**MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF ARGENTA, ILLINOIS**

**#20-01-20 R01**

**MONDAY JANUARY 20, 2020 @ 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 Kaufman, Mitchell, Berry, Ryan and Logan were present. Trustee Pagel was absent. Also in attendance were Attorney Ross Munsterman, Public Works Director Ken Smith, and Clerk Sherry Koszesza. Residents in attendance were Jim Boose, Michael Stephens and Samantha Stephens.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Public Comment:** Michael Stephens was here regarding the letter sent to him regarding his abandoned residence at 178 N North Street. Mr. Stephens said he can’t do anything until his insurance says he can. He stated that they are still in the investigation stages. Mayor Luedke said that he needs to have his insurance call the Village.

**Recognition of Visitors:** Stephanie Brown from Chastain Engineering to discuss developing a strategic long range plan. She is a trained urban planner. She worked for the City of Decatur for nearly 10 year. She works for Chastain now. She is a grant writer. She does downtown revitalization. She presented her proposal for a strategic plan. Trustee Mitchell asked if we were hiring her. Mayor Luedke said that if we chose to, we could. Trustee Berry asked her if she knew who to ask for the grants. She does. Trustee Kaufman asked what the cost would be. She said about $4,000.00-$5,000.00, it depends on the scope of the project. The writing of the grant is a separate charge. The last one she did was about $3500. Mayor Luedke asked if her fees were reimbursable. She said they usually were not.

**Department Reports:**

1. Law Enforcement Report. The report was in the packet. This is Deputy Rigg’s last month. We will have a new deputy the 1st of February. His name is Dustin Brown.
2. Village Staff Reports. There was a water main break that was reported yesterday and fixed today. The intersection of Main and Elm will need to be fixed soon. The intersection has some bad dips.
3. Mayor’s Report. Trustee Logan asked what was going on with the abandoned house. Trustee Mitchell said that the insurance agent only communicates via email. He will not return calls. Samantha Stephens told Trustee Mitchell that she will be calling a supervisor tomorrow. Trustee Logan suggested that Michael call us on a weekly basis.
4. Attorney’s Report. There was none.

**Old Business:**

* Discuss/Approve Chastain Agreement for Professional Services.
  + Trustee Mitchell moved and Trustee Ryan seconded toapprove the Chastain Agreement for Professional Services.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Pagel = Absent Berry = Yes

Kaufman = Yes Ryan = Yes

Mitchell= Yes Logan = Yes

Motion carried.

* Discuss Police Protection questions. Mayor Luedke contacted Harristown and Long Creek. They do not pay any dispatch fees that this time. Warrensburg, Forsyth and Maroa do pay dispatch fees. Mayor Luedke is still trying to get final numbers from Sheriff Brown. There will be a 2.5% increase in the contract per year. Dispatch fees may be 50% of normal. Mayor Luedke told the sheriff’s office that we need numbers by Feb 1.

**New Business:**

* Discuss/Vote on Ordinance 20-01-20 Ord 01, Cannabis Business Regulations.
  + Trustee Berry moved and Trustee Mitchell seconded toapprove Ordinance 20-01-20 Ord 01, Cannabis Business Regulations.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Pagel = Absent Berry = Yes

Kaufman = Yes Ryan = Yes

Mitchell= Yes Logan = Yes

Motion carried.

* Discuss/Vote on Ordinance 20-01-20 Ord 02, Possession and Use of Cannabis.
  + Trustee Kaufman moved and Trustee Ryan seconded toapprove Ordinance 20-01-20 Ord 02, Possession and Use of Cannabis.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Pagel = Absent Berry = Yes

Kaufman = Yes Ryan = Yes

Mitchell= Yes Logan = Yes

Motion carried.

* Discuss/Vote on switching to Softline Data Public Alert System. Clerk Koszesza explained the system. It is essentially the same as what we have now. We only use it 3-4 times per year. There is no setup on our part, UBMax migrates our data into the new system.
  + Trustee Berry moved and Trustee Logan seconded toapprove switching to Softline Data Public Alert System.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Pagel = Absent Berry = Yes

Kaufman = Yes Ryan = Yes

Mitchell= Yes Logan = Yes

Motion carried.

**Consent Agenda:**

1. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes of December 16, 2019 #19-12-16 R12
2. Approval of Disbursements #20-01-20 D01
3. Approval of Bank Reconciliations #20-01-20 BR01
   * Trustee moved and Trustee seconded toapprove the Consent Agenda with the exception of the bill from Macon County ETSB for the Everbridge Fees. That bill will not be paid.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Pagel = Absent Berry = Yes

Kaufman = Yes Ryan = Yes

Mitchell= Yes Logan = Yes

Motion carried.

* Discuss/Vote on selling/leasing farm ground for a cannabis cultivation site. Joshua Cothren is still interested in a portion of the Village farm ground. Trustee Berry asked if he would rent. Yes, but he is would rather buy. Trustee Berry asked if that was part of the solar lease. It is. Would Geronimo Energy let us lease part of the ground to someone else? Mayor Luedke has not talked to them about it yet. Trustee Kaufman said that the only money we would get would be real estate taxes. Trustee Kaufman said there is no infrastructure back there. We can’t afford to supply water and sewer to that area. Mayor Luedke gave Josh 3 other parcels to look at but they weren’t willing to sell. Trustee Logan asked how much the ground is worth. Ken said $3,000.00 – $6,000.00 per acre, depending on where it is. Trustee Berry said that Broadway Street isn’t the best for commercial traffic. Trustee Logan asked if we have any other ground. Mayor Luedke said that she gave him contact information for several other places. They don’t want to sell. The Board is not interested in selling or leasing the farm ground at this time.
  + Trustee Mitchell moved and Trustee Logan seconded toapprove leasing farm ground for a cannabis cultivation site.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Pagel = Absent Berry = No

Kaufman = No Ryan = No

Mitchell= No Logan = Yes

Motion not carried.

**Closed Session:**

**Open Session:**

**Adjournment.** The Board set the Appropriation Meeting for February 25th at 6:00.

* Trustee Kaufman moved, and Trustee Berry seconded, to adjourn at 7:15 p.m.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Pagel = Absent Berry = Yes

Kaufman = Yes Ryan = Yes

Mitchell= Yes Logan = Yes

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes taken by Clerk Sherry Koszesza