

The Village of Stronghurst Board met for a scheduled meeting on **January 11th, 2023**. Present at roll call were Trustees Mike Bohnenkamp, Janice Smith, Amanda VanArsdale, Paige Torrance, and Mike Swisher. Mayor Brendan Schaley arrived at 6:10 p.m. Employees present were Ronnie Gittings, Arbry Vancil, and Brittany Smith. Village Attorney Mariah Wallace was absent. Guest's present were Shirley Linder, Virginia Ross, Drew Ruholl, and David Knutstrom.

Mayor Pro Tem Mike Bohnenkamp called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

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

Guests: Dave Knutstrom was inquiring to see where we were on the curly slide for the park that Randy Jarvis was working on before he left the board. Mike B. told him we would be looking into it more, and Dave stated he would be happy to continue researching those for us and report back next month. Virginia was inquiring on the status of the antiquity and what stage it is in with the village and the courts. She was informed by the board that the Antiquity is still in the court process. She also wanted to voice her concern of the cats that are taking over inside of it and asked that it be taken care of.

Water Superintendent Report: Ronnie reported we had a big leak day after the subzero temperatures thawed and we pumped twice as much water as usual. Two houses that were non occupied at the time had major breaks. The water was shut off and leaks were fixed, and levels were back to normal. Replaced two water service lines this week to take the number of gallons per hour leak down significantly. He also stated he sold scrap for a profit of \$700, Ronnie would like to insulate the garage where the backhoe is with that money. He met with the fire station board, Scott Ford suggested we get an agreement with Barb Klossing to come in her back yard to get a better angle at the well. Scott is going to have an agreement drawn up, he is going to try to get it done this week.

The tree cutters also came today and took down the tree on Dixon Street but their truck broke down so they will be back to finish the rest of their day when that is fixed.

Police Report: Arb read the police report. No questions were asked.

Zoning Report: Nothing to report.

Old Business: Facility plan update was briefly discussed as Doug from Benton and Associates was not in attendance, but Ronnie stated that he did call him, and they will be here to take the paint sample from the old water tower this week.

New Business: Mayor Schaley announced the acceptance of trustee Shane Reed resignation letter from the village board effective December 1, 2022. Christmas light contest winners were announced. First Place went to Rick and Larrie Schaley, they will receive \$100. Second Place went to Tiffany Kaup, she will receive \$50, and third place to Dominic Del Carlo, and he will receive \$25. Mayor Schaley asked the board if they would be interested in doing the Veterans memorial fundraiser again. The board was all in agreement to do it again and to decide on what we want to raise the money for to add to the memorial. Brittany is going to see what dates the entertainment has available and we will go from there for a final date. Mayor Schaley asked for a motion to remove Randy Jarvis and Shane Reed from the bank cards. Janice made a motion for removal of Randy and Shane from the bank cards, and Mike B. 2nd. Mayor Schaley asked for a motion to add assistant Clerk Brittany Smith and Trustee Paige Torrance to the bank cards. Janice made a motion to add Brittany and Paige, Amanda 2nd. It passed unanimously. Drew from Benton & Associates presented our MFT estimate. Total current estimate was just under \$25,000 in material purchases plus the engineering fees which totals to just under \$26,500. That does not include any price for oil and chip that we would like to do this year. He asked the board to get together and decide when they wanted to oil and chip and how much and that the town should use their RBI funds for that. He stated the MFT funds can be used for rock, salt, culverts, and more. Mayor Schaley asked for a motion to approve the presented MFT estimate of \$28,000. Amanda made a motion to approve, Janice 2nd. It passed unanimously.

Trustees Report: Mike Swisher has concern about our Village lawyer and that she is rarely in attendance. He has been trying to contact her regarding zoning ordinances and

has had no luck in doing so. Discussion of reviewing the current contract and seeking new was made. Mike B. expressed questions on when Brittany will take over full time and if she has all the training she needs. He also would like to get her set up with the bond and becoming a notary. Mayor Schaley told him we will follow up on that in the coming weeks and get an official date from current village clerk, Hollie. Mayor also expressed he doesn't think its necessary to have someone here all day, every day. The board agreed to change the office hours to open at 8:30 a.m. and close at 3:30 p.m. and will further discuss being open every day.

Mayor/Clerk/Lawyer Report: Nothing to report.

Executive Session: No executive session

Janice made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Mike S. 2nd the motion. The meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Hollie Allen– Village Clerk/Treas.