

Village of Wapella Board Meeting

Wednesday, April 20th^h, 2022

Village Hall – 7:00 pm

Meeting called to order by Village President Dennis Klatt.

Pledge of Allegiance

Present:

Dennis Klatt

Sean Holland

Lauren Johnson

Jane Buraglio

Mark Miller

Steve Marht – Attorney

Excused:

Robin Morrow – Clerk

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by Jane Buraglio to approve the minutes from March 30, 2022, meeting. Second by Sean Holland. All voting yes.

Bills:

Motion made by Mark Miller to approve the bills as presented to the board. Second by Jane Buraglio. All voting yes.

Department Reports:

Mayor Dept – as it has been one year Dennis thanked everyone for a great job and keep up the hard work.

STREETS: Jane Buraglio

- The bids for the truck will be opened at the May meeting.
- There is continued alley rocking and keeping an eye on the potholes.
- Removed a deteriorating culvert at 312 S Oak per customer request. It served no purpose.
- Brush pickup has begun and will continue as time allows. People can bring their own brush to the pile.
- Main Break areas have been clean up and barricades removed.
- Bathrooms in the park were opened last week.
- Mowers are inspected, serviced and ready to go. Toby has begun mowing the park. Paul has started on parts of the railroad property.
- I spoke to the Sheriff about engaging in a contract again with the Village. He was very positive and seemed interested. He said he was short-staffed right now. Be sure and ask him again at the end of his fiscal year. In the meantime, we hopefully will see more patrol in the village. He would like to get something in place for when they issue citations, the village would collect part of those fees.

HEALTH & SAFETY: Lauren Johnson

Jason took the porta johns over to the park and within 2 days they were tipped over in broad daylight. Report filed with Sherriff dept.

Talking with Nick now at Menards about the refrigerator handle. Making progress but slowly.

TOWN CLEAN UP – Jane spoke to Eric Shangraw. We are arranging to have the first roll off dumpsters delivered on Friday June 3, so they are in place over the weekend of the garage sales. They will be removed on Monday June 13. We get 8 free dumpsters for the clean-up and after that there is a \$500 each/flat rate – empty or full. We ended up paying full price for half empty dumpsters last year when other people called to have them picked up. The men will keep them managed so we don't waste any dumpsters. They will be hauled off full. Eric said the turnaround time may not be "pretty quick" because they are short on drivers. We may have the first 6 delivered to begin with.

There will be no electronic pick up. The one last year was the one allowed per contract period. Eric estimates that they easily hauled away five years' worth of electronic from Wapella in 2021. I really believe that!

WATER: Sean Holland

Temporary Boil order looks good. Robin has done a good job with getting notices out regarding the order.

Report is linked online under village ordinances and a direct link to be provided.

Jane has been working with Steve and communicating updates on the length of time of the order, process of cleaning, etc.

ZONING: Mark Miller

Issued one building permit on S. Fifth Street for addition/garage/family room combo.

Brandon has declined his appointment to the Zoning Board.

Zoning Board meets on May 4th at 7:00pm with a 7:45pm hearing.

Letter sent to Lester Kaufman about his remaining term on the Zoning board but have not received any letter or response back of continuing or resigning.

FINANCE: Jane/Jessica

- There is another loan payment to USDA on May 1st - \$6431 Interest and \$5000 Principal = \$11,431.25.
- We are still checking on the figures of what to transfer to the Water Project Fund to catch us up on the USDA required monthly payments into this account.
- On your treasurer's report, you can again check your budgets. There are a few corrections that need to be made. If you have questions, please let me know.
- Jessica has accepted a full-time position with John Warner Hospital as Head Bookkeeper. We will be meeting with a few people and looking for her replacement.

Account Balances:

General Fund Checking	\$182,838.56
Park CD (Heartland)	\$41,542.32
Park CD (DeWitt Savings)	\$54,679.87
Police CD (DeWitt Savings)	\$18,402.95
Water Fund Checking	\$81,883.67
Motor Fuel Checking	\$112,012.79
Water Project Fund	<u>\$98,697.52</u>
Total:	\$590,057.68

WATER OPERATOR: Steve

Nothing to report

CLERK: Robin Morrow

Nothing to report

FOIA OFFICER: Robin Morrow

Nothing to report

WEBSITE: Jane Buraglio

- I have posted Community Sales on June 3 & 4 in the Town Happenings.
- I will post the Small Business Saturday event taking place at the old bank on May 7th.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Dale Karr – has questions... on the guy's OT, need to keep an eye on that since it is costing \$70/hr needs to be kept to minimum. Jane comments that if anyone seen working on a Saturday it is making up time missed during the week and not OT. Dale responded by just didn't know as he sees them there and was just questioning.

Dale Karr – OT and use of personal equipment working for the city. It is working for city they should be using city equipment. Not a major thing but just bringing it up.

Dale Karr – white rock in the alley they did a good job but feel there are areas that need more like his rental property and where the garbage trucks have pushed the ground out leaving like an 8" wedge and should take gravel and fill it in. Jane responded that they would look into it.

Dale Karr – oh and the issue of village equipment being used on private property. Jane question what he was meaning. Dale referred to a driveway down the street using the john deer leveling the gravel and a driveway by community center for someone's camper. Jane confirmed that the village does level rock for drives when necessary.

Mark Miller brings up that Wapella Says YES has posted announcement on FB page regarding the Town Sales for any resident that wants to be put on the map.

New Business for discussion, approval, and possible vote:

Wapella Fire Department Chief Ralph Smith and Deputy Chief Nelson Thorp discuss the Fire Departments use of Wapella water for non-emergency uses. Nelson first apologizes for

the misunderstandings for the use of water with the fire trucks and proceeds to explain that for 33 years 2 people in charge of the department. In last 12 months new members and introduces Ralph. They are trying to catch up with things and getting a handle on the use of the water and how it is reported. Records used to be kept, however, has not been done in last few years. Going forward they will put a slip in the box reporting how much used from hydrants. Tanker is 3,000 gals and if any pump testing or anything else they will keep track. Just so we are aware with the Township fire used 38,000 and 40,000 of water that day. Biggest one in years. Usually, most fires can be done in 2,000 gals. The barn a few years ago was 80,000 gals but wasn't from Wapella some came from Clinton because almost emptied water tower. Do not want to go that far so to avoid boil order. Mutual aid trucks provide their own but truck from other communities may refill before they leave if in Wapella but will keep to minimum. Jane confirms that the documents put in the box Robin will give to Steve to keep track of.

Nelson confirms that there is a procedure and process for pool filling have not been followed and discusses a form for residents that would need to be signed and there are criteria they have to meet. One being they must be part of the district and or fire district which is 98 sq miles and they have to sign a release because it becomes hard water once it hits their tank. There was also a form on how much they were paying for the water but last time he saw a form and it was \$5 per the 1000 which was coming back to the village. If the village agrees to allow or not and if not, that is fine, they will tell residents they need to find elsewhere. If the village does, then how much do we charge per 1000. Wapella is a big district which includes five different zip codes. Nelson states that according to what he can tell is that for 2021 approx. 30,000 gals were pumped for pool, and he does not think anyone has paid that but he willing to if it is required as he just wants to make sure everyone is right with this.

Sean asks what Clinton does. Nelson states that they may do some but if a professional company with potable water is hired, they will charge anywhere from \$1 to \$5 per gallon. Lauren asks if this is convenient for them. Nelson states that it is basically a PR move and not fun hauling hose back and forth and the fact that it costs FD fuel to do so.

Dennis/Lauren leaning towards no but not sure of the process and impact. Lauren states that we should run our water like a business as it really is a business. Sean agreed said that it does need to be tracked better and Lauren states that she uses her own hose to fill her pool.

Nelson stated that they used to charge \$50 per load and give back \$15 to village. Jane mentions she cannot find these payments. Nelson said he had checks that they didn't know what to do with from 2019 which is why there is no tracking because didn't know how to put it through the Locis system mentioned Jane.

Dennis asks what kind of service they want to provide. Nelson turns over to the new chief. Ralph states that he is not apposed to doing it but feels that it should be at fair market value for water back to the village. A lot of discussing back and forth with the group on putting caps/limits, etc. Mark states that this may open up more people who didn't know this was a service for those who use their own hoses to fill their pool when the FD is about Fire protection and not pool filling service. Fire Department wants to be on the same page as the Village when it come to filling pools.

Nelson comments that if they were to charge \$100 things might change. Steve Marht suggests that we need to decide if it is something we still want to do then there would need to be a motion and a vote on how to go forward with the service. Dennis and Mark both agree that they are leaning more to no longer providing the service. Sean also says no. Nelson is good with that and has no problem with telling residents that fuel is up, and water is up, and this service is no longer provided. More discussion about the water rates. Jane comments that last increase on

water was in 2018 so Wapella is very behind. Mark comments that if this is something we want to do then we will first need to look at our rates to determine what should be charged.

Nelson suggested that for now we tell people that the Village is reviewing the rates and fuel is up but as for now we are not filling pools. 8 to 10 people that are currently active. Dennis says no for now and table it until we have time to review the rates. Everyone seems to be in agreement due to rise in fuel and water costs.

Fire Department will make every effort to attend Village meeting at least once a quarter.

Nelson, just one other thing he wanted to discuss was a grant they applied for an electronic board which is about \$15,000 to be used for announcements. Maybe with Village cooperation with getting announcements out there.

Dennis stated that we will revisit this situation. Further review needs to be done not just about water and fuel rates but also on the impact on the pump house with water pressure, etc.

Jane will forward Steve's contact information to Ralph to contact for when they do pump training to report the water usage. Jane also mentions that RWA can do a free analysis of water, etc.

Discussion and possible authorization of donation to Wapella says WES for Movie Night in the Park. YES, applied for a \$25,000 grant through State Farm but we did not make the cut. Only 200 were selected out of 4,000 entries. Met with the Township and they agreed to help with \$400 and if need more come back. Haycraft agreed to donate \$100 from the Auction House. Looking at a \$1200 cost for this event. Asking Village for donation. Money will go toward the screen, projector, set-up, etc. Some other businesses have stated they also would like to contribute; however, amount is undetermined. There will be a CD that will run prior to movie starting to promote local businesses as well. And it will all be free. But anyone who wants to donate can.

Lauren makes motion to donate \$400 to Wapella Says YES for Movie night in the park with the agreement that should they need more to come back. Sean second. All voting yes.

Authorization to purchase security cameras, not to exceed \$2000. Per Jane, 4 cameras set with DVR and would like to get 3. One for each end of the park and one for east end of the shed area. They run all the time, but they hold a lot of time. Only concern is that we lose recording if it records over after a certain amount of time. \$399 X 3 with extra wire from Best Buy.

Jane makes motion to purchase security cameras not to exceed \$2000. Lauren seconds motion. All voting yes.

Authorization to raise cost of rock per ton to \$35. Current cost is \$22.95/ton to the village. We charge \$25/ton but there is also use of equipment, and time, etc.

Jane makes a motion to increase the cost of rock to the customer to \$35/ton. Sean second motion. All voting yes.

Motion made by Jane to enter closed session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employee(s). Motion second by Mark Miller. All voting yes at 8:16pm.

RETURN FROM CLOSED SESSION:

ROLL CALL:

Present:

Dennis Klatt
Sean Holland
Lauren Johnson
Jane Buraglio
Mark Miller
Steve Marht – Attorney

Authorization of Employee Salary adjustments. Jane makes a motion to increase Paul's and Toby's salary from \$23/hr to \$24/hr and Brandon's salary from \$15/hr to \$17/hr effective April 18, 2022. Motion second by Sean. All voting yes.

Motion made by Mark Miller to adjourn and second by Lauren. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:36pm

Respectfully Submitted by:

Robin Morrow, Clerk