

APPROVED MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE OF UNIONVILLE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MARCH 18, 2024

President John Katnik called the March 18, 2024, regular council meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Council Present: John Katnik, Jon Townsend, Vickie Balzer, Chad Gaeth, Brandt Gaeth, Greg Miracle, and Tod Sting.

Council Absent: None.

Others Present: Clerk Alexis Ortner, Treasurer Leila Rish, DPW Supervisor David Yoder, DPW Assistant Brent Vermeersch, and Police Chief Bill Owens.

Guests Present: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Public comment was requested by President Katnik, no public comment received.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: **Motion** by Townsend, seconded by B. Gaeth to approve the February 26, 2024, unapproved minutes as presented. 7 Yeas. 0 Nays. 0 Absent. Motion carried.

AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF BILLS: **Motion** by Balzer, seconded by B. Gaeth to pay the March 2024 accounts payables of \$16,069.56. 7 Yeas. 0 Nays. 0 Absent. Motion carried.

CLERK'S REPORT: The Clerk gave a brief update on options for expensing the upcoming software purchase. One option is to expense it completely out of one fund as a loan and have the other funds repay it with interest over the next three years, and the other is to expense it in the upcoming budget year amongst the proper funds allowing them to dip into the fund balances as needed. She will prepare a version of the budget reflecting both options for the year-end budget meeting for the council's review and approval. All budget adjustments and the final year-end bills will be presented at that time as well. The Clerk then reminded the council of the upcoming Tire Recycling to be held in the Village and asked for volunteers to help load the tires on the 22nd of June.

Lastly, the Clerk mentioned the topic of the pay for the council members that did show up and attended the meeting on the 19th of February that was postponed to the 26th of February due to no quorum being met.

Motion by Balzer, seconded by Sting to pay the council members that did attend the meeting on the 19th of February. 6 Yeas. 1 Nays. 0 Absent. Motion carried.

DPW REPORT: EGLE was here to inspect the sewer lagoons, which went well, and the report will be coming soon. The lagoons were discharged as planned. Spicer Group has taken the core samples needed for Cass St, and DPW assistant Brent Vermeersch has taken the street measurements needed to go out for bids on the local streets. The DPW is anticipating receiving bids for the streets individually priced to make it easier to select the most efficient and effective costs and is hoping to open bids on either April 11th or 12th.

The DPW anticipates opening the campground before May 1st, but waiting until the weather gets warmer. The Little League Park cleanup is expected to be April 13th, with a rain-out day of April 20th in preparation for their opening day on April 27th. The DPW also reported that the USA High School students will be doing their annual earth day park clean up.

TREASURER REPORT: Treasurer Leila Rish reported on the Village's account balances. The water vendor received \$314 in February.

POLICE: Police Chief Bill Owens gave his report to the Council. The Police Chief is waiting to receive his new computer, which is on order. The council requested blight letters be sent to unsightly properties around town with inoperable vehicles, debris, and livestock animals.

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NEW BUSINESS:

The Clerk raised again the issue of the increasing strain of the fuel surcharges that are causing the Village to expense more than the revenue taken in from the Trash and Recycling. She also mentioned the upcoming increase in prices in the annual contract they had signed the year before. As such, the Clerk proposed a monthly fuel surcharge fee of \$1.50, which would appear as \$3.00 per billing cycle for the trash and recycling customers and increasing the trash and recycling monthly fee to \$14.68, which would be \$29.36 per billing for cycle for trash and recycling customers to the council.

Motion by Townsend, seconded by Miracle to approve the monthly fuel surcharge fee of \$1.50, which would appear as \$3.00 per billing cycle for the trash and recycling customers. 7 Yeas. 0 Nays. 0 Absent. Motion carried.

Motion by Townsend, seconded by B. Gaeth to approve the increase from \$14.25 monthly to \$14.68, which would be \$29.36 per billing for cycle for trash and recycling customers. 7 Yeas. 0 Nays. 0 Absent. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

The topic of the burnt down property has been an ongoing issue for the council, and they can move forward to take care of it once they purchase it. John Katnik briefed the council on what the lawyer had prepared for them to pursue that option.

Motion by Balzer, seconded by Townsend to accept the purchase agreement between the Village of Unionville (purchaser) and owner, as agreed upon, for the property located at 3267 Bay Street in the Village of Unionville. 7 Yeas. 0 Nays. 0 Absent. Motion carried.

Motion by B. Gaeth, seconded by Townsend to give Village President, John Katnik, authority to sign all required documentation needed to complete the purchase of the property at 3267 Bay Steet in the Village of Unionville. 7 Yeas. 0 Nays. 0 Absent. Motion carried.

Motion by Balzer, seconded by Miracle to pay all expenses including, but not limited to; closing costs, title fees, back taxes, and any other costs that may be incurred to purchase the property located at 3267 Bay Street in the Village of Unionville. 7 Yeas. 0 Nays. 0 Absent. Motion carried.

Motion by Townsend, seconded by C. Gaeth to give approval to the Village President to hire a company to remove the burned debris from 3267 Bay Street in the Village of Unionville. 7 Yeas. 0 Nays. 0 Absent. Motion carried.

INSURANCE:

The different health insurance policies were reviewed, no decision was made.

WAGES:

Wages were discussed, no decision was made.

Trustee Balzer departed meeting at 9:04 pm.

ADJOURN: **Motion** by Balzer, second by Katnik to adjourn the March 21, 2022, regular meeting at 9:08 pm. 6 Yeas. 0 Nays. 1 Absent. Motion carried.

Budget Public Hearing and Year-End Meeting: March 25, 2024, at 7:00 pm at the Village Hall.

Next Regular Meeting: April 15, 2024, at 7:00 pm at the Village Hall.

Alexis J. Ortner
Village Clerk