***Village of Bloomington***

Regular Board Meeting

June 2, 2025

The regular monthly meeting of the village of Bloomington was called to order by Village President Robert McLimans at 6:00 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was said.

Roll call was taken, present: Robert McLimans, Dennis Moris, Alan Mergen, Michelle Atterbury, Dawn Drew, Chassity Allen. Scott Daentl was running late due to his job. He arrived around 6:40pm. Shawna Atterbury was absent.

The Village President verified that the open meeting compliance had been met.

McLimans stated that Larry Gates was under “Old & New Business” on the agenda. He requested that Gates be discussed just under “Old Business.” Motion made by McLimans and seconded by Moris. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Mergen and seconded by Allen to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting for May 12, 2025, as read in email. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Drew and seconded by McLimans to approve the April & May Accounts Payable. All were in favor. Motion carried. McLimans noted that the total payout for the month of April was $92,741.00 & the month of May was $76,070.20. Combined months bill from Water Utility was $39,707.20 & Sewer Utility was $36,231.73. The Sewer bills were large due to the expense of the tank cleaning and a large payment to Town & Country in the month of May because of a missed payment in the month of April.

Officer Small was present to give his report, which included:

● Junk car clean-up- 2 citations were issued for vehicles on Wall Street. Most of the vehicles were junked and the others got licensed.

● Officer Small is holding off on unpaid ticket letters until Clerk/Treasurer Atterbury returns to work.

● Six written warning letters were mailed out with a July deadline for yard clean-up. He went back through and a few of them were from last year yet. They were given a final date to be finished, or citations will be issued. There were three new residences that Officer Small contacted regarding property clean-up.

● Officer Small contacted a homeowner on Canal Street for Sidewalk Obstruction. The resident was blowing lawn clippings onto the sidewalk. The resident stated that he will keep his sidewalk clean. The discussion of snow removal in the winter also took place.

● Sump Pump notice letters have been mailed out issuing a final warning for sump pumps. IF/when citations will be issued, Officer Small made note that those letters will have to be sent “certified mail.”

● It was asked to reopen the discussion of possibly using the village truck as a dual-purpose police vehicle. The sheriff’s office is willing to donate the light bar, control head and sirens. Under this discussion, it was stated that the village truck would be available most days from 4pm-6am. He stated that the Emergency Communication towers have all been updated, so there is not the need for all the other electronics that were previously discussed and that he can use his work computer while in the vehicle. He requested a possible Bloomington Officer shirt/polo to distinguish him aside from the sheriff’s Department. The discussion of a possible magnetic “Bloomington Police” sign for the side of the vehicle would be addressed at a later meeting.

● A Disorderly Conduct ticket was issued at the Bloomington Ball Park to a parent at a little league game. President McLimans was also called about this issue. It was discussed with the concerned parents to go to the little league board or if it is something bad, to take it to Officer Small of Grant County sheriff’s office.

● Allen mentioned to Officer Small that there are several people not stopping at the 4-way stop located on Congress & 4th Street. Officer Small mentioned that he could check on patrolling that area a little more.

There were no Citizen complaints.

Under Old Business, Larry Gates spoke on the review of the 2024 Compliance Maintenance Annual Report (CMAR), which is for the wastewater treatment facility and the 2024 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) in which he prepared for the village. These are annual reports that are required to be done by July 1st of each year. The village received straight A’s on these reports. The purchase of a UV system will need to be looked at very soon as the DNR will require chlorine systems to be gone soon. By going to a UV system, it will eventually eliminate the excessive cost “wet tests” that are currently required under a chlorinated system.

Gates highly suggested that the Village start bids on a new UV system seeing that the cost for one in 2023 was around $60,000 and now, the current costs is around $120,000. By starting bids on a new system now, it will show the DNR that we are working on upgrading to that system. In regard to the 2024 CCR (Consumer Confidence Report), Gates stated that it was challenging. The issue was e coli, not fecal, it was dirt. The village water had to be disinfected to keep it clean. One to one ½ weeks later, after chlorinating the water, it was clean. Everything is back to normal now. There were no violations, which is good.

The water tower has been inspected. There was one requirement and that was releasing the lead service line reports which were late getting in. They are done and everything is good.

All reports were reviewed by the board and Gates will file them all for the village.

Mark Digman, from Delta 3 Engineering, sent an Infrastructure Improvement update for the 2024 project Pay Application #8. Wall Street is 75% complete with small items such as clean-up and landscaping to be done by June 6th. Digman stated in his email that last December, he estimated that the total would be about $70,000 above the construction contract when the project is completed. That number is now around $55,000, which he thinks is good considering the village added the following extras to the project

 ● Fill sight - approximately $66,000

● Storm sewer on Spruce Road – approximately $15,000

● Paving on West Court Street - approximately $40,000

● Numerous additional new water services and new water laterals - approximately $15,000

● Additional tree removals - approximately $4,000

● **Approximate total add-ons of $140,000**

The request for the Pay application #8 to JI Construction of $249,920 for paving was made by Moris and seconded by Mergen. All approved, motion carried.

The board approved the following Alcohol Beverage and Tobacco Retailers Licenses, Operator’s Licenses, Machine Licenses and Mobile Home Licenses:

Route 35- motion made by Allen, seconded by Mergen. All approved, motion carried.

 Blue Jay’s Bar & Grill- motion made by McLimans, seconded by Moris. All approved, motion carried.

Whispers &Thyme- motion made by Allen, seconded by Moris. All approved, motion carried.

Bloomington Stop & Go- motion made by McLimans, seconded by Allen. All approved, motion carried.

Bloomington Park Concession Stand Group (6-month license, Class “B” beer- motion made by Allen, seconded by McLimans. All approved, motion carried.

Economy Feed Mill- motion made by Allen, seconded by McLimans. All approved, motion carried.

Hoffman’s Court Street Property- motion made by Moris, seconded by Allen. All approved, motion carried.

Updated Utility Ordinances will be postponed. McLimans will email the eighty-three pages of it to board members to look over and discuss later.

The Electronic Village Mapping Upgrade with Mark Digman was postponed to a later date.

Future Improvement Projects will be postponed to a later date.

There was a discussion on the ownership of and parking spaces in alleyways on Wall Street with no resolution at this time.

The discussion of a potential recycling charge on utility bills was dismissed for now due to the upcoming increase in water & sewer rates that have been put into place by the state PSC.

WTCC, the company now in charge of the quarry that the village uses for yard waste, has allowed the village to be granted access for use and the extended contract will be $2,000/year. The quarry is to be used for brush, grass clippings, and all natural things that can burn. No treated wood or wood with nails in it allowed. Motion made by Mergen to accept the contract and seconded by Moris. All in favor, motion carried.

Chair member, Al Mergen, was asked to work with Leitzinger to see which trees in the village need to be taken down, as well as looking at and taking photos of sidewalks in the village that need improving. They will work to get quotes on removal and re-doing a few and the possibility of grinding down the rest to make them safer for walking on.

Under “Land use permits,” Tim Senn made a request to do steel siding and roof on the west addition and barn. Motion made by Moris, seconded by Allen. All approved, motion carried. At the Aaron & Kimberly Maag residence, there was a request to put a deck at the back of their home. The motion was made by Drew, seconded by Mergen. All in favor, motion carried.

The maintenance report was given by Letitzinger.

He received a monthly creek line report from Jordan Fure of Delta 3 Engineering. This runs from the park to Larry Mumm’s property. It was reported that dirt is eroding at the park by the “B” diamond and near the farm, a sizable chunk is eroding away. These two spots need to be redone. And it was suggested to get a quote from the original contractor to see how much it will cost. It was noted that until a new sewer plant was built, this must be taken care of.

Leitzinger also stated that the airline that goes to the sewer pit has a break in it. It will need to be repaired by digging into the side of the sewer pit. He spoke with Schmitz service, and he can bring in a backhoe and dig it out for about $200.

Summer help, Brenden Jentz, is back again this year. He is doing very well, and it was suggested that he get a pay increase from $11/hour to $12/ hour. Allen made the motion to raise his wage to $12/hour and Mergen seconded it. All in favor, motion carried.

There were no committee reports.

There were no updated Clerk/ Treasurer reports at this time.

*A motion was made to go into Closed Session per Statute 19.85(1) ( c ) : ( c ) Considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation of any public employee over which the government body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility.*

*M*otion made by McLimans, seconded by Allen. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion to reconvene in open session was made by McLimans and seconded by Moris. All were in favor. Motion carried.

After coming out of the closed session motion was made by McLimans and seconded by Daentl to accept the Engagement of Services document from Johnson Block Accounting to help with duties during Clerk’s F.M.L.A.

Motion was also made by McLimans and seconded by Mergen to maintain all health insurance premiums for Clerk/Treasurer during her F.M.L.A.

Open floor discussion invited recommendations for future agenda items. Board members suggested the following items for future consideration:

It was discussed to check into the information that was given to residents a year ago regarding the barking dogs recurring incidents on 4th street.

There being no additional business to come before the board, McLimans welcomed a motion to adjourn the meeting. That motion was made by Mergen and seconded by Drew. All in favor. Motion carried.

Village Trustee - Dawn Drew, filling in for Clerk, Shawna Atterbury