

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 6, 2023

Chairman Seever called the regular meeting of the Public Works Committee to order at 6:30 pm.

Members present: Mayor Peterson, Dan Barber, Kevin Bunge, Arianne Honkamp, Jodi May, Tyler Seever and Don Self

Staff present: Dan Baumgartner, Adam Bunge and Jake Costello

Also present: Jamin Unger

Motion by Mrs. Honkamp, second by Ms. May, to waive the reading of and approve the minutes of February 20, 2023. All ayes. Motion approved 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

VILLAGE ENGINEER – KEVIN BUNGE

Village Engineers Kevin Bunge and Adam Bunge gave their report. A copy of the engineering status report is on file with the Village Clerk's office.

MAYOR – JOHN PETERSON

Mayor Peterson advised the Committee that Goldie Floberg found out that they have a mortgage on part of their property so they need to get that straightened out before we can close on the property. Mayor Peterson said that he would like to get inside the building and look at a few things since we haven't been in there in four months. Mayor Peterson said that he would like to eventually move Village Administration over to the Goldie Floberg building and have the police department expand over to the Administration portion of Village Hall.

Mayor Peterson discussed the Sonoco property with the Committee. Mayor Peterson said that he is going to talk to Todd Isaacs with Stenstrom to see what can be done with the property. Mayor Peterson added that he is also going to talk to Chris Mentzel with Creative Audio to see if they have any interest in the property as well. Mayor Peterson commented that the Village needs to get something going with the property, but doesn't know if the Village needs to do something more in order to sell it. Mayor Peterson said that none of us are experts in commercial property so we may need to look for someone that can help guide the Village with this.

Mayor Peterson added that Mr. York talked a lot about information technology (IT) and security in the Administration Committee meeting and how the Village needs to plan for this.

STREETS AND WALKS – TYLER SEEVER

Mr. Seever stated that Ordinance 2023-5: An Ordinance Amending Chapter 95 (Streets and Sidewalks) of the Code of Ordinances of the Village of Rockton, Winnebago County, Illinois Regarding Maintenance and Repair of Sidewalks is up for approval at the Village Board meeting on March 7, 2023. Mr. Barber stated that he has been wanting to get this done for the past few years and that he and Atty. Szeto looked at ordinances from surrounding municipalities. Mr. Barber said that this is a good place to start and that if we want to make any changes to the ordinance later that we can do that, but we need to have something in the Village Code in reference to this. The Committee was okay with this.

WATER, SEWER, & GARBAGE – JODI MAY

Motion by Ms. May to approve the purchase requisition for Dach Fence for a swing gate in the amount of \$3,650, second by Mr. Seever. Mr. Barber stated that this has been turned into the Village's insurance company and they paid \$3,100. Roll call. All ayes. Motion approved 3-0.

Ms. May discussed the water tower antenna for the Rockton Fire Protection District (RFPD) with the Committee. Mr. Barber stated that the RFPD already has one antenna on the water tower and the Village doesn't charge them for this, but questioned if we should charge them for any additional antennas. Ms. May said that she felt that the RFPD should be charged something since the Village installed equipment on the towers in order for companies to lease antenna space from us. Mr. Barber said that he will research what other leasees on the tower are currently paying each month to have their antennas on the water tower.

BUILDINGS AND PARKS – ARIANNE HONKAMP

None.

PUBLIC WORKS – DAN BARBER

Mr. Barber discussed the IDOT invoice for Highway 75 project with the Committee. Mr. Barber stated that it was determined that the Village still owes \$191,000 for the project and that we didn't receive an invoice for this until this past November. Mr. Barber said that he has budgeted for this to come out of next year's budget, but the Village Board needs to determine how frequent they would like the payments to be made (monthly, quarterly or semi-annually). Mayor Peterson said that he would like the payments to be made in monthly installments. Mr. Barber stated that this is up for approval at the Village Board meeting on March 7, 2023. The Committee was okay with this.

Mr. Barber had Grange Gordon and Calvin Coles with Waterworth present information via a web meeting that explained their financial planning software to the Committee. Mr. Gordon stated that they work with over 125 municipalities and explained how their software would help plan for future costs at the Village. Mr. Coles presented various financial and asset replacement models using their software and explained how the software works. The Committee was able to ask any questions regarding the software that they had. Mr. Barber said that Dennis Hildebrandt, Village Treasurer, and Ms. Hughes, Administrative Assistant, have already looked at the software, but that he would like the Village Board to consider purchasing this. Ms. May inquired about the cost of the software was and Mr. Barber stated that it costs \$10,000/year, but it would be divided up between six departments. Mr. Barber said that he will bring the quote to the next meeting.

PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR – DON SELF

Mr. Self discussed the low bid for the 2-year lawn maintenance contract for the Village. Mr. Self stated that nine companies took out bid packets and that only one sealed bid was submitted to the Village for the bid opening from Nason's Landscaping. Mr. Self said that from the years 2016 to 2023 that there is only a 15% increase in cost and that includes maintaining the Goldie Floberg property. Mr. Self stated that he would like to approve the low bid in two weeks at the next Village Board meeting. Mr. Self added that the only other option that the Village has is to have the Parks Department take over lawn maintenance and that he would be happy to put together this information if the Committee would like him to do that.

Mayor Peterson inquired about the pool locker rooms and if they are ready to go for the upcoming season. Mr. Self stated that all but one shower is working, but that he is having that fixed before the pool opens for the season.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS ALLOWED BY LAW

None.

ADJOURN

Motion by Ms. May, second by Mrs. Honkamp to adjourn at 7:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Stewart
Village Clerk