

Committee of the Whole
November 25, 2024
MINUTES
6:00pm

Board present: Steve Buss, Claudia Simpson, Brian Peight, Brooke Baldauf, Dean Rood, Brandon Smith, Cathy Stevens, Nicole Callos. Not present: Christin Keeffer. Also present: Brian Nott, Kory Polhill, Lindsay Buss, Robin Walton, Nicole Meier, Kenda Martinez, Louise Workinger

Call to Order

1) The Committee of the Whole meeting of November 25, 2024 was called to order by President Buss at 6:00pm.

Public Participation

2) *Nicole Meier inquired about chicken coops in town and what it would take for the Village to reconsider the current decision. Points she addressed are that having chickens is a commitment and an investment, and the people that want them are likely to respect the ordinances. She will be checking with other municipalities on how they enforce the ordinance violations and further support within the Village. The Board had concerns of how to police the issue, as 'smell' is not a black and white issue to address, as well as what to do with the chickens if a resident were to violate an ordinance. *Kenda Martinez stated her concerns regarding drainage at her home on Butternut Drive. Brian Nott stated this issue is to be addressed and will be meeting with TruVine at the residence regarding a solution this Wednesday.

Approval of Minutes – October 28, 2024

3) On a motion by Stevens second by Peight to approve the meeting minutes from October 28, 2024. ALL AYE.

Discuss Tax Levy

4) The Board reviewed a worksheet Callos provided showing tax levy history. If the Village does not capture the funds, the money goes to the County to be dispersed. This is not an increase to the resident taxes; it is an adjustment to what the Village can capture out of what is already taxed. The percentage to be levied increase is due to TIF coming to an end. The School District will be doing their own levy. Smith asked whether the Cemetery could raise their levy; a referendum would be required as they are capped at 2.5%. It has been 75 years since the levy has been adjusted for the Cemetery. Buss stated a Public Hearing will be held on December 9th, 2024 at 5:55pm regarding the Tax Levy Ordinance.

Discuss Emergency Plan

5) Buss met with Barb Kepner about emergency sirens. Dr.Chiles had mentioned the Village could be on the School's emergency alert system as a separate category. The texting system would require obtaining all resident phone numbers. The preliminary numbers were \$30,000 per siren, so would not be looking to go that route without a grant. Bridget Stocks had recommended asking our congressmen for information on funding.

Discuss December 23rd Committee of the Whole Meeting

6) The Board decided to not hold the December 23rd Committee of the Whole meeting so close to Christmas.

Discuss F4 Fighter Jet Final Updates

7) Buss explained that when this was brought into attention the fighter jet is technically the Village's. Paperwork has to be filled out every year confirming that it is still in good condition. Buss went to the F4 meeting and it was discussed that the Village would be maintaining the parcel going forward as well. Fritz Werhane donated the land to the Legion. Buss said a lot of good people have been working on this project and will keep the Board posted as he learns more.

Discuss 118 Railroad Apartments

8) Callos stated the Police Department has sent their report/photos to the Fire Marshall.

Discuss Street Improvements

9) Nott gave the following updates: Potholing with Fischer's starts next week. Utilities will be located. Packet for Lena Drive Inn: waiting to speak with the County; bid out in January. Butternut Drive: asphalt driveways were completed today; manholes this week yet. Nott explained there is a hold-back for the landscaping portion of the project until the work is complete; meshing will be done to prevent wash-out.

Welfare of the Village

Baldauf inquired about the lights downtown being too low (16', 2") for the floats for the Christmas Parade. Parade participants will be made aware of the height restriction. The Lions donated to purchase the lights, the LBPA donated to purchase the cables and hardware and volunteers put them all up.

Adjournment

10) On a motion by Peight second by Smith to adjourn the November 25, 2024 Meeting at 6:53pm. ALL AYE.

Submitted by Claudia Simpson, Village Clerk