

The Village of Stronghurst Board met for a scheduled meeting on **July 6, 2020**. Present were Trustees Jerry Nortrup, Mike Bohnenkamp, Amanda VanArsdale, Mike Swisher and Randy Jarvis. Shane Reed was absent. Mayor Brendan Schaley was present. Employees present were Hollie Allen, Arbry Vancil and Ronnie Gittings. Village Attorney Mariah Wallace was present. Guests present were Shirley Linder, Doug Erickson, David Knutstrom, Sara Evans-Brown, Tania Minkler, and Kim Root Doornobs.

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

Mike B. made a motion to approve the minutes as presented for the June Board Meeting and the June 22nd Special Board Meeting. The motion was 2nd by Jerry. It passed unanimously. Randy made a motion to approve payment of the bills. Mike S. 2nd the motion. It passed unanimously. Financial statements were presented for May and June. Amanda made a motion to approve the financials. Jerry 2nd the motion. It passed unanimously.

Guests: Tania Minkler presented an idea for a parade either July 18th or 25th. She states with businesses being closed due to Covid she would like to have a parade to celebrate emergency personnel and to give residents in town something to look forward to. After discussion with the Board and Village Attorney it was decided the Village would not be able to host the event due to current Covid restrictions and more time may be needed to plan the event. Sara Evans-Brown thanked the board for the special permit allowing continued outdoor seating. David Knutstrom would like to see illegal fireworks set off in town handled better by the Village. He had numerous complaints about the fireworks starting before July and continuing late in the night. The Village will work to develop a plan to better address this in the future. Kim Root Doornobs was present stating she is buying Rivals on Main and heard a rumor outdoor seating was going to no longer be allowed, she wanted clarification on that and if outdoor seating was going to cease she wanted to know the reasonings. Brendan stated that will be discussed further down the agenda. Doug Erickson gave a Safe Routes to School grant project update. The project has been completed except for the painting of the cross walk that will be done soon and for the flashing beacons to be installed.

Water Superintendent Report: There has been 2 recent water leaks on North Division. Roads that were oil and chipped last year are weeping this year. Not sure if it is due to an issue with the oil last year. Ronnie has been putting sand down to try to help. Ronnie will consult with the County Highway Dept. to see what they recommend. Started working on the spray park this week. There are a few issues that will need to be fixed before it will be up and running. Jerry asked Ronnie to have the potholes by the elevator taken care of.

Police Report: Arb read the police report. The department had 85 hours worked, 0 training hours, 470 squad car miles, 2 traffic stops, 1 verbal warning, 1 written warning, and 1 traffic ticket. There were 9 service calls, 3 assists, 20 business checks and 1 arrest. No questions were asked regarding the police report.

Zoning Report: Mike S. reports there has been 1 building permit approved this month. All 4 Zoning Board members will approve and sign permits before they are granted. Any building and or water/sewer project need to have appropriate permits before beginning. Village Attorney is still working on updating Zoning Ordinance. Next Zoning meeting is July 22, 2020 and at that time Mariah will have a draft of the new ordinance to review.

Old Business: Jerry made a motion to extend the special permit allowing outdoor seating for Rivals on Main and the FeedLot Bar and Grill until October 5, 2020. Mike B. 2nd the motion. It passed unanimously.

New Business: Audit for 2019/2020 has been completed with no issues. Brendan reports he has been contacted by the Tac Shack in Monmouth about the possibility of using the shooting range a couple evenings a month to hold a concealed carry firearms class. They will provide everything needed for the class including their own liability insurance. After Board discussion Jerry made a motion to allow the use of the shooting range for their classes. Mike B. 2nd. It passed unanimously. Arb will check with them about possible donations for allowing the use of the range. Bids for sidewalk improvement on the East side of Broadway Street going South to Nichols Street was approved to be put out for bids. The bid will be the same as it was for the work done on the West side of Broadway. Discussion of opening the Spray Park for the season. After reviewing IDPH guidelines Mike S. made a motion to not open the Spray Park this year. Randy 2nd the motion. It passed unanimously. Bathrooms at the Park will also stay closed this year. The new truck for the Water Superintendent is in and ready to be picked up. Sealed bids for the 2007 Chevy Silverado Classic will be taken until the August meeting. The Village will have the right to accept or reject all bids. Tearing down the old water tower was discussed. Brendan has a packet from a demolition firm that he will give to Hollie to see about getting more information. Doug Erickson from Benton & Associates discussed the consideration of a Water Facility Plan for the Village. Having a Water Facility Plan assists with getting grant funding for future water projects such as replacing water lines, mains etc. Mike B. made a motion to proceed with working with Benton & Associates on developing the Water Facility Plan. Jerry 2nd the motion. It passed unanimously.

Trustees Report: Randy would like Waste Management contacted again about rescheduling the Spring Clean Up. Hollie has been in contact with the WM rep and is waiting to hear back from them on our options.

Mayor/Clerk/Lawyer Report: Brendan thanked Ron Gittings for all his hard work and for putting in the extra hours to cover while Matt was off on medical leave. Brendan would like the Village to have an AED machine at Village Hall, he will be looking at machines and will get pricing for approval. The possibility of condemning and tearing down the old Antiquity building was discussed. Mariah will look into what can possibly be done.

Executive Session: There was no executive session this meeting.

Randy made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Jerry 2nd the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Clerk/Treas.

Hollie Allen– Village