**MINUTES**

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

**#22-04-18 R04**

**MONDAY APRIL 18, 2022 @ 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 Barker, Kaufman (via Zoom), Berry, Ryan, and Logan were present. Trustee Mitchell was absent. Clerk Sherry Koszesza, Public Works Director Derick Fisher (arrived at 6:30), Matt Foster from Chastain Engineers, and resident Mel Wilkinson were present. John Duncan was present via Zoom.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Consent Agenda:**

1. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes of March 21, 2022, #22-03-21 R03
2. Approval of Executive Session Minutes of March 21, 2022, #22-03-21 E01
3. Approval of Disbursements #22-03-21 D03
4. Approval of Bank Reconciliations #22-03-21 BR03
   * Trustee Berry moved and Trustee Kaufman seconded toapprove the Consent Agenda as presented.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Barker = Yes Berry = Yes

Kaufman = Yes Ryan = Yes

Mitchell = Absent Logan = Yes

Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** Mel Wilkinson wanted to know if there has been any progress at the house on Broadway Street. There has not. He was issued a citation today. Trustee Logan said there will always be stuff in the yard.

**Recognition of Visitors:** There were none.

**Department Reports:**

1. Village Staff Reports. Public Works Director Derick Fisher is not here. There was a drainage issue, and he might be still working on it.
2. Mayor’s Report. The Village Hall received a call from someone wanting to start a distillery in the basement of Slate. She does not need a liquor license since her business will be wholesale only. A reporter from the Herald & Review called to interview Mayor Luedke regarding cannabis sales. There has been no word from 159 N North. Demolition paperwork will start May 1st. There has been no progress from the resident on W Broadway Street that has items that need to be hauled away. Water tower work will begin mid-June. It will take 2-3 weeks. The Village renegotiated the agreement with Rise Broadband for antenna lease space on the tower.
3. Attorney’s Report. There was none.

**New Business:**

* John Duncan – Presentation/Question & Answer for Rise Broadband installation of fiber internet service to homes in Argenta. There is a handout from Rise Broadband. They want to bring fiber straight to all houses in Argenta. They will be applying for a grant. All fiber will be underground. Trustee Ryan asked what sort of contribution the Village would have to make. John said there is no set amount. Trustee Ryan asked what the resident installation fees would be. They don’t know yet. Right now, the fee is $125 but they could maybe waive it.
* Discuss/Vote to allow Rise Broadband fiber internet installation
  + Trustee Kaufman moved and Trustee Barker seconded toallow Rise Broadband fiber internet installation.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Barker = Yes Berry = Yes

Kaufman = Yes Ryan = Yes

Mitchell = Absent Logan = Yes

Motion carried.

**Old Business:**

* Matt Foster – Question & Answer regarding a new water plant. Matt has a handout that was included in the packet. He said that if we have interest in tying into another water system that we could do a feasibility study. There is no need for it if we are not interested in that option. Trustee Berry asked if Decatur and Forsyth were our only options. They are the main choices. Trustee Berry asked if we would control water rates. We would control our rates, but we would have no control over the rates that we would be charged. Matt said there would be agreements with the provider. Trustee Barker said that the supplier could someday say that they don’t have enough water to share and then we would have to spend more money on a water plant. Trustee Berry asked about getting grants. Matt said that there are still grants through Rodney Davis’s office for upgrades. Assumption just got a grant from Mr. Davis for their new water plant. There are also IEPA low interest loans. Matt doesn’t see us being eligible for IEPA loan forgiveness. Trustee Berry asked if the age of our water plant would help us. Yes. Trustee Ryan said that maybe at some point we could add Newburg or Hickory Hills. Matt said that it would depend on capacity. Trustee Barker said that we should build it bigger but not to spend thousands of dollars without knowing if anyone has any interest in connecting to us. Trustee Logan said that we need the independence for our town. The Board directed Matt to bring a contract for a new water plant next month. There was nothing to be voted on. Trustee Ryan asked if we needed a committee to come up with some suggestions for the water plant. Matt said that we could do that. Trustee Kaufman said that we need to leave the designing to the experts.
* Discuss/Vote to approve water plant engineering to begin. No vote necessary at this time.

**Closed Session:**

**Open Session:**

**Adjournment**

* Trustee Berry moved, and Trustee Kaufman seconded, to adjourn at 8:13 p.m.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Barker = Yes Berry = Yes

Kaufman = Yes Ryan = Yes

Mitchell = Absent Logan = Yes

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes taken by Clerk Sherry Koszesza