

VILLAGE OF NEW BERLIN
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 16 2019

President Mike Krall called the meeting of the New Berlin Village Board to order at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at the Village Hall. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and roll call was taken.

Attendees: Mayor Mike Krall, Trustee Cindy Morris, Trustee Kris Neuman, Trustee Sharon LaFauce, Trustee Chelsea Sartore, Trustee Stephanie Snyder, Trustee Andy Surratt, Treasurer Angie Libben, Clerk Kelly Yates, Superintendents Garrett Kemp and Cody Morris, Police Chief Terry Nydegger, Attorney Jason Brokaw arrived late.

AUDIENCE: Don Gray, County Clerk, Dan Wright, State's Attorney arrived at approximately 7 p.m.

Don Gray, County Clerk, visited and provided upcoming election updates. He reminded everyone of the early vote date, which begins February 21st, 2019 and the County Building Elections Office will be the early vote facility as usual, which is open daily from 8:30 – 5:00 with extended hours prior to the election. New Berlin is a highly utilized vote by mail community and registered voters may request an application for ballot by mail effective today from Sangamoncountyclerk.com. Voter registration information is also available online at Sangamoncountyclerk.com. A chief priority is cyber security and the apparatus of tabulation is free standing with no attaching wires to assure safe and secure voting.

Dan Wright, the newly appointed State's Attorney introduced himself to the board and expressed his commitment to making connections in all communities in Sangamon County as well as the city of Springfield. Wright, an Alton native states he and his wife are both Illinois College graduates and the parents of 4 children. He was appointed to the position on October 29th 2018. He appreciates the opportunity to introduce himself and says his door is always open to questions and comments.

CONSENT AGENDA AND MINUTES:

MOTION: To approve consent agenda as presented, bills, building permit report, treasurer's report, minutes from 12-12-18.

Moved by: Trustee LaFauce

Seconded by: Trustee Sartore

Trustee Morris: Yes

Trustee Neuman: Yes

Trustee Sartore: Yes

Trustee LaFauce: Yes

Trustee Surratt: Yes

Trustee Snyder: Yes

Motion carried by roll call vote.

CLERK:

CORRESPONDENCE: A thank you note was read from Shanda Byer.

POLICE: Written report submitted. Chief Nydegger is currently hiring for a part time trained police officer and reported a large shortage of police officers in the county. Qualified officers can call the village office. The DigiTICKET agreement was submitted in December.

TIF: The library has expressed interest in submitting an application for assistance with TIF funds for roof problems.

Sarah Pointer's TIF project is complete and she will be scheduling an open house soon to showcase her newly renovated photography studio.

A request was sent to Ameren to set poles in the downtown area for safety lighting. Ameren set 2 poles on the south side of the road between the fire department and Wabash Park, which were free of charge since they were set within 75 feet of existing poles with power. The monthly lighting fee for the new poles will be \$8.00. There may be other places in the TIF district considered for lighting as well. Trustee Snyder would like to see some solar lighting on the north side of the street in addition to the new pole lighting in the downtown area.

The state of disrepair of the sidewalks in the downtown area was discussed and options for repair. More information for the sidewalks needs to be gathered and discussed further.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

UTILITIES: Superintendent Kemp reported there were numerous hours dedicated to plowing snow and the recent purchase of a third snow blade helped considerably. Many compliments have been received regarding the street conditions during the recent heavy snow. Trustees Snyder and Neuman assisted Kemp and Morris with the snow removal.

A new water and sewer service was installed on East Maple Street.

The vac truck has been returned after water pump problems were repaired.

Frontier hit a water line at Oak and Birch Streets that required repair. The impact did not perforate the line completely, which would have interrupted water service from Birch Street to the south side of town since that is the only line that supplies water that direction. Kemp states the problem of one water line feeding a third of the village is a problem that needs addressed.

The Case tractor has a lot of hours and may need upgraded in the future, but for now new batteries are needed.

The selling of property, approximately 16.25 acres, containing the old water plant site and water reservoir was discussed and matters concerning an appraisal, zoning, environment issues, threshold and etc. will be looked into and discussed further. The revenue from the sale could be applied to the new waste water facility.

Trustee Surratt stated that Benton and Associates responded to a letter within deadline from IEPA with questions regarding the waste water treatment facility plant.

Trustee Morris and Superintendent Kemp anticipate the meter placement east of the Village and the main in town to be discussed at the upcoming South Sangamon Water Commission meeting.

Trustee Surratt reported that Utilities Hearings have increased, partly due to false rumors circulating of discounts, including senior citizen discounts that do not exist. Trustee Surratt would like to reiterate that water bills are based on usage.

The "No Referendum Certificate", prepared by Attorney Brokaw and Bond Council, was explained by Brokaw as representation needed in order to submit opinion letters to the Environmental Protection Agency which basically states everything the Village has prepared has

been done correctly in order for the bond issue to move forward. Attorney Brokaw will issue his opinion letters to the EPA based on the signed and approved No Referendum Certificate.

MOTION: To approve No Referendum Certificate

Moved by: Trustee Surratt

Seconded by: Trustee Neuman

Trustee Morris: Yes

Trustee Neuman: Yes

Trustee Sartore: Yes

Trustee LaFauce: Yes

Trustee Surratt: Yes

Trustee Snyder: Yes

Motion carried by roll call vote.

STREETS AND PARKS: written report submitted.

Veteran's Memorial has been winterized and the extra flags were removed for winter after Wreaths Across America.

Two portable speed limit signs have been received. The batteries last 7 days and an additional set will need to be ordered. The signs will be rotated throughout the Village.

Two new signs have also been received for the yard waste facility. Future plans were discussed to place a Quick Response, or QR code, on the sign, which when scanned by a smart phone would link directly to relevant ordinances on the Village website.

Trustee Snyder also reported trouble with two of the cameras at the yard waste facility not working properly.

Trustee Snyder also mentioned registration for golf carts will be on the agenda for next month.

FINANCE: Attorney Brokaw circulated a draft of Ordinance 2019-01 Authorizing Certain Interfund Transactions related to the Waste Water Treatment Plant for comments and review. Brokaw states the document lays the foundation of what chronologically took place and the Board's intention moving forward.

Trustee Neuman reviewed the Budget Comparison Analysis. The biggest item was \$89,678.00 over budget on Engineering Services in the Sewer Fund due to upfront bills to Benton and Associates for the new waste water treatment plant. This money was not originally in the budget but since the Supplemental Appropriation Ordinance was passed that money is now in the budget and spendable from the Engineering Services line within the Sewer Fund.

HEALTH AND SAFETY: There was discussion about complaints received of wet leaves burning, however leaf burning is not illegal and there isn't currently a ban on leaf burning.

Trustee LaFauce mentioned selling a police car. Attorney Brokaw stated an ordinance would need to be passed to surplus the car before any action can be taken.

Mayor Krall reported the Village had a mobile home towed that was parked on King Street. The truck towing the mobile home had a mechanical breakdown and was blocking the street at the entrance to the truck stop.

PERSONNEL: No report submitted.

NEW BUSINESS: Trustee Surratt circulated a Form Letter prepared by Attorney Brokaw for review that will be on the agenda next month. The Form Letter will eventually be sent to

residents that were identified as out of compliance by the smoke testing performed on the sewer system last fall.

Two liquor licenses were issued: Special Event Liquor Licenses for Flatlanders Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation “Hunting Heritage Banquet” February 2, 2019 at the Sangamon County Fairgrounds and Special Event Liquor License to New Berlin Knights Association for Ducks Unlimited March 9, 2019 at the Sangamon County Fairgrounds.

Trustee Morris mentioned an informal meet and greet at the Fire Station on January 21st with the fire board and fire fighters.

OLD BUSINESS: Trustee Neuman reviewed the updates that have been added to the Village Website. Attorney Brokaw suggested the Village may want to look into a company that performs re-codifying services which reviews Village codes on a line by line basis. Re-codification services are available by review price or annual cost. Discussion was favorable and this is an item that may be looked into for the next fiscal year.

LIQUOR CONTROL COMMISSIONER: Attorney Brokaw is working with Brandt Consolidated to purchase alcohol for their company party since there isn’t a specific liquor license available to them.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: No report.

ADJOURN:

MOTION: to adjourn regular session at 8:14 p.m.

Moved by: Trustee LaFauce

Seconded by: Trustee Morris

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Yates
Village Clerk