motion to accept the September Police Report as presented. Trustee Scott Francis seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

Public Works Assistant Michael Keener gave the September Public Works Report.

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The Village's Park bathrooms have been cleaned and winterized and are now closed for the winter.

The curb stop on West 2nd Avenue was repaired.

Public Works Assistant Keener also reported he will be taking his first water sewer test in November.

Trustee Christena Anderson made a motion to accept the September Public Works report as presented. Trustee Scott Francis seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

DANGEROUS BUILDING UPDATE:

None at this time.

ZONING BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Zoning Board met on Tuesday October 1st and approved Adam Maynard's request for a variance to build a shed on his property.

PARKS/RECREATION/TOURISM:

Trustee Anderson reported that Henry County Tourism has started to advertise, and we should see commercials on WQAD and pamphlets throughout the county.

There was a reminder that the Village of Woodhull's trick or treat hours will be 6:00 to 8:00PM on October 31, 2024.

Trustee Anderson reported the Annual Village Clean Up Day that was Saturday, September 14, 2024, at the Village Hall was not very well attended. It was suggested that we may need to hold this event bi-annually instead of annually. The final decision will be made closer to next fall.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Trustee Scott Francis reported a meeting will be held October 15th for the economic development committee.

Trustee Francis announced that Little India is back open after a very brief closure and is currently serving food to go. The restaurant is in the process of opening for dining in and will be able to offer both meals and alcohol to those dining in soon.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Clover Township Fire Department has offered to allow the Village to post items on their digital sign which would allow the Village to not need their own sign. The cost for digital signs is estimated to be around \$50,000, and the Village was not committed to the idea of spending that much for a sign. Examples of items that would be advertised would be boil orders, road closures, important dates such as the Village's Clean Up date. The Village Clerk or Mayor will contact Chief Doog McDowell to have items posted. Mayor Holmes said he would reach out to Chief McDowell to get all the information and report back to the Board next month. The Board agreed this would be a wiser decision and to not spend the money on a digital sign at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

Trustee Anderson reported that she has tried to contact the Harman family about the memorial they would like to place in Village Park for their grandson. She has not been able to reach the family but will continue to try.

The Board had a brief discussion on where to put the Solar Energy Ordinance in the Ordinance book. It was decided to put it with the zoning permit items, and that the page numbers should just be continued following the normal numerical order.

CLOSED BUSINESS:

Trustee Christena Anderson made a motion to go into Closed Session for two litigation updates and one personnel item at 8:06pm. Trustee Mark Bethell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Respectfully submitted by Kelli Hand, Village Clerk

Trustee Christena Anderson made a motion to go back into Open Session at 8:58 p.m. Trustee Scott Francis seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted, Mayor Holmes

VOTES AFTER CLOSED:

The Board discussed increasing the pay for Trustees and Village President. Mayor Holmes noted that these amounts have not been changed for 12 years. The general consensus was that the Trustee pay of \$75 per Regular Meeting and \$50 per Special Meeting is sufficient still.

Trustee Jeff McCready moved to increase the pay for Village President to \$6,500 annually and the pay for Mayor Pro-Tem to be set at \$50 per month, both of which are to begin when the Oath of Office takes place in May of 2025. Trustee Scott Francis seconded the motion, which carried 4-0 by a Roll Call Vote.

Trustee Mark Bethell moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 p.m. and Trustee Jeff McCready seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted, Dave Holmes, Village President