

Village of Wapella Board Meeting

Wednesday, November 16th, 2022

Village Hall – 7:00 pm

Meeting called to order by Village President Dennis Klatt.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present:

Dennis Klatt

Sean Holland

Lauren Johnson

Jane Buraglio

Mark Miller

Steve Marht – Attorney

Robin Morrow – Clerk

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by Jane Buraglio to approve the minutes from 10/19/22, meeting. Second by Mark Miller. All voting yes.

Bills:

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

Department Reports:

STREETS: Jane Buraglio

Jane gave everyone descriptions on the bills list of two major repairs. The dump truck power steering gearbox failed. The Village can't afford to have it out of commission. The new gearbox has been installed at the shop today. A hard-to-reach hydraulic hose ruptured on the backhoe during brush and leaf pick up. It was repaired onsite during the 1000-hr service checkup. The bill lists everything that was done and breaks out the cost of all the materials used.

There has been quite a bit of work done in cold storage. The shelving has been rearranged and moved. So much material and parts were in such disarray that could not tell what was even there. Currently in the process of moving the air compressor to the shop area out of the freezing corner it is in now. A light will be installed outside over the office door.

Just for information – Jane received an IDOT permit at the beginning of the month stating that a wheel loader weighing 190,000 lbs was being allowed to turn left on N Third. That same vehicle was told to turn right on Washington Street in Clinton and then left on N Jackson supposedly to avoid the viaduct on 51. She parks by that street at the courthouse. It was too huge to turn on such a narrow street and the driver parked in the Christian Church lot. It had to be escorted out of town to 54 and then told to go through the country. She didn't know where it went in Wapella, but she did know that N Third is not a truck route. Jane voiced a complaint.

Jane received an email from IDOT stating their staff has been completing Document Reviews for County and Road Districts. They stated that "*problems created by the interim move to another office and a staff vacancy have created the difficult chore of completing Reviews in a*

timely manner.” So now they have additional staff and are going to resume the Reviews. These reviews are the Motor Fuel Audits. Jane had prepared and sat through many of these and assumed they were being done. Not the case.

The difficult chore they have given municipalities is they want MFT records from 2011 to 2021, Bank Statements, reconciliation reports, a list of all the transactions using MFT funds, and copies of all the invoices from this period. Jane stated that this is no easy task since nothing in this hall goes back that far. She went through boxes in the loft to find these documents and finally resorted to her own copies from FOIA requests. When all is compiled, she will be shipping a box to Paris. She brought her notebook to give everyone an idea of the enormous task and she is not quite done yet.

DUMPSTERS & ROLL OFF

Jane provided pictures to the board of what the men have been faced with in the past month. She stated that most of this comes from a local contractor remodeling a house on Thomas Court. A local landlord cleaned out a rental and dumped it on us. Another percentage is coming from out of town. We are on the eighth free roll off from our contract. She is ready to get it hauled off. Her question to the board is, “Do we want to keep a roll off on our site?” The cost is \$200 for the roll off. In addition, she expects there is a cost for the tonnage of the contents. If the answer is no, we will end up hauling away what is left on the ground and the overflow in the dumpsters. Another solution is to close the gates, and no one dumps on off hours. She asked for suggestions. Mark and Lauren both agreed that closing the gates is the best solution and only be open during set hours. Dennis suggested the board would revisit the need for a roll off down the road. Lauren asked if this was something that might need to go on the water bills letting everyone know the hours for dumping.

Dennis brought a question up about trains filling up at the elevator during harvest. At one point they had all four tracks blocked and unpassable. Steve stated that he thought they could block railroad crossing for up to 20 minutes or so. Everyone expressed concerns about all four crossings being blocked at the same time and if an emergency developed it would take too long to go all the way to Carl Springs just to get into town. Steve stated that there are regulations, just not certain who enforces them.

HEALTH & SAFETY: Lauren Johnson

Nothing to report

WATER: Sean Holland

Nothing to report

ZONING: Mark Miller

Issued 1 permit for a storage shed

FINANCE: Jane/Pat

Account Balances:

as of October 31, 2022

General Fund Checking	\$149,536.81
Park CD (Heartland)	\$ 41,564.04
Park CD (DeWitt Savings)	\$ 54,679.87
Police CD (DeWitt Savings)	\$ 18,402.95
Water Fund Checking	\$ 73,561.04
Motor Fuel Checking	\$106,470.73
Water Project Fund Checking	\$109,116.72
Total:	\$553,332.16

WATER OPERATOR: Steve

Nothing to report

CLERK: Robin Morrow

Nothing to report

FOIA OFFICER: Robin Morrow

Nothing to report

WEBSITE: Jane Buraglio

Current and up to date

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Dale Karr – doesn't think it is right that a resident of Walnut Circle has a moveable shed that sits on city property and there has been discussion of leasing the property. Feels everyone should be treated equally.

New Business for discussion, approval, and possible vote:

Information provided by Rodger Sprague concerning TARP funds, DeWitt County Road and Bridge Committee and plans for upgrading a portion of Thorps Road maintained by the Village of Wapella.

Thorps Road from 51 to the elevator at Ten Mile has been taking a beating from the Heavy truck traffic. This stretch of road is not a truck route in Wapella and the village has to maintain this road. Jane sent Rodger some information on TARP Funds becoming available to help upgrade and designate a truck route. He has been in conversation with Mark Mathon and the DeWitt County Road and Bridge Committee. Jane invited Rodger to the meeting to explain what this means for the village and what we can do to fund maintaining this road.

Jane introduced Rodger to explain TARP funds and plans for upgrading a portion of Thorps Road. Rodger explained how the TARP (Truck Access Road Program) fund works and presented the board with figures. There are certain standards and state guidelines for this fund. He mentioned that Mark Mathon started running the figures and to meet the state guidelines it would cost approximately \$2M. He stated that 83% would be Township and 17% would be the Village. He explained the TARP money would only be \$256,400. Jane Buraglio asked what options the village would have. Rodger stated there would be three options. Option 1 he suggested would be to forget about the TARP fund due to the amount of money the village would have cover, Option 2 would be to do a cement stabilization like the windmill companies

do at an estimated cost of approximately \$460,000, Option 3 would be to do a coal mix overlay which a portion of this road already has done a few years ago by the county. The approximate cost for option 3 would be \$839,000. Rodger also stated that Mark was at a county meeting this same night and was going to ask if the county would be willing to help with some of these repair costs as they have helped in the past. Jane asked if the elevator could kick in a share and Rodger said yes if they were willing. Jane asked about any leverage to get the elevator to participate. She thought maybe a weight limit could be established, but Rodger stated that they could not be denied access to the road. Dennis asked if this road repair is a requirement of which Rodger answered "No". Jane thanked Rodger for the information and stated that he had given the board a lot to think about. Mark asked if there was a ballpark of street work that needs to be done next year and Rodger said approximately 25% because so much was done this year. Steve asked Rodger if he had talked to the Township at all and he stated that they are aware of the situation as the Road Commissioner has a concern about doing the overlay. Dennis asked when this would have to be done and Rodger stated that he would like to have something done before the next harvest. Everyone thanked Rodger for his time and information.

Discussion and possible approval of Permit Submittal for the Frontier North Fiber Optic Installation in Village ROWs – Pending Frontier representative present at the meeting.

Jane stated that she has requested a representative attend a meeting twice. This work would entail a lot of trenching/digging etc. throughout the town. They just sent a paper to be signed. Village requires a license/permit/certificate of insurance. Tabled as no representative from Frontier was present.

Discussion and possible approval to continue the Terminix service at the Village Hall and Community Center.

We received our bills after the due date of 11.7.2022 because they were addressed to the community center and to the village hall street addresses. I called to try to get the PO Box added to the address. I wanted to ask the board if we want to pay the full year or pay by the month. The full year on each bill says \$700.20, but the customer service rep on the phone said that was not correct. She was seeing a different total of \$724. Then she said the rate was due to change shortly. I asked why we would pay \$700.20 when 12 times \$55 was \$660. She couldn't answer that question. Terminix came again yesterday. So, there will be another month charge coming. If we decide to keep Terminix, I recommend that we pay by the month.

Jane received two bills from Terminix. She met with the Terminix technician and stated that the contract with Terminix had expired and suggested going monthly rather than signing a new contract as paying \$55/monthly was lower than the annual amount. Jane Buraglio made a motion to pay the two bills and then go month to month rather than entering into another contract agreement with Terminix. Second by Lauren Johnson. All voting yes.

Discussion and possible approval of Amending Title XIII of Wapella Municipal Code of Ordinances Regarding General Offenses.

Next month we will be looking at the draft ordinances for Title III "Administration and Title V "Public Works". Jane wanted the board to know that Erin Monforti and Steve have been making good progress in review of the Codes and the recommendation from American Legal Publishing. Board reviewed and discussed.

During the discussion, Steve Mahrt stated, "This should have been done four years ago and this is just the first of several updates to be done." Jane pointed out a particular ordinance regarding leaf and branches in the roads. Mark mentioned another that addressed dogs. Jane and Mark both agree that this was well done.

Motion made by Mark Miller to approve Amending Title XIII of Wapella Municipal Code of Ordinances Regarding General Offenses. Second by Sean Holland. All voting yes.

Mark asked about once all of this is done, will there be a new book. Steve said it would all be sent to American Legal Publishing.

Discussion and possible approval of the Compliance of Ordinance Violation (Case #22 OV 15).
Based on the photo presented to the board Jane pointed out that it does appear that the offender has complied. Sean agreed. It appears obvious that work has been done. Steve said he would file a motion to dismiss the case.

Discussion and possible approval to purchase a Portable Analyzer Nitrification Kit to use for mandatory reporting to the EPA not to exceed \$7000.

This is a device that tests our drinking water. Motion made by Sean Holland to purchase a Portable Analyzer Nitrification Kit to use for mandatory reporting to the EPA not to exceed \$7000. Second by Lauren Johnson. All voting yes.

Discussion and possible approval of Ordinance Amending Section 51.01 of Wapella Code of Ordinances – Annual Water Rate Increases.

Sean stated we are behind on water rate increases therefore he feels the ordinance needs amending. Mark asked about midyear change to be in line with fiscal year. This is an annual increase. Motion made by Sean Holland to approve Ordinance Amending Section 51.01 of Wapella Code of Ordinances – Annual Water Rate Increases. Second by Jane Buraglio. All voting yes.

Discussion and possible approval of an Ordinance Levying a Tax on the Property Subject to Taxation within the Village of Wapella for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023.

Motion made by Jane Buraglio for the approval of an Ordinance Levying a Tax on the Property Subject to Taxation within the Village of Wapella for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023. Second by Sean Holland. All voting yes.

Update on Park

Lauren explained that Jane met with a representative from Risk Management. Analysis was presented to the board for review of findings/recommendations. Dennis stated he would like to see some plans to get upgrades to the park by Spring even if we need to reach out to other contractors. Jane mentioned there is a light that needs work and suggested contacting Kelly Kinder. Mark mentioned he had received feedback about the park. He wanted to share that a resident had to do rehab therapy and walked the park with their therapist and was very complimentary of the looks of the park.

Dennis states that we need to go into closed session. Jane recused herself. Lauren Johnson made a motion to go into closed session to discuss status for pending litigation. Second by Sean Holland. All voting yes.

Entered closed session at 8:25pm.

Return from Closed Session at 8:35pm.

Roll Call

Present:

Dennis Klatt

Sean Holland

Lauren Johnson

Jane Buraglio

Mark Miller

Steve Marht – Attorney

Robin Morrow – Clerk

Motion made to adjourn the meeting by Mark Miller at 8:38pm. Second by Sean Holland. All voting yes.

Respectfully submitted by:
Robin Morrow, Village Clerk