

VILLAGE OF OAKWOOD

Regular Board Meeting Minutes – November 15, 2021

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ROLL CALL	PRESENT	ABSENT	OTHERS PRESENT
Jason Elliott		X	Caroline Darr – Int. EMS Coordinator
Cathi Fritz	X		Julie Leverenz – Office Manager
Bob Parr	X		Dustin Henderson – Supt. Of Public Works
Doit Roberts	X		Ron Soderstrom – Police Chief
Ferrell Stroh	X		
Robert Wright	X		

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Mayor McArty asked for a motion to approve the October 13, 2021 study session and executive session minutes and October 18, 2021, regular and executive meeting minutes.

Ferrell Stroh made a motion to approve the October 13, 2021 study session and executive minutes and October 18, 2021, regular and executive minutes with a second from Bob Parr.

	Jason Elliott	Cathi Fritz	Bob Parr	Doit Roberts	Ferrell Stroh	Robert Wright
Yes		X	X	X	X	X
Nays						
Absent	X					

Motion Carried

APPROVAL OF BILLS

GENERAL FUND	\$ 36,698.69	POLICE	\$ 12,092.14
ROADS/BRIDGES	\$ 249.60	EMERGENCY RESCUE	\$ 6,356.30
TIF 2	\$ 23,672.35	NON-HOME RULE	\$ 53,141.53

Mayor McArty asked for a motion to approve the monthly bills.

Farrell Stroh made a motion to approve the monthly bills, seconded by Doit Roberts.

	Jason Elliott	Cathi Fritz	Bob Parr	Doit Roberts	Ferrell Stroh	Robert Wright
Yes		X	X	X	X	X
Nays						
Absent	X					

Motion Carried

VILLAGE HALL REPORT

Julie Leverenz stated the village is having another Christmas lighting contest for residents. They will also not be having a visit from Santa again this year due to COVID.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Dustin Henderson provided an update on the vehicles. The plows are working and ready for snow removal. The white Ford bed is not in good shape, and he does not recommend spending any money fixing it due to the vehicle's status. R. Wright asked if the plan was to replace the truck. Mayor McArty stated it was not in this year's budget, but it can be put in next year's budget.

She also asked if the truck could get through this season, and Dustin stated his department would be able to make it through this season.

Dustin reported that the dump truck needs new tires. He provided the board with two estimates.

Robert Wright made a motion to approve the Public Works Department to purchase tires for the dump truck not to exceed \$1,150.00, seconded by Bob Parr.

	Jason Elliott	Cathi Fritz	Bob Parr	Doit Roberts	Ferrell Stroh	Robert Wright
Yes		X	X	X	X	X
Nays						
Absent	X					

Motion Carried

POLICE REPORT

Ron Soderstrom reported the department issued eight ordinance complaints and took 5 to Municipal court. Twenty-six vehicles were stopped with 15 citations and 11 warnings for various violations. There were five arrests for driving with a suspended license. There was also additional meth and some brown heroin that was confiscated.

Next month, he hopes to have a draft of a trespassing ordinance for the board to consider. Currently, the village does not have one. The department was called for a trespassing incident, which is when it came to his attention.

The department ran out of 2021 golf cart stickers and has ordered 2022 & 2023 golf cart stickers.

EMERGENCY RESCUE REPORT

Caroline Darr provided a report on the building and equipment. Dustin was able to help find a smell in the building. It was coming from the drains in the bay that go to the oil separator. Preventative maintenance has been put into place to ensure water runs through the drains at least once a month. There was a discussion of having the covers replaced over the drains. The crew has been working on power washing the building as weather and time permits.

The ALS field upgrade is fully operational.

The department has applied for the American Rescue Act Phase 4 funds. These funds are for Medicare/Medicaid revenue lost during COVID. The IDPH has opened applications for the EMS Assistance Grant. This grant provides for the organization, development, and improvement of Emergency Medical Services systems. The plan is to apply, but currently, she is in the information-gathering phase.

A new van driver was hired, Mike Bromely. He is a retired guard from the Danville Prison. An ex-Air Force Fire Fighter and military police.

Caroline also reported the VA payments have continued to submit payments.

Robert Wright made a motion to allow the emergency rescue department to have the drain covers replaced not to exceed \$750, seconded by Doit Roberts.

	Jason Elliott	Cathi Fritz	Bob Parr	Doit Roberts	Ferrell Stroh	Robert Wright
Yes		X	X	X	X	X
Nays						
Absent	X					

Motion Carried

PILOT/TIRE MART

Tom Overmeyer was in attendance to review the updated plans regarding the Tire Mart-Pilot project. After much back and forth emails and discussions, the following is what was agreed upon within the agreement:

Pilot will enhance the entire property west and north of their operations so it will be maintained & mowed according to the village standards. The plans created by Kimley-Horn, Pilot's architectural and engineering firm, were reviewed and provided additional details. The plans include a 6' shadow box fence to mimic the fence located on the south of the speedway property. The fence will be set to the north of the Southern Tire Mart facility and run west to 10' of the property line. The fence will then run south, parallel to the west property line approximately 10' inside the property line, to around 250' from 1750 N. Road. Robert Wright submitted an aerial view of the fence location for reference. Tom Overmeyer will submit to Kimley-Horn to include in the plans along with the fence specifics. Kimley-Horn will update the plans and submit a new copy to the village for permit approval.

Robert Wright made a motion to approve the Pilot/Tire Mart building plans contingent on installing a 6' shadowbox fence, seconded by Farrell Stroh.

	Jason Elliott	Cathi Fritz	Bob Parr	Doit Roberts	Ferrell Stroh	Robert Wright
Yes		X	X	X	X	X
Nays						
Absent	X					

Motion Carried

OFFICE FEE INCREASES

Mayor McArty provided the board with a list of fee increase requests to start in 2022. Julie checked around to other municipalities as to what they charge. The following recommendations were presented:

	CURRENT FEE	PROPOSED FEE
Garbage Haulers	\$25.00	\$200.00
Liquor License Application	\$10.00	\$200.00
Gaming Terminal Fee	It will be \$250 per terminal once signed into legislation	
Commercial Permit Fee	\$0.00	% of the project or square footage
Solicitor Fee	\$10.00	\$25.00
New Business Application Fee	\$0.00	\$100.00

C. Fritz asked why such a significant increase in fees. Julie stated most municipalities charge more than what we are currently charging, and the cost of the processing is not being covered. D. Roberts voiced concerns regarding the increase in the garbage getting pushed onto the village residents. Julie stated that each year each company must show their fees. Julie also stated that increasing this fee also helps eliminate fly-by-night haulers that the village has had to deal with in the past.

C. Fritz questioned why the village would want to charge a new business fee, which doesn't encourage new development. She also asked if the village would ask for a commercial permit fee. Julie stated there are engineer costs that need to be covered. F. Stroh stated this would not make or break the individual and support new businesses. R. Wright stated the board could always waive a fee if requested.

R. Wright recommended establishing the commercial fee the same as St. Joe of a minimum of \$300 and at a rate (\$1.50 per \$1,000 of proposed value). For example, a \$1,000,000 new business development would require a new business permit fee of \$1500. This is 0.15% of the overall project and would be used to cover costs to review of building plans, setbacks, utilities, effects on village roads and assets, village residents, etc.

Bob Parr made a motion to accept the fee increase requests except for the new business application fee to remain at \$0, and the commercial fee to be the same as St. Joe, seconded by F. Stroh.

	Jason Elliott	Cathi Fritz	Bob Parr	Doit Roberts	Ferrell Stroh	Robert Wright
Yes			X		X	X
Nays		X		X		
Absent	X					

Motion Carried

BUILDING ACCESS

B. Parr voiced an issue with trustees not having access to the village hall common area and wondered how others felt. C. Fritz stated not having access to the bathrooms is an issue, and D. Roberts voiced the same. F. Stroh stated he doesn't care, but as a trustee, he has needed access to the key box in the past, and now there is no access. The way the office is set up, personnel files are locked in an individual office, and access to this office is not needed but having access to the key box and restrooms would be nice.

Bob Parr made a motion to issue village board trustees keys to the common area of the village hall, seconded by Ferrell Stroh.

	Jason Elliott	Cathi Fritz	Bob Parr	Doit Roberts	Ferrell Stroh	Robert Wright
Yes		X	X	X	X	
Nays						X
Absent	X					

Motion Carried

PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Fritz reported that the park restrooms are not handicap accessible, and she doesn't want to see the village put money into getting the floors finished as what is being done in the main area of the pavilion. She feels looking into the option of having the bathrooms expanded or additional restrooms built could be an option. She suggested possibly moving the restroom walls back into the storage area would provide additional stalls and an additional sink.

B. Wright stated this would require research into the current sewage and electrical situation at the park pavilion. Dustin stated he and Steve have concerns with an expansion with the roof pitch and are not sure current systems wouldn't support the additional stalls. B. Wright said he would like to get several bids and make sure the public works department is in the process of developing an RFP. Cathy stated there might be a cost for a plan to be developed, and she will check to see how much that could cost.

Mayor McArty asked for a motion to go into executive session.

Robert Wright made a motion at 7:52 pm to go into executive session, seconded by Cathy Fritz.

	Jason Elliott	Cathi Fritz	Bob Parr	Doit Roberts	Ferrell Stroh	Robert Wright
Yes		X	X	X	X	X
Nays						
Absent	X					

Motion Carried

Board came back into the regular session at 8:18 pm.

TIF I

Mayor McArty stated a remaining balance of approximately \$229,000 of TIF I funds will expire at the end of the year that must be designated by the end of the year. Several projects were presented to the attorney that was not approved as TIF I eligible. Roads and sidewalks within the TIF I district are covered.

Bob Parr made a motion to establish the remaining TIF I funds to be designated for roads and sidewalks, seconded by Ferrell Stroh.

	Jason Elliott	Cathi Fritz	Bob Parr	Doit Roberts	Ferrell Stroh	Robert Wright
Yes		X	X	X	X	X
Nays						
Absent	X					

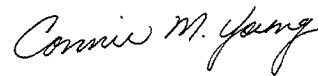
Motion Carried

Mayor McArty asked for a motion to adjourn.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:20 pm, Robert Wright made a motion to adjourn with a second from Cathi Fritz.

Respectfully submitted,



Connie M. Young, Clerk

Approved 12/20/21