

VILLAGE OF WAPELLA

Village Hall
312 Main Street – P. O. Box 148
Wapella, Illinois 61777

BOARD MEETING – MINUTES DECEMBER 15, 2020

REGULAR Meeting VIA ZOOM
7:00 pm

I. Meeting called to order by President

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call by Allie Sprague, Wapella Village Clerk

| Name | Title | Status |
|----------------|------------------|-------------|
| Sherry Mears | President | Present |
| Mandy Huff | Trustee | Present |
| Jane Buraglio | Trustee | Present |
| Trevor Karr | Trustee | Present |
| Melissa Taylor | Trustee | Present |
| Tracy Mann | Trustee | Not Present |
| Carl Spath | Trustee | Present |
| Steve Mahrt | Village Attorney | Present |
| Allie Sprague | Village Clerk | Present |

4. MOTION TO APPROVE ALL BILLS THAT NEED PAID

Jane added another attorney bill with the total of \$6,805.65

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| Moved: | Mandy Huff |
| Seconded: | Trevor Karr |
| Ayes: | Mandy Huff, Trevor Karr, Carl Spath, Jane Buraglio, Melissa Taylor |
| Nays: | |
| Abstained: | |
| Action Taken: | BILLS APPROVED |

9. NEW BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION, APPROVAL AND POSSIBLE VOTE:

A.) OLIVIA KLEMM – thanking the village of Wapella for deciding to take a stand against the wind turbines.

B.) OCTOBER 20, 2020 NEED CLARIFIED

MOTION TO APPROVE OCTOBER 20, 2020 MINUTES WITH AMENDED SEPTEMBER 28, 2020 MINUTES TO READ THAT MANDY HUFF MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MAYORS NOMINATION OF MELISSA TAYLOR AS TRUSTEE

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|---------------|--|
| Moved: | Jane Buraglio |
| Seconded: | Mandy Huff |
| Ayes: | Mandy Huff, Trevor Karr, Carl Spath, Jane Buraglio, Melissa Taylor |
| Nays: | |
| Abstained: | |
| Action Taken: | 10-20-20 minutes revised |

C.) ORDINANCE AMENDING REMOTE PARTICIPATION POLICY- TABLED

D.) NEW FIRE HYDRANT- 2 fire hydrants, located on Division Street and Irish Circle alley. Structure fire on Chestnut – the fire dept called because the hydrant didn't work properly. \$1,875.00 for one hydrant.

MOTION TO APPROVE BUYING TWO HYDRANTS THROUGH WATER PRODUCTS NOT TO EXCEED THE TOTAL OF \$4,000

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|---------------|--|
| Moved: | Mandy Huff |
| Seconded: | Jane Buraglio |
| Ayes: | Mandy Huff, Trevor Karr, Carl Spath, Jane Buraglio, Melissa Taylor |
| Nays: | |
| Abstained: | |
| Action Taken: | Motion passed |

E.) EMPLOYEE YEARLY BONUS- employees were paid for Thanksgiving even though the handbook is still being revised and has not been voted on per Jane – that will act as their yearly bonus.

MOTION TO APPROVE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY PAY IN LIEU OF THE REGULAR YEARLY BONUS IN 2020

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| Moved: | Jane Buraglio |
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| Seconded: | Jane Buraglio |
| Ayes: | Mandy Huff, Trevor Karr, Melissa Taylor, Carl Spath, Jane Buraglio |
| Nays: | |
| Abstained: | |
| Action Taken: | Motion passed |

11. CLOSED SESSION

MOTION TO ENTER CLOSED SESSION

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Moved: | Melissa Taylor |
| Seconded: | Carl Spath |
| Ayes: | Mandy Huff, Trevor Karr, Carl Spath, Jane Buraglio, Melissa Taylor |
| Nays: | |
| Abstained: | |
| Action Taken: | CLOSED SESSION ENTERED |

A.) DISCUSS UPCOMING LITIGATION –

B.) REVIEW OF CLOSED SESSION MINUTES- TABLED

12. RETURN FROM CLOSED SESSION

MOTION TO EXIT CLOSED SESSION

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|---------------|--|
| Moved: | Melissa Taylor |
| Seconded: | Carl Spath |
| Ayes: | Mandy Huff, Trevor Karr, Carl Spath, Jane Buraglio, Melissa Taylor |
| Nays: | |
| Abstained: | |
| Action Taken: | CLOSED SESSION EXITED |

A.) REVIEW LITIGATION COST

B.) RELEASE OF CLOSED SESSION MINUTES – Tabled

13. ADJOURN MEETING

| | |
|--------|----------------|
| Moved: | Melissa Taylor |
|--------|----------------|

December 15, 2020

Village of Wapella
Clerk: A Sprague

Please submit this document as part of the **Public Comments**, since in person presentation is not available for this meeting.

Also please read this out loud **so All Board** members and officials can hear my comments.

Please attach this statement in the minutes for further followup , correction of miss doings and record of the allegations for further reference.

As I continue to send FOIA requests for important items I see that nothing changes .And they are not done in an orderly, readable' printable manor. I asked for email verification of receipt and get no response via email. She doesn't do computer work by her own statement years ago. Employees records as requested were not completely provided last FOIA. I will deal with this to the Attorney General if needed.

No one signs off still on the employees time cards or even questions the worklogs. No board member has any idea of the wrongness taking place or even cares. When both employees sign in before their start time of 6 AM (5:50 10 min claimed) and they add those early minutes to the total hours. So wrong and why does the Treasurer not follow the rules either and pay from the start time. All 3 of those people are frauding this town. Also the work logs are basically a duplicate of one another on most days. Why are 2 people

doing most jobs together. (Such as picking up material, water meter reads, ditch assessment). If not enough work send them home.

Is Amazon Prime still being paid by monthly direct withdrawal as I discovered a few months ago and brought to the Board's attention? Why has no one taken issue with this or with whoever is responsible for this in the first place? Another fraud miss use of taxpayer \$. How many board members, families or employees are benefitting from this illegal perk?

Does anybody know when employees take off early or do not even come to work? Nothing shows as allowed on the time cards? Sometimes OT is charged for that week without 40 hrs. being worked. **NO ONE IS ACCOUNTABLE!!!**

Why does the lawyer come to meetings and does nothing to enforce ordinance, rules or laws?!! He should not be at meetings. A total waste of taxpayer money.

Hopefully new people will be stepping up and do the right thing for the residents of this town The taxpayers need represented.

Would anyone like to explain any of these wrong doings? Or should one just assume its ok to not do what you were elected to do, not be Responsible or be legal ?

Sharon Riddle
Sharon Riddle

Public comments:

Are all the water meters and lids installed? The guys have been working on these meters going on 3 years! Will the village be on remote reads this winter? If not, what have the employees been doing? The village has no reason to estimate bills. The village even hired some meters installed and the guys are still not done.

Why has it taken the employee over 5 weeks to pick up the leaves? All the leaves are still not picked up. What is taking so long?

When the guys are picking up leaves there is no reason for the backhoe to follow the white truck back to the shed after every load. It is a waste of time and fuel. They could dump one big plie and push it into the pit at the end of the day.

When was the last time culverts and drains were cleaned out? I have driven around town and all the culverts and drains are full of leaves. They have not been cleaned in the last 3-4 years.

The guys should not be taking days off work or leave early when the village has so much work that is not done. These guys need to work every day! Both employees are taking the same days off. That leaves the village with no maintenance workers on duty. Leaving at 1 or 2 in the afternoon is not what the handbook says.

Did anyone ever thank Nelson Thorp for doing the guys work at the park? We have paid employees, residents should not have to trim trees, mow village property and weed eat.

When is the village board going to enforce the rules in the employee handbook? The village employees should not be dictating to the board what time they work and when they want to work. The handbook clearly says 8-5. The handbook also says the work week is from Sunday to Saturday. When did the board change the work week to Friday to Thursday and their hours from 6-2? I come to every meeting and the hours worked and the work week was never changed or approved by the board.

When was the last time the village did a random drug test? The employee handbook says every employee gets a drug test when hired and then random drug test every year. Are drug test being done, follow the rules. IDOT requires all CDL license holders to get drug tested and carry a medical card. Are these papers on file in the village hall? It is a Federal Law, can these documents be FOIA? The village is responsible if the guys get into an accident and no medical card or drug test is on file, it is a liability to the village.

If the village is only getting 1 FOIA a month what is the FOIA Officer doing at the hall 5 days a week? She should not be organizing or moving records around. The clerk is the keeper of the records, not Max.

Not one decoration was put up in the park for Christmas. They only put up half of the wreaths.

