

The Village of Stronghurst Board met for a scheduled meeting on **January 4, 2021**. Present at roll call were Trustees Jerry Nortrup, Mike Bohnenkamp, Amanda VanArsdale, Mike Swisher and Randy Jarvis. Mayor Brendan Schaley was absent. Mayor Pro Tem Shane Reed was present. Employees present were Hollie Allen, and Ronnie Gittings. Village Attorney Mariah Wallace was present. Guests present were Shirley Linder, David Knutstrom, Jim Fisher, Bryan Hubbard, and Garret Fisher. Doug Erickson from Benton and Associates arrived at 6:13pm.

Mayor pro tem Shane Reed called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

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

Guests: Doug from Benton and Associates updated the board that the Facility Plan is still underway. Still waiting on reimbursement from IDOT for the engineering invoice for the Safe Routes to School Grant program.

Water Superintendent Report: The scale that measures fluoride concentration at the water plant is now working again so there is no need currently to replace.

Police Report: Shane read the police report. The department had 98 hours worked, 0 training hours, 435 squad car miles, 1 traffic stop, 1 verbal warning, 0 written warnings, and 2 traffic tickets. There were 5 service calls, 2 assist, 18 business checks and 1 arrest. No questions were asked regarding the police report.

Zoning Report: Randy made a motion to reject rezoning parcel 1030300011 from A1 to B1 status. Amanda V. 2nd the motion. Roll call vote was Randy yes to reject, Mike S. yes to reject, Amanda yes to reject, Jerry yes to reject, and Mike B. abstained from the vote. Motion to not rezone the property carried.

Old Business: Verbiage for the bid for sale of the Police Department Humvee was reviewed by the board. All approved. Clerk Allen will post on social media, the village website and will send the information to the Quill to be published. Attorney Mariah Wallace states her office has sent a request to the owner of the old Antiquity building in regard to having the building cleaned up. There has been no response from the owner yet. Mariah stated the board could continue to sit

idle or she could proceed with legal action. Randy made a motion to allow Mariah to move forward with the necessary legal action. Mike 2. 2nd the motion. It passed unanimously.

New Business: Doug from Benton & Associates presented the board with a projected budget for a possible sanitary sewer extension project that would provide the possible Dollar General store with sewer services. Total amount on the proposed budget was \$59,900. Doug explained this budget is flexible and depending how much the Village was able to do themselves they would be able to adjust the final dollar amount. Budget was estimated with items that may or may not be necessary such as those listed under non-construction costs. Doug didn't believe an EPA permit would be needed but a permit with IDOT would be necessary due to crossing the Highway. Doug estimated the low end of the budget to be approximately \$30,000. No action was taken on the proposed budget. Guidelines for digging on Village property were discussed. It was noted there is an ordinance stating people cannot dig on village property unless a permit has been obtained.

Trustees Report: Randy noted there are 2 vehicles parked on a property on South East Street that are believed to be parked on the Village right of way. Mike B. will ask Arb to investigate this. Mike B. would like to discuss possibly having an employee on the police department roster picking up additional hours and looking at a wage increase. Bohnenkamp also asked to have the Police allotment that is received from the General Fund every month increased from \$2,000 to \$3,000. Both items will be discussed at the February meeting.

Mayor/Clerk/Lawyer Report: Mariah Wallace presented her proposed fees for legal services for 2021. These fees will be put on the agenda for the February meeting. Invoice for the 2020 legal fees was presented for \$7,200.

Executive Session: There was no executive session this meeting.

Randy made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mike S. 2nd the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:07 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Hollie Allen– Village Clerk/Treas.