

VILLAGE OF OAKWOOD

Regular Board Meeting Minutes – October 18, 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		Lori Fields – EMS Billing
Bob Parr	X		Julie Leverenz – Office Manager
Doit Roberts	X		Janet Hambright – Treasurer
Ferrell Stroh	X		Steve Wendell/Dustin Henderson – Supt. Of Public Works
Robert Wright	X		Ron Soderstrom – Police Chief

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Mayor McArty asked for a motion to approve the September 7 Study Session and Executive Session minutes.

Ferrell Stroh made a motion to approve the September 7, 2021 study session and executive minutes with a second from Robert Wright.

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

Motion Carried

Mayor McArty asked for a motion to approve the September 13th Regular meeting minutes. Robert Wright stated there were a few misspellings and provided these to the clerk.

Robert Wright made a motion to approve September 13, 2021, regular board meeting minutes with the updates with a second from Cathi Fritz.

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

Motion Carried

Mayor McArty asked for a motion to approve the September 29th study session minutes.

Bob Parr made a motion to approve the September 29, 2021 study session minutes with a second from Robert Wright.

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

Motion Carried

APPROVAL OF BILLS

GENERAL FUND	\$ 61,763.23	POLICE	\$ 16,141.37
ROADS/BRIDGES	\$ 500.00	EMERGENCY RESCUE	\$ 39,604.07

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

GUESTS

Tammy Helka, the Oakwood Library Director, was the one who coordinated the farmer's market for 2021. She provided to the board a check to cover the cost of electricity that was utilized. The market had a total of 27 vendors, with around 15 vendors that were consistent. Once school started back in August, there was a drop in vendors.

VILLAGE HALL REPORT

Julie Leverenz stated there was nothing to report.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Steve Wendell reported sidewalk project has started. He informed the board the dump truck would need new tires before winter. The department plans on getting the streets swept after the leaves fall, which will help get the rock off the roads. Need tires for dump trucks before winter.

There was a discussion on putting a flatbed on the white ford truck. Other department vehicles were also discussed and with concerns on conditions and age of the vehicles. Steve stated it would be nice to have both trucks equipped with a snowplow and salt to help save time when clearing roads. Robert Wright asked that the department come back with a report on each vehicle and to come up with a plan on needs for the department as he doesn't want to see the village put money into something that is not worth keeping.

POLICE REPORT

Ron Soderstrom reported the Tahoe is now in service and that the F150 is currently getting decals put on. He is still waiting for Supreme Communications to get the information needed for the body cameras and computer systems. He is hoping to have them come to a board meeting to do a demo on the equipment.

It was reported that the department has been in contact with IDOT and installing yellow caution lights in school zone areas on the main road.

R. Soderstrom was asked how the agreement has been doing with the additional township calls. He reported that they have been able to issue a few tickets for speeders going 75+ through the school zone out by the high school and on Bronson Road. Next month he stated he would try to break down the warnings and citations to show the activity on the township side.

EMERGENCY RESCUE REPORT

Caroline Darr reported the department had been approved for the ILS/ALS Field upgrade. Supplies have been ordered, and the units should be ready to run soon. Robert Wright asked about how inventory is accounted for on the units. Caroline stated all narcotics are controlled in a locked box. Anything used is signed off by the nurse and refilled through the hospital pharmacy. The unit also writes down all items used that helps with the accountability of the inventory on each unit.

Cathi Fritz asked about the plan for the replacement of units. Caroline stated she is anticipating needing to replace one in 2-3 years.

Lori Fields reported the VA has continued to submit money for the outstanding balance, and she feels they are starting to catch up with their processing. There was a discussion on the quality control process before getting to billing. It was asked if Caroline could be trained so the process could be quicker. Both Cathi Fritz and Robert Wright suggested a study session to look further into the process of billing.

ARPA FUNDS

Mayor McArty stated she is still waiting on Lisa Lashuay's suggestions for the use of the funds. She will update the board once those are received.

STORMWATER ORDINANCE

Mayor McArty stated Lisa Lashuay is still reviewing the ordinance that will be presented to the board later.

OAKWOOD FOOD PANTRY

Marilyn Elrod, the board secretary and volunteer of the food pantry, presented their fundraiser for seeking sponsor-leveled supporters to help with the expense of increasing the square footage of the current food pantry building that will help accommodate food disbursements and storage. Currently, the pantry has received ½ of what is needed to cover the cost of the additional footage.

Robert Wright made a motion to provide the food pantry with \$3,000, 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/SOUTHERN

Mayor McArty informed the board there had been no new information from the engineer to report.

VILLAGE HALL CONCRETE BIDS

At the October 13th study session, the bids for the concrete work around the village hall were presented. Two bids were received, and the mayor asked for the proposals to be broken down into sections so the project could be completed in sections.

There was a discussion on where to put concrete and rock along with green space that Cathi Fritz would like to see in the front of the village hall building. Bob Parr was concerned about maintaining this green space, and it was recommended to fill it in with concrete and purchase benches and large pots for the front of the building.

Bob Parr made a motion to accept the bid from Owns not to exceed \$44,000, including rock around the AC units, sidewalks around the village hall, and the north end for parking, 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

VILLAGE BUILDINGS

Mayor McArty summarized the many discussions for options for the use of village buildings. At the October 13, 2021 study session, Ferrell Stroh stated he supports bringing businesses into the downtown and that we need to utilize what the town currently has available. The fire station bay will keep the police vehicles and the historical society to keep their items. The historical society can utilize the village hall meeting room, and the American Legion can continue to have their meetings at the fire station.

Stroh will also host senior coffee days, two days a week. He thought Monday/Wednesday's nine am-Noon. He hopes to have this up and going by the second week of November.

The board felt this helps all organizations involved and at the same time utilizing village facilities and also developing the downtown area.

PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Bids for finishing the floors in the park pavilion were reviewed at the last study session. The board wanted to get references from the two lowest bidders and to be able to see work they have already completed. There were still several questions in regards to the project. Who would be moving the heavy equipment out and removing the bathroom toilets and dividers. It was suggested to completely tear out the wood dividers and replace them with new partitions after they finish the floors.

After much discussion, Robert Wright suggested turning this project over to Dustin as the new public works department head to check the references and figure out the additional details of the project.

Cathi Fritz made a motion for the public works department to handle the details of the park floors using prevailing wages not to exceed \$5,000, 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

Dustin reported he met with Glesco electric in regards to the breakers being tripped in the shed. They stated the main breaker box was overloaded and that a separate service needed to be out by the shed, which would cost around \$14,000. This was suggested several years ago, but at that time, the cost was more than what the board wanted to spend.

Robert Wright suggested getting a second opinion. Since there was a lightning strike out at the park, this has been an issue. The public works department will look further into the problem before spending so much money on the issue.

VILLAGE HALL FLAG

Ferrell Stroh requested the board permission to put up a 30-foot flag pole on the northwest corner of the new village hall. He has found a light that would light up the flag that is solar, and there would be no need to run any electricity out to the pole.

Bob Parr made a motion for Ferrell to purchase a flag pole, flag, and light to be installed in front of the village hall not to exceed \$2,000, seconded by Robert Wright.

	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 go into executive session.

Bob Parr made a motion at 7:58 pm to go into executive session, 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

Board came back into the regular session at 8:26 pm.

Mayor McArty asked for a motion to approve the salary adjustments as presented.

Ferrell Stroh made a motion to approve the proposed salary adjustments as presented, seconded by Bob Parr.

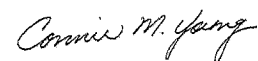
	Jason Elliott	Cathi Fritz	Bob Parr	Doit Roberts	Ferrell Stroh	Robert Wright
Yes		X	X	X	X	
Nays						
Abstained						X
Absent	X					

Motion Carried

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:28 pm, Cathi Fritz made a motion to adjourn with a second from Bob Parr.

Respectfully submitted,



Connie M. Young, Clerk

Approved 11/15/2021