



**MINUTES OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 9, 2023
28 S DRAKE AVE
CLAYCOMO, MISSOURI 64119**

Those in attendance: Chairman Terry Bradich, Trustee Mark Benton, Trustee Larry Barrera, Trustee Renee Hoppe, Trustee David Jett, Village Clerk Melody Wymore, Police Chief Matt Coonce, Fire Chief Steve Shaumeyer

Chairman Bradich called to recess the Regular Meeting of September 25, 2023, at 7:00 PM. Trustee Jett motioned to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Barrera. Roll call, All yeas. Motion carried.

Chairman Bradich called the Regular Meeting of October 9, 2023, to order at 7:01 PM.

Trustee Benton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Trustee Jett introduced Clay County Commissioner, JoAnn Lawson. She explained the upcoming 911 tax vote that will be on next month's ballot. The tax will be switched from land lines to cell phones and cost the average person \$12/year. For businesses, the charge will come off the business lines and go to any cell phone lines the business may have. This tax will help our 911 dispatch. She also shared that there is a bill going through right now that will help those individuals 62+ years old and own their home. It will freeze their taxes at what they are right now, and it will never go up. The bill should go through by the end of the month and will take effect in 2025.

Trustee Jett motioned to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 25, 2023, seconded by Trustee Hoppe. Roll call, 4 yeas/1 Abstain. Motion carried.

Trustee Benton motioned to approve the Payment of Bills for September 22, 2023-October 9, 2023, seconded by Trustee Barrera. Roll call, All yeas. Motion carried.

Fire Chief Shaumeyer addressed the Board about a grant for new bunker gear. That will afford 1 set of new gear for each full-time employee. He also shared that as of October 19, the Fire Department will be back at full staff.

OLD BUSINESS

Police Chief Coonce shared that there is still an open position on the Police Department. There has been NO interest. They are considering putting an ad in a Police Magazine. The cost would be \$150. The bigger cities can pay more and more applicants are going there. Trustee Barrera shared that he (and others) are seeing a Police presence, even with minimal staff and commended Chief Coonce for that. Chief Coonce added that we are trying to get our part-timers to come in more often. Chief Coonce also updated about the bicycles at Public Works. They have donated about half of them, and they plan to take care of the other half soon.

Fire Chief Shaumeyer updated on the plumbing issues at the Fire Station. They are still having some back up into the shower area. The plumbing company is aware and will be taking care of that issue and finishing the job. The cost does not change.

Village Clerk Wymore reminded everybody about the Sunshine Law Training on October 18, at noon and the Community Building.

On behalf of the Zoning Board, Marj reminded everyone of their upcoming meeting (Tuesday, October 27 at 7:00 PM). She added that they will be discussing short-term rentals.

Jason, from EDC informed that they can't write or apply for grants without having a long-term "master plan" for Claycomo. Their upcoming meetings will be focused on naming that master plan. They are also looking into checking on commercial property that has remained vacant, and seeing what options are available to possibly fine these folks that aren't doing anything with that commercial property. He added that the Claycomo Business Appreciation Event went well. They have been making posts highlighting individual Claycomo businesses, every week. Trustee Benton commended him for his efforts and focus on Claycomo businesses. Trustee Jett expressed his appreciation for the event and all the hard work that went into it. Jason credited the Gordon family from Claycomo Baptist Church, with providing all the food for the event. He added that there were various volunteers from all different areas, and it was truly a community event.

Trustee Hoppe had no old business.

Trustee Benton shared his thoughts on the Car Show. He felt it was successful. They had 51 auto entries, 4 motorcycle entries, 0 incidents, 4 vendors inside the Community Building, Ma & Pa's Kettle set up in the kitchen. There was a tremendous turn-out. He added that there were SEVERAL people who asked how long we have had a Community Building. There were also folks that didn't know it could be rented out. Moving forward, there will definitely be more events at the Community Building, so it was good advertising.

Trustee Jett had no old business.

Trustee Barrera asked for an update on what was going on behind Glow Box. He wanted to know if activity had been stopped or if they actually had permits/licenses. If so, what are the plans for that area. Chairman Bradich responded that currently the area is just being cleared by the owner.

Trustee Barrera asked if the name of the owner is known. It is not. Trustee Hoppe added that he is from St. Joe. Chairman Bradich added that after all the complaints from the last meeting, they did speak to them. Since they are only clearing the lot, there's nothing we can do. Chief Coonce added that they were told (again) not to use other people's property to access the site. Trustee Barrera also inquired about the incident with a homeless man inviting himself to a resident's porch to rest and eat. Claycomo Police were called, and they did ask the man to leave the area. Chief Coonce added that the number of homeless people in the area has "skyrocketed". Officers had 3 incidents that day, dealing with homeless folks.

Chairman Bradich had no old business.

Residents had no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Chief Coonce informed that they were applying for a \$10,000 grant for a radio for the motorcycle officer and another body cam. He also shared that Officer Lawton has resigned to take a full-time position with Independence Police Department. The Independence Police Department does not allow their officers to hold dual commissions. He is going to stay on as a voluntary citizen employee and help with firearms training in a non-commission position. He added that the department is nearing the end of collecting for the 2024 Claycomo calendar. He said that it has been rougher this year than in the past. He asked if there are any dates the trustees want to be published in the calendar, that they let him know. They will need a current picture of the Board of Trustees. Also, if there are any photos that you would like to be considered for the calendar, please send those as well. The goal is to have it ready for submission by the end of October.

Fire Chief Shaumeyer shared that they are receiving free Narcan from Clay County Health Department. Police & Fire Departments will be trained by the Health Department. Trustee Jett asked if they use it a lot. Chief Shaumeyer replied that they do use it quite a bit. It's a good program and it should save roughly \$500/year.

Village Clerk shared training starts tomorrow for court administrators. 3 members of our municipal offices will be in attendance. Training is October 10-13. City Hall will still be open.

Public Works cut down a tree in Mildred Keeney Park. There are several dead trees that have fallen in the lots adjacent to the park. We are running out of room to put the debris/trees after cutting them down. Chairman Bradich suggested with the assistance and supervision of Fire Chief Shaumeyer that there be a bon fire in the larger lot at some point this fall. There is a plan to replace the stairs.

Chairman Bradich conveyed that the pantry needs donations. Specific donations of canned meat, powdered milk, canned meals (ravioli, spaghetti, mac & cheese, etc.) with easy open tops. There are more suggestions on their Facebook page (Claycomo's Little Pantry). There is also a bin for donations inside the front door of City Hall. Donations that are dropped off during the day are

picked up by the Claycomo Citizen's Alliance before close of business each day. There is also a need for volunteers to help with the Little Pantry. Kim (Holmes) information can be found on her page (Claycomo Citizens Alliance). Her email is also on the front of donation bins. Resident Jason (EDC) suggested creating a QR Code for the pantry that would take people to their page. He offered to help create it also.

Chairman Bradich informed of he and Public Works cleaning out the kitchen in the Community Building. Several items had accumulated over the years. Trustee Hoppe volunteered to help deep clean.

Chairman Bradich opened the floor to new business from residents. Resident Marj shared that Clay County Economic Development Group is having a luncheon event on Friday, February 27th at Harrah's.

Chairman Bradich updated on Dollar Tree. They are getting ready to open, but they have pushed back their opening date for a couple weeks. Village Clerk Wymore confirmed and added that she spoke with the district manager, and they were trying to get all the pertinent information for their business license to her this week. Trustee Jett asked if Dollar Tree had applied for their business license yet. Answer: No. He also asked if they applied for sign permits. Answer: Yes.

Trustee Hoppe announced that there will be a guest speaker at the next Board Meeting (Oct. 23). Clay County Prosecutor and C.E.A.S.E. (Citizen Education Against Scams & Exploitation) Coordinator, Zachary Thompson, will speak for about half an hour on how to protect yourself and your loved ones from getting scammed. She also shared that the Village Halloween Decorating Contest will be done differently this year. Any resident wishing to participate should send your entry to the Facebook Page (Claycomo Village Events) or email them to ClaycomoVillageEvents@gmail.com. The deadline for entries is October 26th. Winners will be announced at the Board of Trustees Meeting on Monday, November 13. Resident Jason clarified, if they do not submit their picture, they're not in the contest, correct? Answer: Yes. Are you going to judge by the picture or are you going to go to these addresses? Answer: We are going to go to the addresses. She also announced that we will have our very first Tree Lighting Ceremony on Saturday, November 25th at Mildred Keeney Park. All are invited. The event starts at 7:00pm. The Tree Lighting will be at 7:30pm. Afterward there will be hot cocoa, candy canes, other treats, and a visit from Santa on the Fire Truck.

Trustee Jett also added that he and Trustee Benton would be installing the electrical for the tree lighting. There have been many decorations donated. On Friday, November 24th they will be preparing and decorating the tree. Volunteers would be great! Everybody can meet at 1:00 pm at Mildred Keeney Park. He invited everyone to attend the Neighborhood Watch meeting on Thursday, October 19, at 7:00 pm also at Mildred Keeney Park. He is going to check with Zach Thompson (CEASE Coordinator and Clay County Prosecutor) to see if he could attend the meeting and share his information with the residents who attend that meeting.

Trustee Benton announced the upcoming Trunk or Treat, on Saturday October 28th at 2:00 pm. It will also be held at Mildred Keeney Memorial Park. He has had folks who participated in the Car Show interested in coming for the Trunk or Treat. Their entry fee will be candy for the kids. He

also mentioned a few vendors may be interested. EVERYONE is welcome! Trustees will be handing out flyers to all residents. He encourages everyone to check out the Facebook page that he and Trustee Hoppe are updating, "Claycomo Village Events".

Chairman Bradich inquired about updates on bids to repair the parking lot. Village Clerk Wymore gave the updated bids for the entire lot. Concrete Design KC \$16,320.00, with the option of burying the down spout for an additional \$750.00. The job should take 2 full days. There was a bid for the full lot from KE from the last meeting, \$14,280. The third company never got back to us to fulfill the quote. Trustee Jett advised that the situation needs to be taken care of sooner rather than later. He advised that for safety concerns. Trustee Jett motioned to approve the quote from Concrete Design KC for \$16,320.00 with the additional \$750.00 to remove, repair and replace the current (Community Building) lot. Seconded by Trustee Benton. Roll call, All yeas. Motion carried. Chairman Bradich added that it needed to be done this year.

There was no further business with the Board.

Chairman Bradich stated that the tax incentives for Claycomo Plaza have been submitted. He said that it is very basic. There had been negotiations. He expects everything to go through without issue. There will also be a Public Hearing, date and time to be determined at another time.

The Trustees will meet early for the next Board meeting to take a group photo for the 2024 Calendar. Reminders to be in the packets.

There is no reason to go into an executive meeting.

Trustee Barrera motioned to recess the regular meeting of October 9, 2023. Seconded by Trustee Hoppe. All yeas. Motion carried.

Village Clerk Melody Wymore

Chairman of the Board Terry Bradich