

VILLAGE OF WOODHULL

BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
November 11, 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 November 11, 2024 @ 7:00 pm.

Followed by roll call: Christena Anderson, Mark Bethell, Scott Francis, Hannah Garrett, Jeff McCready, and Derek VerHeecke were all present.

Also present at the meeting: Dave Holmes - Mayor, Kelli Hand -Village Clerk, Garrett Adamson - Village Treasurer, Alex Wagner - Police Sergeant, and Dusty McKeag Public Works Director.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Trustee Scott Francis made a motion to approve the October 14, 2024, Regular Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Trustee Jeff McCready seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0. Trustee Jeff McCready made a motion to approve the October 14, 2024, Closed Minutes as presented, and Trustee Scott Francis seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0. It was noted that Trustee Derek VerHeecke and Trustee Hannah Garrett did not vote due to being absent last month.

TREASURER'S REPORT OCTOBER 2024:

Table with 2 columns: Fund Name and Amount. Rows include General Fund, General Fund Payroll, Video Gaming FSB Savings, Veterans Memorial Fund, Drug Enforcement Fund, Playground Fund, WINN Checking FSB, Operation & Maintenance, Deprec Checking, Debt Service #2033, Debt Service Savings, and MFT Fund.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

General Fund October accounts payable were presented as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Vendor Name and Amount. Rows include Ameren, AVS, Bethell's Wildlife Control, Eagle Enterprises Recycling, and Henry County Hyw. Dept.

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|---------------------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Henry County Sheriff's Dept. | \$ | 2,512.99 |
| Mark Bethell | \$ | 189.30 |
| Office Machine Consultants, Inc. | \$ | 434.21 |
| Royal Publishing | \$ | 100.00 |
| Spencer Brothers Disposal | \$ | 34.00 |
| US Cellular | \$ | 218.25 |
| V & V Storage, LLC. | \$ | 125.00 |
| Visa #0173 | \$ | 143.10 |
| Visa #0454 | \$ | 17.42 |
| Visa #0470 | \$ | 354.12 |
| Woodhull Telephone Co. | \$ | 308.51 |
| Total October General Fund A/P | \$ | 14,811.95 |

Water Fund October accounts payable were presented as follows:

| | | |
|--|-----------|------------------|
| 3E Electrical Engineering & Equipment | \$ | 70.00 |
| Ameren Illinois | \$ | 9,692.96 |
| Essence Chemical Company | \$ | 1,092.92 |
| Farmers State Bank of Western Illinois | \$ | 3,175.00 |
| Galesburg Builders Supply | \$ | 2,402.50 |
| Pace Analytical Services, LLC. | \$ | 388.05 |
| US Cellular | \$ | 207.07 |
| V&V Storage LLC | \$ | 125.00 |
| Visa #0173 | \$ | 169.10 |
| Visa #0454 | \$ | 83.86 |
| Woodhull Telephone Co | \$ | 124.62 |
| Total October Water Fund A/P | \$ | 17,531.08 |

Treasurer Garrett Adamson did note that he will be working with the finance committee to move the money from the gaming account to the proper accounts to cover the cost of projects the Board had voted to use gaming funds for over the past few years. These adjustments will be noted in next month's report.

Trustee Hannah Garrett made a motion to accept the October's Treasurer's Report as presented by Treasurer Garrett Adamson. Trustee Christena Anderson seconded the motion, motion passed 6-0.

Mayor Holmes reported that the September video gaming income for the Village was \$6,304.49, which is now the 8th time in ten years that the total was over \$6,000. That makes the over ten-year income \$527,975.96. There needs to be \$93,322.40 moved to the water and sewer account to cover the water tower maintenance for the past years. There will also be \$45,674.52 moved to the general funds account to cover the park updates that were approved to be covered by gaming funds. After the transfers are made the account will have \$32,679.04 left in it. The Finance Committee suggested using the rest of the money to put towards the Ameren bill that we are paying monthly to cover the usage that was accidentally billed to the Woodhull Co-op. This will be discussed and decided later. Mayor Holmes also added that the rate for water tower maintenance is going up next year to almost \$23,000.

Mayor Holmes updated the Board that Jim Taylor said the 2023 Audit is finally completed. However, Odoni said there is a discrepancy in the ending account from the 2022 audit and the beginning amount for 2023, so he is not prepared to share the audit with the Board. The Board agreed they would like the audit turned in and they will move forward with starting the 2024 audit and make the needed changes

with a new accounting firm. Mayor Holmes has an appointment scheduled with Jim Taylor for November 12, 2024, and will update the Board once the meeting is over.

Mayor Holmes presented information from West Central CPA in Monmouth and asked the Board to consider signing the engagement letter so we can start our next audit as soon as possible. The details in the engagement letter were all expected. The total cost for the audit is \$14,000 with \$7,000 due up front and \$7,000 when the audit is completed. There will be additional charges for the annual financial report, which is common with any accounting firm. Mayor Holmes is also asking for an extension for the 2024 annual financial report. Trustee Jeff McCready made a motion to sign the engagement letter with West Central CPA following the details that were shared by Mayor Holmes. Trustee Scott Francis seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0 after a roll call vote of McCready-Y, VerHeecke-Y, Anderson-Y, Bethell-Y, Francis-Y, and Garrett-Y.

There was a discussion about Tax Levy led by the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee recommends a small raise in the Tax Levy. They would like to go from last year's \$71,400 to \$73,000. Trustee Garrett explained this would not raise the taxpayer's taxes. Mayor Holmes added the Village's EVA is over 16 million dollars for the first time. Trustee Derek VerHeecke made a motion to approve ordinance 24-03, which is the Tax Levy for 2024 as presented by the Finance Committee. Trustee Christena Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0 with a roll call vote of VerHeecke-Y, Anderson-Y, Bethell-Y, Francis-Y, Garrett-Y, and McCready-Y.

Mayor Holmes shared the information provided by the Village's TIF attorney. Her recommendation is the Village pays the Woodhull Travel Plaza their TIF money, but that the Village should deduct all fees the Village has endured during the Travel Plaza's legal battle over their new roadway entrance. The total owed is \$8,756.23 and the total the Village has paid in legal fees is \$5,637.78. Trustee Christena Anderson made a motion to pay \$3,118.45 to the Travel Plaza for the TIF reimbursement, which is the amount after subtracting the \$5,637.78 which the Village has paid in legal fees related to the Travel Plaza's lawsuit over the roadway. Trustee Scott Francis seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0 after a roll call vote of Anderson-Y, Bethell-Y, Francis-Y, Garrett-Y, McCready-Y, and VerHeecke-Y.

POLICE/CIVIL DEFENSE/PERMITS:

Police Sergeant Alex Wagner presented the October Police Report.

In October the Woodhull Police Department responded to 22 calls for service, conducted 14 traffic stops, issued 3 citations, and conducted 127 business checks.

Sergeant Wagner discussed that the Starcom Radio project is coming to an end and the new radios should be installed within the next couple months.

Henry County ETSB 911 Board has moved to a new Computer Automated Dispatch/Record Management System. The system they chose for all agencies is ProPheonix Solutions. This will benefit all law enforcement agencies.

Trustee Hannah Garrett made a motion to accept the October Police Report as presented. Trustee Derek VerHeecke seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

Public Works Director Dusty McKeag gave the October Public Works Report.

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Director McKeag reported there are only 6 water meters left to switch out. Those residents who have not allowed their water meter to be switched out will be receiving a letter with information on how to reach the Public Works Department. There will be a timeline and if the resident does not cooperate the water to the residence will be shut off until the meter can be changed.

Director McKeag said the new meters allow the Public Works Department to read the whole Village in around 90 minutes. This used to be a two-day job. McKeag added that the readings are very accurate and has allowed any questions about water bills to be addressed in a timely and easy to understand manner.

There was a brief discussion about the zoning of a property in the Village. Public Works Director McKeag said he will continue to work with the Board to be sure the zoning is correct and work with the new owner to make sure no ordinances are being broken.

Director McKeag warned the Board there will be some changes coming from the EPA. He has not been made aware of what will need to be purchased but he is prepared to purchase a new chlorine reader to meet new regulations.

Director McKeag requested new tires for the skid loader. Trustee Hannah Garrett said this would already be in the budget and Board approval is not required. The Public Works Committee can approve this purchase.

Trustee Scott Francis made a motion to accept the October Public Works report as presented. Trustee Jeff McCready seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0.

DANGEROUS BUILDING UPDATE:

None at this time.

ZONING BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS:

None at this time,

PARKS/RECREATION/TOURISM:

Trustee Anderson reported that Henry County Tourism has launched their explorehenrycounty.com website. She encourages everyone to check it out.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Trustee Scott Francis reported the Economic Development Committee met last month and will meet in December. He requested that Public Works put up the new bulletin board for the side of our building facing North. He added that a new business by the name of Gorgeous Darling Esthetics has been added to the AlWood Chiropractic sign. We are excited to welcome this new business to Woodhull.

OLD BUSINESS:

Trustee Christena Anderson confirmed the Board no longer wants to go with a lighted sign, after learning the Clover Township Fire Department would happily allow us to post on their sign. Public Works will be placing the old sign back along Highway 17 on the West side of the Village. Mayor Holmes will get permission for the placement of the sign.

Village Clerk asked permission for the two bars on Division Street to remain open until 2AM on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. Trustee Jeff McCready made a motion to allow Maulden's Sports Bar and Genisio's to stay open until 2AM on November 27 into November 28, 2024. However, all other requests going forward will need to be made in person by the owners of the businesses at a Village Meeting. Trustee Mark Bethell seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

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 reached the family and asked Mayor Holmes to reach out and have them contact Christena.

Sergeant Alex Wagner made the Board aware that there are a couple properties in Woodhull that will need cleaned up to meet the requirements of the Village's ordinances. Letters will be sent next week to these residents. There is also a corner in the Village that has trees blocking the view from the stop sign. The residents of the home where these trees are located will be notified and the Public Works Department will work with them to find the best solution.

The Board thanked Trustee Bethell and Trustee Anderson for putting up new blinds in the hall and the Village Clerk's Office.

CLOSED BUSINESS:

Trustee Jeff McCready moved to go to Closed Session for three litigation items and three personnel items at 8:22 pm. Trustee Mark Bethell seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Respectfully submitted by Kelli Hand, Village Clerk

Trustee Mark Bethell made a motion to go back into Open Session at 9:27 p.m. Trustee Scott Francis seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

No actions taken after Closed Session.

Trustee Jeff McCready moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:28 p.m. Trustee Derek VerHeecke seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-0.

Respectfully Submitted, Dave Holmes, Village President