

The Village of Stronghurst Board met for a scheduled meeting on **January 2, 2024**. Present at roll call were Trustees Janice Smith, Mike Bohnenkamp, Mike Swisher, Nathan Harden, and Amanda VanArsdale. Trustee Paige Torrance was absent. Mayor Brendan Schaley was present. Employees present were Ronnie Gittings, Arbry Vancil, and Brittany Smith. Village Attorney Mariah Wallace was absent. The guest present were Shirley Linder and Dave Knutstrom.

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

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

Guests: No guests comments.

Water Superintendent Report: Ronnie has been in contact with the engineers about our chlorine checking. He is working on getting a system that checks the chlorine on the incoming side to take away some steps and cost from checking other way. It would cost around \$6,570 to install this. The state has lowered the threshold of chlorine that can be in the water. Ronnie has also stated that there are still a few complaints about our new trash pickup, and some people not having them yet. We are working on getting this all squared away.

Police Report: Arb read report.

Zoning Report: Janice gave an update on 310 S Commercial wanting to put in a handicap accessible ramp, but it is not in the village ordinance code and a variance will have to be put in place. The homeowner will come to a meeting at a later date.

Old Business: Doug from Benton & Associates gave an update on the facility plan. He would like to meet with the water and financial committees to wrap this project up soon. The board also discussed the SET meter bankruptcy. A new company has bought

out the previous company, and they will take over all meters and programs as before and no services will be interrupted.

New Business: Mayor Schaley announced the 2024 Christmas light contest winners selected by trustees, 1st place was Rick & Larrie Schaley, 2nd place was Joel Fryrear, and 3rd place was Morgan Lewis. Doug also presented our MFT estimate for 2024. Amanda made a motion to approve this estimate, Mike S. 2nd the motion. It passed unanimously. Mayor Schaley asked the board for recommendations on seeking new legal services if they knew of any. Mayor Schaley also asked the board if they were interested in doing the veterans memorial fundraiser again this year. They all agreed it is a good thing for our village, Brittany will get in touch with the entertainment and get some dates out.

Trustees Report: Amanda asked about our ARPA funds and if we have received them and if the reporting has been done. Brittany was going to look into this and see if it had been taken care of for the previous year.

Mayor/Clerk/Lawyer Report: Nothing to report.

Executive Session: No Executive Session

Nathan made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Amanda 2nd the motion. The meeting adjourned at 6:42 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brittany Smith – Village Clerk/Treas.