Village of Versailles

Last month’s meeting minutes

Held March 3rd, 2025 @ 6:30

*This meeting is being held on April 7th, 2025*

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dave Newell, Mayor Earl Cooley; Trustee Jacob Fink, Trustee David Hoelscher; Trustee

Molly Lenover, Trustee Bob Howard; Trustee

Sandy Fry, Trustee

Board Members Absent:

Employees Present: Chrissy Ruble, Village Clerk; Charlotte Hannig, Treasurer

Guests: Lisha Hall, Brenda Horton, Peggy DeWitt, Chloe Reich, Liann Bauch, Marcia Curtis, Dean Cooley, Justin Oliver, Jared Pruden, Suzy Parn, Cody Surratt

Virtual Guests:

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM. Earl Cooley led the Pledge of Allegiance with the rest of the Board. Roll Call was given with 6 Trustees present.

Communication to the Board:

Liann Bauch approached the board reminding them about ordinances and junk being removed. She mentioned that there are still places in town that are in need of work.

Chloe Reich with the VGC presented her ideas to repair the ballfield backstop fence and two quotes from different vendors. J. Fink made a motion to approve the VGC to purchase the backstop to be installed at the ball diamond. S. Fry 2nd the motion. Voice vote 5 y, 1 n. Dave Hoelscher stated that VGC was told that Brown Co. Little League will never play a league game here in town.

Karen Dewitt came to represent the Fall Festival. She shared the account’s running balance and asked to get the tax-exempt information. She shared that they are hosting a pulled pork fundraiser and are possibly planning a bake sale at the Rebekah’s Easter Egg Hunt. She received a $500 grant from Dot Foods to fund the fundraiser and go towards funds.

Approval of Minutes:

J. Fink made a motion to approve minutes, S. Fry 2nd the motion. 6 y, 0 n.

Corrections: D. Hoelscher mentioned that the Clerk shall receive her raise once elected, if elected.

Treasurer’s Report: Charlotte shared her reports. J. Fink makes motion to approve the treasurer’s report as presented. M. Lenover 2nd the motion. 6 y, 0 n.

Corrections:

Clerk’s Presentation of Bills Paid:

J. Fink made the motion to pay bills as amended. M. Lenover 2nd the motion. 6 y & 0 n.

Corrections: Highway should pay Schuster Pump for when the County hit the line.

Committee Reports:

Finance – D. Hoelscher mentions that taxes have not been listed as paid on report.

Police – Justin Oliver shared that they had another issue with Neese’s vicious dog. They have also received a lot of calls regarding a black lab running loose with no one knowing who the dog belongs to. The Sheriff’s office is working on possibly catching the dog and taking it to the pound.

Streets and Alleys – S. Fry requested that a patch be placed to repair the pot hole by Cindy Gragg’s house.

Water and Sewer – The water and sewer surcharges have not been being collected from the water bills and therefore creating a low balance in the Water Works account. D. Hoelscher made a motion to move $7,500 from Depreciation and $7,500 from Surcharge account. J. Fink 2nd the motion. 6 y, 0 n.

Ordinances, Public Service and Ordinances – Dean Cooley shared that new parts were coming on the brick house. Dean had no timeline regarding the brick home that Dean purchased months ago. Dean had no knowledge of a 30-day notice to remediate when he bought the home two months ago.

D. Hoelscher mentioned that Stinson’s property was set to be demolished this coming week.

Cemetery - Nothing

Parks and Recreation - Richard Childers said that he was interested in doing some of the work at the Pool. Burnett’s does not want to do electric, but will do the Plumbing. J. Fink could not get Precision to come down to do a bid. J. Fink contacted Mark Obert about potentially doing the electric. He has no quotes currently.

D. Hoelscher mentioned that he would still like to transfer from Park to General. D. Hoelscher made a motion to transfer $25,000 from Pool fund to General fund. B. Howard 2nd the motion. Voice vote passed 6 y, 0 n.

Building and Grounds – The board agreed for Brenda to hold off on her Dot Charitable application so that a storage shed can be added to the application ask.

Personnel – Six applications have been received for the village maintenance job.

J. Fink brought up that city employees were using village equipment to spread rock at a personal residence. A conversation was initiated about writing up the employees. J. Fink made a motion to write up both Brian and Tony for using village equipment on private property. S. Fry 2nd the motion. 6 y, 0 n.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

* Spring clean-up was May last year. J. Fink discussed the idea of putting the dumpsters at the well to keep it locked. J. Fink offered the use of his trail camera if needed. Dates were set for May 3 & 4th, and 17th & 18th. J. Fink made a motion to set the clean-up days for May 3-4 and 17-18th. E. Cooley 2nd the motion. 6 y, 0 n.
* The village should only be burning during daylight hours. The only burning by citizens should be yard waste, not trash.
* The Community Foundation grant application is now open and applications are due May 1st. J. Fink brought up the dog pound situation and the group brainstormed ideas.
* Attr. Dustin Clark asked the board if they wanted the village to pursue Foreclosure action for the demolished house on 4th Street. He estimated it to be about $5,000 but wondered if the property was even worth that much at auction. The board decided to just put the lien on the property.
* The Illinois Consolidated Election is April 1st, 2025.
* E. Cooley and D. Hoelscher asked if there was a Conflict of Interest with the Board and the Growth Committee. The attorney stated there was no Conflict of Interest since the Growth Committee is a private, nonprofit organization. Any board member that is on VGC should recuse themselves on any votes to money spent in conjunction with the organization.

J. Fink makes motion to adjourn at 8:53 pm