

Village of Bloomington
Regular Board Meeting
August 5, 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, Chasity Allen, Scott Daentl, Dawn Drew, and Alan Mergen, and Michelle Atterbury appeared by video.

Motion was made by McLimans and seconded by Drew to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting for July 2, 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 July 2024. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Officer Small was present to give his report. Officer Small received a complaint about a new dog in town but complainant did not give an adequate description. The same complainant made a complaint about exhaust fumes entering a residence from their open windows near the four-way intersection. That was unsubstantiated, so no action was taken. Officer Small also discussed the ongoing junk cleanup, and the progress made on junk vehicle removal. Officer Small reported on the Public Welfare, Law Enforcement, and Emergency Management Committee Meeting held on July 22, 2024, in which he presented the Committee with three options for law enforcement. Officer Small noted the issuance of the first parking citation for a vehicle that was parked in front of the fire hydrant next to Ma's Bakery. Officer Small reported following up with and assisting a fraud victim and handling another fraud attempt within the village.

McLimans updated the Board that he had reported a recent incident where a speeding vehicle failed to stop for a school bus on Mill Street to Officer Small. McLimans explained the incident and reported that he also discussed the incident with Tom Hoffman from Warco Transportation and the bus driver involved. Various traffic mitigation measures were suggested, including additional signage and possibly installing rumble strips. Officer Small explained that rumble strips are not used for that purpose and suggested some other options such as a speed trailer or portable speed signs.

McLimans also reported that a concerned citizen stopped at his residence to complain about the new stop signs installed at 4th Street and Mill Street, and another concerned citizen called and complained about fumes from vehicles at the new stop signs. Other Board Members mentioned receiving calls and visits from the same citizens. The Board agreed that most feedback was positive.

Concerned citizens: Sara Nies, 213 Union Street, was present to discuss concerns she has with vehicles and UTV's traveling on Union Street and safety for her children and other children who live on Union Street. Discussion was had on "Slow Children at Play" signage and other recommendations.

McLimans read a letter from Sue Kuenster, Library Board President, regarding payment of library ceiling repairs. The Library Board has agreed to pay half the expenses, and the Clerk will make the adjustment to reimburse the Library account for half the costs.

Mark Digman from Delta 3 Engineering provided an update on the Infrastructure Improvements Project and contractor progress. He discussed issues encountered during the project, such as hitting unexpected utilities. The project is ongoing and Digman noted that substantial progress had been made on the water and sewer main installations. Discussion was had on filling in the ditch between Mill Street and Union Street and managing contractor speed on Main Street.

Digman explained that there are two sewer laterals that go to Bloomington Meats II from Tim Senn's property that weren't in the plans to be replaced. Digman explained that it would be best to replace now to avoid tearing up the new

road in the future. The estimated cost is \$4,400. Motion was made by Moris and seconded by Allen to replace the two sewer laterals. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Pay Application #2 from J.I. Construction was reviewed by the Board. Motion was made by McLimans and seconded by Daentl to approve Pay Application #2 for \$435,596. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The Board was reminded about the Special Board Meeting to be held on August 19, 2024, at 4:00 pm to approve and sign the financial assistance agreements for the DNR Clean Water Fund Loan and the Safe Drinking Water Loan Program.

Moris updated the board on pending OSHA laws and regulations for fire departments. Significant challenges include mandatory medical physicals, equipment maintenance, mandatory written plans, and more training for chiefs and officers. The expenses could reach up to \$30,000 per member to comply with OSHA requirements. These new regulations could impact the feasibility of maintaining volunteer fire departments.

Motion was made by Moris and seconded by McLimans to approve a Land Use Permit to Krissy Custer for a bathroom remodel at 109 Hwy 35. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Allen and seconded by Daentl to approve a Land Use Permit to Sara Hampton at 544 Mill Street. All were in favor. Motion carried.

McLimans read the letter of resignation received from Joe Walsh dated July 23, 2024. Motion was made by McLimans and seconded by Allen to accept Walsh's resignation. All were in favor. Motion carried. Clerk confirmed the position for Director of Public Works has been posted on Facebook, Indeed, the Village's website, and in the Grant County Herald Independent.

Mark Moris was present to give the Maintenance Report. Moris presented a quote received for cement work for a sidewalk needed at the Community Park to improve accessibility. Quote was discussed, and additional quotes will be obtained before a final decision. Moris also reported that the culvert at Front Street and 2nd Street needs to be replaced. He has reached out to Hermsen's for a quote. The red truck is going to need new rear tires before winter. Moris will obtain quote for the next meeting. Dave Schmitz from Schmitz Hauling requested to increase dumping from 30,000 to 40,000 gallons per month. Larry Gates approved the increase. Discussion was had on painting and inspection needed on water tower. McLimans offered his appreciation to Moris for stepping up and taking over again since Walsh's resignation.

McLimans addressed two concerned citizens, who came in at 7 pm. McLimans made them aware that the ordinance regarding the start time for board meetings had been changed two months ago, and the agenda for this meeting has been posted for a month. McLimans stated they would each have five minutes to address the Board. Joann Hampton, 440 Mill Street, raised concerns about the new stop signs on Mill Street and 4th Street, related to trucks producing exhaust near her residence. Dave Cooley, 430 Mill Street, echoed those same concerns and their impact on his quality of life.

Motion was made by Drew and seconded by Moris to approve the minutes of the minutes from the Public Welfare and Law Enforcement-Emergency Management Committee meeting held on July 22, 2024, as read in email. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Daentl discussed options for improving village policing and law enforcement, including continuing with the current arrangement with Officer Small, contracting with the Grant County Sheriff's Department, or establishing a village police department. Discussion was had. Formal recommendations will be finalized after budget considerations.

The budget planning meeting was set for August 19, 2024, at 4:15 PM, immediately following the special board meeting at 4:00 PM.

Clerk explained the 2025 Cost Sharing Agreement with Grant County pertaining to programming costs and cartridges for the voting machine. Motion was made by McLimans and seconded by Daentl to approve the 2025 Cost Sharing Agreement. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Clerk presented a License Fee Schedule created to add to the Village's Website and to include with the alcohol license renewal application packets sent to local retailers. Motion was made by Moris and seconded by Daentl to approve the license fee schedule. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Clerk proposed working remotely on Wednesdays to have interruption free time to complete tasks and allow her to have increased focus and the ability to accomplish more without the daily office distractions. Clerk will be flexible on those days and come in if there is a need to be in the office. Clerk will post updated hours on the door at the municipal building, on outgoing voicemail message, the Village's website and Facebook page, and Google. Clerk will be available for residents by email and by cell phone for Village employees.

Clerk requested approval to purchase a laptop screen extender monitor for increased productivity when working remotely. Motion was made by Moris and seconded by Mergen to approve the purchase of a laptop screen extender monitor for \$179.99 from Amazon. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Clerk reported that Workhorse support fees are increasing 7.4% for 2025-2026.

Clerk gave a comprehensive report on her recent Clerk's Institute training, which highlighted election updates, ordinance basics, better administrative practices, and new regulations regarding campaign finance registration reporting.

Motion was made by McLimans and seconded by Allen to approve the subscription for ClerkMinutes at \$99/month. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Next board meeting will be held Tuesday, September 3, 2024, with Monday being a holiday.

Items for future agendas were considered, notably updates surrounding traffic signage, maintenance improvements, and policing options.

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

Clerk/Treasurer
Shawna Atterbury