

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF ARGENTA, ILLINOIS
#16-11-07 R21
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2016 @ 6:00 P.M.
VILLAGE HALL, 330 N WARREN STREET, ARGENTA, ILLINOIS

Call to Order: Mayor Luedke called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Mayor Luedke and Trustees Hanna, Kaufman, Pagel, and Bowman were present. Trustees Crowder and Barker were absent. Also in attendance were Deputy Hunt, Street Superintendent Ken Smith, and Clerk Sherry Koszesza. Residents in attendance were Polo Seevers, Bruce Osborn, and Dan Askren.

Pledge of Allegiance

Consent Agenda:

1. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes of October 17, 2016, #16-10-17 R20
2. Approval of Closed Session Minutes of October 17, 2016, #16-10-17 E4
3. Approval of Disbursements #16-11-07 D21
4. Approval of Bank Reconciliations #16-11-07 BR21

- Trustee moved and Trustee seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Hanna =	Yes
Crowder =	Absent
Kaufman=	Yes
Pagel =	Yes
Barker =	Absent
Bowman =	Yes

Motion carried.

Public Comment: Mr. Osborn was here to address the Board over the letter that was sent to him addressing several ordinance violations. He said he has been making improvements on his house and he is tired of being bullied. He said that the Mayor did not have permission to come onto his property and that his neighbors had seen her on his property with a camera. Mayor Luedke said that she was on his property one time and she did not take pictures. She said that he has collected more vehicles. He said that he gets rid of one and gets another one. Trustee Bowman asked him why he doesn't get rid of them. He said he is fixing his house to get out of town because he is being bullied. He said that his neighbors are sorry to see him go. He said his cars aren't affecting the property values. He hasn't done anything to raise his property values because he said the Board is harassing him. Trustee Pagel said that the ordinance hasn't changed. Trustee Kaufman said that the vehicle is deemed inoperable if it hasn't moved in 5 days. Mr. Osborn said he can move the cars every day. Trustee Pagel said that the ordinance hasn't changed. Mr. Osborn mentioned a camper that had 10 year old plates. Mayor Luedke said that is gone now. He again accused Mayor Luedke of trespassing on his property. He said that we changed the ordinances to benefit the Village.

Recognition of Visitors: John White and Ron Grider from Argenta in Motion EDC (Economic Development Committee). Ron Grider said that 2 ½ - 3 years ago there was talk about good things that would be happening in our area. He said that ADM finally announced the Midwest Inland Port. They started a long range planning committee last year but they didn't know how to go about getting things done. They found the MAPPING course from Western IL University. There were about 40 people that joined the group. There are 5 different committees to work on different projects. They had some movies over the summer; an arts committee that had the small business expo, the dining committee will have something this winter. There are several properties that might be available if someone is looking to buy some property in this area. OmniTRAX bought the railroad that goes through Argenta and will be looking for places for storage. John White showed a short video for the Decatur Midwest Inland Port. The closest inland port is in Chicago. He said that we have a good location, traffic is better. Goods can come and go to Decatur from anywhere in the world. The EDC is trying to bring more business to Argenta. That will bring more housing and that again will bring more people. They are trying to develop a master plan now. They are trying to get a variety of businesses into the community. It will not be heavy industry like in Decatur. We have Rt. 48 and the railroad that go through Argenta. They think that the growth will come northeast out of Decatur into the Argenta area. There is a map that now shows some of the properties that are for sale in Argenta. John and Ron would like to invite the Board to be a part of the process. He said that every once in a while there is an opportunity that presents itself to make good changes for the community.

Department Reports:

1. Law Enforcement Report: Deputy Hunt said that there wasn't anything major from last month. There was one domestic disturbance. He said that since he has been here, there was an issue on Water Street that he had to go take pictures of. He said that Mr. Osborn had not removed cars when he takes one out. He said that if the referendum on the ballot doesn't pass he will probably be laid off but someone will be here to fulfill the contract.
2. Village Staff Reports: Street Superintendent Ken Smith said that the leaves are becoming a problem. He said that maybe we can encourage the brown leaf bags. He did try to get some of the leaves out of the boulevards. Trustee Pagel asked about the generator. He asked if we were going to get it. Ken said that we are still waiting for the bids. Trustee Pagel asked if Mayor Luedke or a Board member should call someone. Ken said that he asked for a lot of options and maybe we should simplify the quote that we are asking for. Trustee Pagel said that we need to get a bid. Trustee Bowman asked if there was anything else on the appropriations that we need to get. That is all that we need for now. We have a small generator that will handle the Village Hall. Trustee Pagel said that it needs to be done. Ken will follow up.
3. Mayor's Report: We have a gas sign on the Argenta interstate exit. Casey's will have their sign on it soon. Elm Street Grill hasn't done anything about getting a food sign. There is the note from Area Disposal about amending the contract because of the savings from combining the garbage and recycling routes. Eric Shangraw will be at the next meeting. The attorney has said that it is OK to extend the contract. Trustee Pagel doesn't think that they are doing us any huge favors. He isn't impressed with their service. He doesn't see any reason to extend the contract. Mayor Luedke said that we need to report the bad service.

Jim asked when we would put out proposals. Mayor Luedke said it would be before the contract is up. Trustee Pagel said that the current contract has a two year option anyway. The Board doesn't need to hear Mr. Shangraw. Mayor Luedke will call him to let him know that he doesn't need to attend the next meeting.

4. Attorney's Report: There was none.

Old Business: Trustee Pagel asked about the building downtown. Mayor Luedke said we are waiting on the deed.

New Business:

- Discuss/Vote on 2017 Meeting Schedule. Trustee Pagel would like to change the date for the July 3, 2017 meeting. Sherry will check into the change. Tabled until next meeting.
- Discuss possible ban of solicitors/peddlers in Village limits. Mayor Luedke said that this came from a complaint about a company that had been here before. The company had permits both times. The Board said they will continue with the ordinance as is.
- Discuss alternatives to leaf burning. There have been some complaints about the leaf burning. Residents have been burning in the boulevards and the streets. There have been at least a dozen incidents in the last couple of weeks. Ken said that several towns are now using the bags. He said there is a drainage concern with the catch basins. There are a lot of children that have allergies or asthma and the smoke from leaf burning is an irritant. The Board will think about some alternatives and talk about it at another meeting. Ken said that we have tried other thing. Trustee Pagel asked about getting a proposal for a service to pick up the leaves. Ken would rather have a service than spend the money on a leaf vac. He said there is a company in Long Creek that picks up leaves. We will look at this during the next meeting. Trustee Pagel asked what we would be looking at; just burn or no burn or other alternatives. He asked where the worst spots are. Ken said North Street and parts of Main St. Trustee Pagel said that there are contractors that do this. Trustee Bowman asked about the VAC truck doing the leaves. She said that is why they bought it. Ken said that he talked to the owner of the company that we bought the VAC truck from and he advised against it. Trustee Bowman said that that was a big selling point for getting that machine. Ken said that even if he did use it, it would be a 2 man job and would be very inefficient. Trustee Bowman asked if our mower had a mulcher on it. We could get mulching blades but that wouldn't help the storm drains. This will be tabled until the next meeting. Mayor Luedke said that we got the purchase agreement today for the building uptown that is going to be demolished but it could be up to 90 days until we get the deed. Trustee Pagel asked what the final price was. Mayor Luedke said we did get it for \$660.00. Trustee Hanna said that he isn't interested in industrial parks in town. He said that you can go to any small town in the Chicago area that trucks are not allowed in. He said that people don't want the truck traffic. He would like to see some business but not the industrial part. Mayor Luedke said that most of the land is outside the Village limits. Mayor Luedke said that she thinks part of this is so that there is some sort of control as to what comes into town.

Closed Session:

Open Session:

Adjournment

- Trustee Hanna moved, and Trustee Pagel seconded, to adjourn at 6:58 p.m.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Hanna =	Yes
Crowder =	Absent
Kaufman=	Yes
Pagel =	Yes
Barker =	Absent
Bowman =	Yes

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes taken by Clerk Sherry Koszesza