

The Village of Stronghurst Board met for a scheduled meeting on **September 8, 2020**. Present 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, Shane Gipe 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 August Board Meeting. The motion was 2nd by Jerry. It passed unanimously. Mike B. made a motion to approve payment of the bills. Jerry 2nd the motion. It passed unanimously. Financial statements were presented for August. Randy made a motion to approve the financials. Jerry 2nd the motion. It passed unanimously.

Guests: Shane Gipe was present to ask about building restrictions and to ask to have his two properties at 216 E Maple and 208 E Maple rezoned. This will be discussed during the Zoning Report.

Water Superintendent Report: Two water leaks to report. Ronnie estimates it will cost approx. \$24,000 to replace both blocks to avoid continuous future repairs. There will also be a fee from Benton & Associates to help with engineering the plan and getting the required EPA permits. Those fees would be around \$2,000. Jerry made a motion to begin the process of repairing the water mains with Benton & Associates Engineering Mike B. 2nd the motion. It passed unanimously.

Police Report: Arb read the police report. The department had 71 hours worked, 0 training hours, 425 squad car miles, 1 traffic stop, 1 verbal warning, 1 written warning, and 0 traffic tickets. There were 10 service calls, 0 assists, 20 business checks and 1 arrest. No questions were asked regarding the police report.

An estimate for a shipping container to be used at the shooting range from USA Containers was discussed. Arb states the shooting range needs some type of storage at the range to store targets and other equipment. Discussions for options such as a small shed that the Village employees could build was tabled until the Spring.

Zoning Report: Mike S. reports the Zoning committee is still working on finalizing the updated Zoning ordinances. Shane made a motion 2nd by Jerry to rezone 216 E Maple Street and 208 E Maple Street to be one district. Properties were changed from R1 to B1. The motion passed unanimously. Mike asked for direction regarding if the Village should allow shipping containers to be placed on properties in town. Shane made a motion to allow the Village to continue to allow shipping containers to be placed in town with stipulations that will be set by the Zoning Committee and agreed upon by the entire board. Mike B. 2nd the motion. It passed unanimously. Protocol for zoning violations were discussed. Mike B. made a motion to have the Zoning Committee update the ordinance as they see fit. Shane 2nd the motion. It passed unanimously. A fence violation was discussed. Fence was built beyond the approved boundaries without a variance. We will ask Mariah to send a letter to the homeowner regarding the violation.

Old Business: Tearing down the old water tower bids were tabled. Three bids were received for the tile repair needed on South Harmony that was previously discussed. The lowest bid was \$1100.00. Previously, the board approved to pay up to \$500.00 for the repair. Mike B. made a motion to split the low bid cost with Brian Kane who had originally began the tile work. Shane 2nd the motion. Jerry was the only no vote. Motion carried. Brendan will contact Brian about the decision.

New Business: There is a tree that needs removed in front of a garage at 219 S. Broadway. Ronnie was instructed to look at the tree and contact Lee's Tree Service to see if they would be willing to come to town and cut for 8 hours as previously agreed upon. Ronnie states there are several other trees that he can include in the days work. Engineering invoice from Benton & Associates was presented to the board in the amount of \$15,624.00 for the SRTS grant project. The Village will pay the invoice and then seek reimbursement from IDOT per the grant guidelines. Mike B. made a motion to pay the invoice. Jerry 2nd the motion. It passed unanimously. Possibility of changing the Water ordinance to have all landlords pay water bills for their tenants was discussed. There has been a large number of tenants moving in and out without notifying the Village therefore leaving balances on the accounts and making it difficult to maintain accurate billing records. A letter will be sent to all landlords asking to assist the Village with better communication regarding their properties. Henderson County Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan was presented to the board. Mike B. made a motion to approve the plan. Jerry 2nd. It passed unanimously. Clerk Allen requested to purchase another fireproof file cabinet for Village

Hall. The cost would be approximately \$2,000. Jerry made a motion to approve purchasing the additional file cabinet. Randy 2nd the motion. It passed unanimously.

Trustees Report: Randy reports there is part of a tree down on Porter Street, Ronnie will get this taken care of. Mike B. thanked Hollie for her work on trying to get the title to the Hummer.

Mayor/Clerk/Lawyer Report: Nothing to report.

Executive Session: There was no executive session this meeting.

Shane made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Jerry 2nd the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Hollie Allen– Village Clerk/Treas.