

VILLAGE OF OAKWOOD

Regular Meeting Minutes – March 20, 2023

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Wright called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

CATHI FRITZ	LINDSEY LIGHT	BOB PARR	DOIT ROBERTS	ROBERT WRIGHT
Present	Present	Present	Present	Present

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Robert Wright motioned to approve January 16, 2023, meeting minutes.

Bob Parr seconded.

	CATHI FRITZ	LINDSEY LIGHT	BOB PARR	DOIT ROBERTS	ROBERT WRIGHT
January 16, 2023	X	Abstained	X	X	X

Motion Carried

Robert Wright motioned to approve the following minutes.

Lindsey Light seconded.

	CATHI FRITZ	LINDSEY LIGHT	BOB PARR	DOIT ROBERTS	ROBERT WRIGHT
February 13, 2023	Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved	Approved
February 20, 2023					
March 4, 2023					

DEPARTMENT STATUS AND COUNSEL RESPONSE

VILLAGE HALL

- Mayor Wright stated the trustee laptops are available for pickup.
- The village values are now printed and displayed on the wall.
- The website has been developed, and they are currently working on different available applications. At the next study session, it should be up and ready for board review.

PUBLIC WORKS

- Village Hall Concrete – the project started, and a water leak was discovered.
- Village Park Restrooms – the updated plans were presented to the board along with the plans drawn up showing all the layouts of utilities, etc., located for the park. The village did not have any paperwork that indicated where everything is located, and this will be helpful with future projects.
- Park Sewer Project – has not been started yet. If not initiated by the first of the month, another contractor must be contacted.
- Southern Tire Mart – they have agreed to pay the permit fee. An April 3rd start date has been set.
- The Box – the project expansion is scheduled to start in two weeks.
- Tullies – nothing has been provided as an update.
- Sidewalk Repairs – A date has been set to meet the contractors. All bids will be due April 12, and the opening will be April 14.
- Sidewalk to Park – In a few weeks, the preliminary drawings will be available to present to the board. B. Parr recommends talking with homeowners regarding the plan.
- Village Growth Plan – C. Fritz reported several residents who are willing to be part of the planning process have reached out. She hopes to have a list by the next study session. This would not start until the fall, but a committee must be formed to move forward.
- Scott Street Bridge – Drawings need to be drawn up then it will be ready to go out for bid.

POLICE

- Digital Signs – have been installed. Data shows that it is slowing traffic down.
- SRO – An agreement has been presented to the school board, and they met to review the details. If approved, a job description will need to be developed, and the process of looking for someone will start.
- Police Vehicle – has been ordered and is being equipped. They are waiting for the camera system and radio connections to be installed. The other patrol units have been unequipped and are ready for trade-in.

SUBJECTS REQUIRING ACTION/DISCUSSION BY THE BOARD

Good Energy Electrical Aggregation Renewal

At the March 4, 2023 study session, Jared McMorris from Good Energy presented to the board a renewal agreement with increased administration fee and elimination of village fee on the program. Currently, the village charges an administration fee (tax) of \$0.002 per kilowatt-hour on the program. This rate was \$0.001 when the program began and increased to \$0.002 3 years ago at the start of the current contract. Good Energy currently charges \$0.00075 per kilowatt-hour and requests \$0.001 per kilowatt-hour in the new agreement to cover their program administration.

With the new contract, Oakwood consumers would pay \$0.93 per month to Good Energy. Over the past ten years of the program, the average Oakwood consumer enrolled in the plan has saved \$1025, which is \$8.54 per month.

Bob Parr motioned to approve the renewal with Good Energy.

Lindsey Light seconded.

	CATHI FRITZ	LINDSEY LIGHT	BOB PARR	DOIT ROBERTS	ROBERT WRIGHT
YES	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS					
ABSENT					

Motion Carried

Lindsey Light motioned to approve eliminating the village fee on the renewal with Good Energy.

Bob Parr seconded.

	CATHI FRITZ	LINDSEY LIGHT	BOB PARR	DOIT ROBERTS	ROBERT WRIGHT
YES	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS					
ABSENT					

Motion Carried

New Police Vehicle Electronics

A quote for six new Motorola body cameras and accessories was provided to the board for approval. In the near future, all officers will be mandated to wear one. This would allow one backup and all patrol to have one if on duty at once. This also allows easier uploading to the evidence library and access to needed recording sections for investigation purposes.

Robert Wright motioned for the purchase of the needed cameras not to exceed \$14,000.

Lindsey Light seconded.

	CATHI FRITZ	LINDSEY LIGHT	BOB PARR	DOIT ROBERTS	ROBERT WRIGHT
YES	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS					
ABSENT					

Motion Carried

106 S. Scott Street Purchase Contract

Mayor Wright updated the board that the inspection on 106 S. Scott Street returned good and motioned to approve the proposed agreement for \$25,000.

Doit Roberts seconded.

	CATHI FRITZ	LINDSEY LIGHT	BOB PARR	DOIT ROBERTS	ROBERT WRIGHT
YES	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS					
ABSENT					

Motion Carried

4th of July Fireworks Down payment

Mayor Wright updated the board on the formed committee, and plans are underway for the 4th of July celebrations. To have fireworks, a down payment of 25% to 50% must now be paid to reserve. The proposed bid came in at \$15,231.77. The committee also plans to have food trucks, bands, and other things to do along with the parade. The day of the celebration is still being discussed and will be announced after the committee's next meeting.

Robert Wright motioned to make the down payment of 50% for the 4th of July fireworks.

Bob Parr seconded.

	CATHI FRITZ	LINDSEY LIGHT	BOB PARR	DOIT ROBERTS	ROBERT WRIGHT
YES	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS					
ABSENT					

Motion Carried

Village Budget 2023-2024

Mayor Wright thanked Lindsey Light for all her work on streamlining the budget process and working with all the department heads to make it easier to understand and view each month. There was a discussion with each department heads on their budget portions. There needs to be more discussion and minor adjustments to what was presented to the board. But now, the public viewing of the proposed budget can be put on the required 30-day display.

Lindsey Light motioned to approve the budget presented to be put on public display for the 30 days that are required.

Bob Parr seconded.

	CATHI FRITZ	LINDSEY LIGHT	BOB PARR	DOIT ROBERTS	ROBERT WRIGHT
YES	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS					
ABSENT					

Motion Carried

Solar Panel Discussion

Jim Boen asked if the board would be interested in receiving information on the possibility of solar panels for the village and the savings with the tax credits and grants currently being offered. He stated this would help in budgeting for the cost of electricity in the long term and save a significant amount for the village. This proposal would provide a total cost and the payback the town would receive. The mayor asked if there was a cost for this process, and Jim stated there would be no cost for the proposal. It was recommended to look into the public works building and the village park as the first two options.

Bob Parr motioned for the proposal to install solar panels for the village to be created and presented later.

Robert Wright seconded.

	CATHI FRITZ	LINDSEY LIGHT	BOB PARR	DOIT ROBERTS	ROBERT WRIGHT
YES	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS					
ABSENT					

Motion Carried

At 9:24 pm, Robert Wright motioned to go into executive session.

Lindsey Light seconded.

	CATHI FRITZ	LINDSEY LIGHT	BOB PARR	DOIT ROBERTS	ROBERT WRIGHT
YES	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS					
ABSENT					

Motion Carried

At 9:31 pm, the board came back into regular session.

PBS/Superior Services Contract/WinTrust LockBox Approval

Caroline Darr presented to the board a proposal to use Paramedic Billing Services for all department billing. She explained that they provided online billing and credit card payments. The billing service collects a percentage of what is collected and would save the department \$13,000/yr. She anticipates this would provide additional revenue in addition to extra savings. This would be the first step in her plan of becoming a full-time ambulance service. Paramedic Billing also has a team of liaisons for the billing process, insurance process, and a more aggressive approach to collecting fees.

Part of this process would require the board to approve the service of Lock Box provided by WinTrust Bank. Payments will be mailed to a PO Box set up to receive the payments. WinTrust Bank will retrieve these payments, process them and deposit them into the department's bank account in Oakwood. Paramedic Billing will only have "view only" access to the Lock Box to apply the payments to the funds. The department will have "full" access to this Lock Box. Paramedic Billing pays for "all" fees for the Lock Box as this system is used.

WinTrust Bank requires board approval to open this Lock Box. They also need a signed copy of the minutes, where the board approved the opening of this lock box before they will proceed. This covers the liability for both parties.

Robert Wright motioned to approve the contract with Paramedic Billing Services and the agreement with Lock Box that supports the HIPPA operational contract that provides them with the information needed to process orders and access the Lock Box account.

Robert Wright seconded.

	CATHI FRITZ	LINDSEY LIGHT	BOB PARR	DOIT ROBERTS	ROBERT WRIGHT
YES	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS					
ABSENT					

Motion Carried

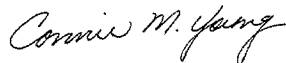
At 9:45 pm, Robert Wright motioned to adjourn

Lindsey Light seconded.

	CATHI FRITZ	LINDSEY LIGHT	BOB PARR	DOIT ROBERTS	ROBERT WRIGHT
YES	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS					
ABSENT					

Motion Carried

Submitted by,



Connie Young, Clerk

Approved 4/17/23