

Village of Bloomington
Regular Board Meeting
October 7, 2024

The regular monthly meeting of the Village Board was called to order by Village President Robert McLimans at 6:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was said.

Roll call was taken, present: Robert McLimans, Dennis Moris, Michelle Atterbury, Chasity Allen, Dawn Drew, Scott Daentl, and Alan Mergen.

Motion was made by Allen and seconded by Moris to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting for September 3, 2024, as read in email. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Daentl and seconded by Mergen to approve the accounts payable reports for September 2024. All were in favor. Motion carried. McLimans reported total expenditures from the General Fund were \$37,231.80, Water Utility Fund were \$6,732.91, and Sewer Utility Fund were \$10,621.89. Total expenditures from all funds were \$54,586.60.

The police report was report was given by McLimans as Officer Small was absent due to training. Officer Small would be available via phone or email for any questions or concerns that needed to be addressed. The report included on-going contacts with Roger Richter. Officer Small met with Roger and thoroughly explained what is required to build his fence to code and used measuring devices to show him where his fence can and cannot be. Virginia Neeley called to complain about how the Richter-Neeley dispute is being handled. No action was taken as she is not a party. Officer Small has had several follow-up contacts with residents regarding Village-wide junk clean up, and most have been receptive. Officer Small will begin follow-up inspections to determine what still needs to be cleaned up. Officer Small made contact with a suspicious person who was parking on Canal Street and reportedly staring at different people while sitting in his car. The male lives just outside the Village and was parking on Canal Street to utilize the Library's internet. There is no concerning history with the male, and Officer Small has not received any additional complaints. Other activity included on the report: a false alarm at Clare Bank due to the opener forgetting to reset the alarm and another false alarm at Clare Bank, which was not determined how it was activated; an attempted email fraud that was caught by the victim and resulted in no losses; and a Publisher's clearing house fraud – payment was stopped and resulted in no losses.

There were no new concerns raised by citizens. McLimans noted a new protocol regarding the two-minute time limit per person during public participation to maintain order during meetings.

The Board reviewed plans submitted by Roger Richter for fence construction. Discussion ensued regarding measurements and what constituted a setback from property boundaries and the street center. A motion was made by Daentl an seconded by Allen to grant a variance allowing Roger Richter to place his fence at the 30 feet mark with a variance forgoing the additional 2 feet requirement. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Michelle Atterbury provided an update on River Ridge School's involvement in rebuilding the park gazebos. Atterbury will contact the school's instructor, Mr. Nettesheim, for coordinating and project timeline.

McLimans provided an update on the official reseating of the Library Board Members, conforming to statutory requirements. The appointed terms and positions of new board members are as follows: Kiersten Tuemer from the Village of Bloomington and Laura Tolle from Mt. Hope will be appointed for a three year term, expiring June 30, 2027; Natisha Burmeister from Glen Haven and Erin Kluesner from the Village of Bloomington and River Ridge School District representative will be appointed for a two year term, expiring June 30, 2026; and Robert McLimans as Village of Bloomington Board Representative will be appointed for a one year term, expiring June 30, 2025. Motion was made by Moris and seconded by Drew to approve the Library Board of Directors as presented. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Mark Digman from Delta 3 Engineering was present to provide an update on the Infrastructure Improvements Project. Digman detailed the completion progress and current status of the work on Wall Street, Spruce Road, and Court Street. Discussion was had on fill site capacities, inlet adjustments, and potential costs.

Digman provided an explanation on Pay Application #4 from J.I. Construction. Motion was made by McLimans and seconded by Atterbury to approve Pay Application #4 for \$247,901. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Jeanie Hamilton from Blue Collar Nutrition was present to share plans for a community block party aimed at engaging local businesses and residents with live music, face painting, and more. Hamilton provided proposed dates, location, safety considerations, and Village resources requested, such as barricades. Motion was made by McLimans and seconded by Moris to approve the community block party and to block Pleasant Street from Canal Street to First Street for the party. All were in favor. Motion carried.

McLimans briefed the Board on request from Trisha Morgan, representative of the River Ridge Future Business Leaders of America, to hold a 5K Fundraising Run for Alzheimer's Association on Saturday, October 26, 2024. Motion was made by Mergen and seconded by Allen to approve the event on the proposed date. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion was had on the unexpected activation of the Village's Emergency Warning siren. Possible causes and procedural faults were relayed. Suggestions, maintenance checks, and potential quotes for system updates were discussed. It was decided that no immediate action was needed at this time until further clarification of cause is determined.

Discussion was had on moving the regular board meeting in November due to the general election on Tuesday, November 5, 2024. It was noted that the proposed date would fall on Veteran's Day. Motion was made by Drew and seconded by Atterbury. All were in favor. Motion carried. A public hearing regarding the Infrastructure Improvements Project will also be held on November 11, 2024, at 5:45 pm.

Keith Leitzinger and Mark Moris were present to give the Maintenance Report. McLimans welcomed Leitzinger as the Village's Director of Public Works and Leitzinger gave a brief introduction.

Moris presented the two bids that were received for snow removal, Roy's Concrete LLC and Priceless Concrete LLC. Motion was made by Daentl and seconded by Allen to accept the bid submitted by Roy's Concrete LLC at \$150 per hour per machine. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Moris presented the bids submitted by Priceless Concrete LLC, Top Notch Construction & Design, and Matt Myhre for sidewalks at the Community Park. Motion was made by Daentl and seconded by Mergen to approve the bid submitted by Priceless Concrete LLC. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Leitzinger has met with Maguire Iron regarding inspections and maintenance needed on the water tower. Leitzinger discussed the initial report and quote received from Maguire Iron. Discussion was had. McLimans asked Leitzinger to get further clarification from Larry Gates and to obtain quotes from other inspection services. It was decided to postpone this item pending clarification and other potential bids.

Motion was made by McLimans and seconded by Allen to purchase a water tower climbing safety harness. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Leitzinger and Moris discussed challenges in obtaining chlorine levels to achieve compliance. Leitzinger explained that one of these challenges is due to an aging pump. Leitzinger obtained a quote to repair the pump and explained that it would be more cost efficient to purchase a new pump as some parts for the current pump have been discontinued. Motion was made by McLimans and seconded by Moris to purchase a new pump. All were in favor. Motion carried. Another issue is the chlorometer is not staying calibrated. Motion was made by McLimans and seconded by Moris to purchase a new chlorometer. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Leitzinger reported that he has completed the 2025 Local Road Certification and has been working diligently to complete the INI, required reporting of service lines classified as lead, unknown, or galvanized, that require replacement. The report is due to be submitted to the Department of Natural Resources by October 16, 2024.

Motion was made by McLimans and seconded by Moris to approve the minutes from the Finance and Purchase Committee meeting held on September 30, 2024, as read in email. All were in favor. Motion carried.

A review of the proposed 2025 budget was discussed. Total proposed revenues and expenses of the general budget are \$612,492, which is a 3.71% increase. To qualify for the Expenditure Restraint Incentive Program (ERIP), the increase would need to be under 3.9%.

Discussion was had on the proposed 2025 Water Utility budget. Proposed revenues are greater than expenses. McLimans explained that the Public Service Commission is reviewing the Village's water rate case application and will make a ruling in the next few months. The Village accountant is expecting rates to increase 50% which has been reflected in the proposed budget.

Detailed discussion was had on Public Fire Protection. Motion was made by McLimans and seconded by Drew to establish and add a fire hydrant fee beginning with the first quarter water and sewer utility billing in 2025. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion was had on the proposed 2025 Sewer Utility budget. Total proposed revenues are \$125,130 and total proposed expenses are \$163,000. The Village accountant has advised increasing sewer rates by 15% in the first quarter and another 15% in the second quarter of 2025. Motion was made by Drew and seconded by Moris to increase the sewer rate by 15% in the first quarter of 2025 and an additional 15% in the second quarter of 2025. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Daentl and seconded by Mergen to approve the proposed 2025 General Fund budget. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Motion was made by McLimans and seconded by Daentl to approve the Resolution for Inclusion Under the Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS). All were in favor. Motion carried.

Discussion was had on the contract with Officer Small as the Village Police Officer. The decision was made to continue the contract with Officer Small.

Motion was made by Mergen and seconded by Moris to set the Village's trick or treating hours as 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm on October 31, 2024. All were in favor. Motion carried.

A request received by the West Grant Rescue Squad for a donation was discussed and was decided not to act on due to existing arrangements.

The Clerk reported that she and three poll workers will be attending De-escalation Training hosted by the Grant County Clerk's Office in conjunction with the Grant County Sheriff's Office on October 9, 2024.

Clerk will be out of the office November 12 through November 14, 2024.

Clerk reported that the online pay option for utility billing, AllPaid, is now available and is working very well.

It was announced that the Board would go into closed session in accordance with Wisconsin State Statute 19.85(1)(c): Considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the government body as jurisdiction or exercises responsibility.

Motion was made by McLimans and seconded by Moris for council to go into closed session per Statute 19.85(1)(c). All were in favor. Motion carried.

Following sessions, motion was made by McLimans and seconded by Moris to come out of closed session. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Daentl and seconded by Allen to approve the wage increases as shown in the proposed 2025 General Fund Budget. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Mergen and seconded by Drew to increase the wage for Officer Small as proposed. All were in favor. Motion carried.

McLimans reminded the Board of the November meeting to be held on November 11, 2024, at 6:00 pm and the Public Hearing, which will be held at 5:45 pm before the regular meeting.

Future agenda items that were discussed:

1. Resolution to approve the 2025 Budget and set the Levy, payable in 2024-2025.
2. Discuss revision of Chapter 11, Sewer and Water utilities
3. Discuss Christmas decorations

There being no additional business to come before the board, McLimans moved to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Allen. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Clerk/Treasurer
Shawna Atterbury