

The Village of Stronghurst Board met for a scheduled meeting on **December 7, 2020**. Present at roll call were Trustees Jerry Nortrup, Mike Bohnenkamp, Amanda VanArsdale, Mike Swisher and Randy Jarvis and Shane Reed. Mayor Brendan Schaley was present. Employees present were Hollie Allen, Arbry Vancil and Ronnie Gittings. Village Attorney Mariah Wallace was absent. Guests present were Shirley Linder, Doug Erickson and David Knutstrom.

Mayor Brendan Schaley called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Randy made a motion to approve the minutes as presented for the November Board Meeting. The motion was 2nd by Jerry. It passed unanimously. Shane made a motion to approve payment of the bills. Jerry 2nd the motion. It passed unanimously. Financial statements were presented for November. Randy made a motion to approve the financials. Jerry 2nd the motion. It passed unanimously.

Guests: Doug Erickson from Benton & Associates was present to close out the Safe Routes to School grant with the final pay application of \$15,743.08. Final engineering invoice was also presented for \$2,376.00. He was also present to discuss the water main replacement project. Engineering and permit fee assistance for the water main project will not exceed \$2,500.

Water Superintendent Report: The permit from the EPA for the water main replacement project on Logan and Division Streets has been received. It is valid for one year. Still waiting on the materials to be delivered to start the project. Ronnie has been taking continuing education classes online. The meter at the water plant is still not working and is believed to still be under warranty. Brendan will contact the company.

Police Report: Arb read the police report. The department had 61 hours worked, 0 training hours, 392 squad car miles, 0 traffic stop, 0 verbal warning, 0 written warnings, and 0 traffic tickets. There were 3 service calls, 0 assist, 20 business checks and 0 arrest. No questions were asked regarding the police report.

Zoning Report: Zoning Chairman Mike Swisher gave a zoning report including approval of 1 permit and noted there was 1 permit denied. 2021 Zoning Board Meeting dates have been set. The updated Zoning Ordinances were presented to the board for approval. Mike B. made a motion to approve and accept the new ordinances as presented. Jerry 2nd the motion. It passed unanimously.

Old Business: Note from Village Attorney Mariah Wallace was read to the board regarding the status of the old Antiquity building on Broadway Street. Mariah's office will be contacting the owner to try and settle the matter. Discussion on purchasing new water meters. After reviewing the Appropriation Ordinance and QuickBooks report showing what has been paid so far this fiscal year Randy made a motion to purchase 40 ultra-sonic water meters and 40 of the SET endpoints. Village Attorney has previously told the board the meters and endpoints could be paid from the Capital Improvement/Maintenance allotment from the Water/Sewer account. Mike S. 2nd the motion. It passed unanimously. Bid specs for selling the Police Hummer were discussed. Chief Vancil will work on getting batteries for the vehicle to get it running and will be discussed again at the January meeting.

New Business: Mike B. presented a proposal from Cushing Systems Inc. that would change dispatching, report writing, and other functions performed by the police department. Surrounding law enforcement agencies are transferring to this PSIMS system which would take the place of the current Technology Management Revolving Fund. Total cost of the software, installation, and training would be \$2,750.00. Randy made a motion to make the switch to the Cushings/PSIMS program. Shane 2nd the motion. It passed unanimously. With the new program the Police Dept would lose their current hot spot wireless device for the squad car. A proposal from First Net Solutions was reviewed. First Net is a cellular service dedicated to Police, EMS, First Responders etc. Shane made a motion to purchase the unlimited plan for \$38.49 a month and using the free I phone provided in the estimate along with the smartphone activation credit. Randy 2nd the motion. It passed unanimously. Illinois Public Risk Fund Work Comp renewal policy for 2021 was reviewed. Randy made a motion to accept and pay the renewal in the amount of \$7,827.00. Mike S. 2nd the motion. Motion carried. Final pay application and engineering invoice for the Safe Routes to School Grant were presented. Shane made a motion to approve payment on both. Jerry 2nd the motion. It passed unanimously. Engineering services agreement from Benton & Associates was reviewed. The agreement is for permitting assistance on the Logan and Division Streets water main replacement project. The amount is not to exceed \$2,500. Randy made a motion to approve the agreement as presented. Shane 2nd the motion. It passed unanimously. A Zoning Hearing will be set prior to the January 2021 board meeting to rezone property located on the 700 block of Highway 94. Special event requests were reviewed for both Rivals on Main and The FeedLot Bar & Grill for December 31, 2020. Mike S. made a motion to grant both businesses extended hours on December 31st with last call to be at 1:00 AM on January 1st, 2021 and closing time to be 2:00 AM January 1st, 2021. Jerry 2nd the motion. It passed unanimously. Winners of the 2020 residential Christmas lighting contest were 1st place – Luke and Christine Deverell, 2nd place – Dominic and Donna DelCarlo and 3rd place going to Crystal Brown. Prizes were \$100, \$50, and \$25.

Trustees Report: Nothing to report.

Mayor/Clerk/Lawyer Report: Nothing to report.

Executive Session: Randy made a motion at 6:43 PM to adjourn the regular meeting and enter executive session to discuss employee Christmas bonuses. Amanda 2nd the motion. Board enters executive session at 6:45 PM with all board members present. Shane made a motion at 6:56 PM to exit executive session Mike B. 2nd.

Back in regular session 6:56 PM. Randy made a motion to give full time employees a \$1,000 Christmas bonus and part time employee \$500 with the Village paying the necessary taxes. Shane 2nd the motion. It passed unanimously.

Shane made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Amanda 2nd the motion. The meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Hollie Allen– Village Clerk/Treas.