



MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF ARGENTA, ILLINOIS
#21-09-20 R09
MONDAY SEPTEMBER 20, 2021 @ 6:00 P.M.
VILLAGE HALL, 330 N WARREN STREET, ARGENTA, ILLINOIS

Public Meeting for Safe Routes to School Grant 6:00-6:15

Matt Foster answered questions from residents and the Board.

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

Roll Call: Mayor Luedke and Trustees Barker, Kaufman, Mitchell, Berry, and Ryan were present. Trustee Logan was absent. Also present were Clerk Sherry Koszesza, Public Works Director Derick Fisher, Deputy Burgener, Matt Foster with Chastain Engineering, Attorney Ross Munsterman, and resident Aaric Kendall.

Pledge of Allegiance

Consent Agenda:

1. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes of August 16, 2021 #21-08-16 R08
2. Approval of Executive Session Minutes of August 16, 2021 #21-08-16 E02
3. Approval of Disbursements #21-09-20 D09
4. Approval of Bank Reconciliations #21-09-20 BR09
 - Trustee Kaufman moved and Trustee Barker seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Barker	=	Yes	Berry	=	Yes
Kaufman	=	Yes	Ryan	=	Yes
Mitchell	=	Yes	Logan	=	Absent

Motion carried.

Public Comment: Aaric Kendall was here to voice his opposition to the mosquito spraying. He said the fogging company sprayed his garden. He said that the safety sheets say that you should not use it near gardens, pets, or bees. He asked if we treat the catch basins. He thinks that we can do a different type of application. He is asking the Board to do better. Trustee Berry said he appreciated Aaric bringing this to the Board's attention. Trustee Barker said that we have to do something because she will not have to stay inside because she is allergic to mosquitos. She said other residents are the same. Public Works Director Derick Fisher will look into some other companies and applications.

Recognition of Visitors: There were none.

Department Reports:

1. Village Staff Reports. Deputy Burgener didn't have anything. Derick has put some patch down. He said that the backhoe isn't running well. It overheats and the hydraulics are not functioning properly. He said it is time to start thinking about replacing it. He has a quote but is waiting on a trade-in value. He said that we also need to look at updating our meter reading to AMI. That is where an antenna is on the water tower and meter reading can be done at the Village Hall. It will be about \$20,000.00. Aaric asked if the meter pits would need to be upgraded. No. Derick said that the warranty is almost up on the mower. We

need to think about trading it in. Trustee Berry asked how old it is. It is about 3 ½ - 4 years old. Trustee Ryan asked if we would be better with a trade-in or to do a rebuild. Aaric said that we use our backhoe in the winter, so the salt gets to it. He suggested that we lease something. He said the problems we have are major. Trustee Ryan said that we need to have a better place to store the backhoe. Derick said that we are outgrowing our footprint and we need a bigger facility. Trustee Barker asked if increasing the sheriff salary helped us to retain deputies. Yes.

2. Mayor's Report. Mayor Luedke said that we have the permit for the mixer for the water tower. She thought it is too late to do the painting so we will paint in the spring. We will put the mixer in now. Trustee Ryan asked if we are still under the contract. Yes, we are waiting for an addendum. Trustee Kaufman asked if they have to do more work in the spring would it still be the same amount of money. Yes. Mayor Luedke said Jack-A-Slab might be here tomorrow. Trick or Treat hours are on Halloween night from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. Fall clean up is scheduled for October 8th and an electronic recycling is scheduled for October 9th. Trustee Kaufman would like to try to utilize the Public Alert notification program. Mayor Luedke said that Derick is enrolled in an apprentice program with IRWA. Think about putting security cameras in the water plant. It will be on the agenda next month.

Old Business:

- Discuss/Approve Resolution #21-09-20 E03, Safe Routes to School. Trustee Kaufman asked if there would be a chance of IDOT not approving it. He asked when the PE 1 would start. Matt Foster said after the application is approved. Trustee Kaufman asked if we don't get the grant, would the engineering be applied to another sidewalk grant? Yes. Aaric asked if the Village has \$70,000.00 to do sidewalks. Yes. Trustee Barker asked if we were using other funds for the sidewalks. Matt Foster said that we could use MFT money for some of it.
 - Trustee Berry moved and Trustee Kaufman seconded to approve Resolution #21-09-20 E03, Safe Routes to School (Plan A).
Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Barker	=	Yes	Berry	=	Yes
Kaufman	=	Yes	Ryan	=	Yes
Mitchell	=	Yes	Logan	=	Absent
- Motion carried.
- Discuss/Vote to approve allowing the mayor to request and accept an estimate to proceed with the demolition of 178 N North Street. Mayor Luedke told the Board that Safeguard properties had contacted us regarding violations at this address. Attorney Ross Munsterman told the Board that he completed all of the steps for the Village to proceed with the demolition. He said the house is being foreclosed on and the bank has hired this company. This company will check this property to see if the issues can be remediated. He said they have a report due in 2 days. The Village has 120 days to be on the property to do what we need to do. Ross hopes that Regions bank will make a decision soon. They may tell the Village that they will demolish the house. Trustee Mitchell asked if the Stephens' had been notified. Yes. Trustee Berry asked if they needed permission to get into the building. Trustee Barker said we need to let them do what they need to do. Trustee Ryan asked if anyone had heard from the insurance. No. Mayor Luedke said that if we have to demo the



Small town. Big heart.

house, we will put a lien on it that will supersede the mortgage. Derick asked when we would have to get the ball rolling on the demo. Ross said by the end of October. Trustee Berry asked if the Bank would be responsible if something should happen. No, they are not liable until they take possession. Mayor Luedke asked what sort of a timeline there is on the foreclosure. Ross said since it is abandoned, it should speed up the foreclosure process. Trustee Ryan asked if we could ask for a response before the next meeting. Ross will ask them. This will be tabled until next meeting. Trustee Barker asked if we had heard anything about the building across the street. No. His time was up on September 15th. It will be the same process.

New Business: There was no new business.

Closed Session:

Open Session:

Adjournment

- Trustee Kaufman moved, and Trustee Berry seconded, to adjourn at 7:45 p.m.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was:

Barker =	Yes	Berry =	Yes
Kaufman =	Yes	Ryan =	Yes
Mitchell =	Yes	Logan =	Absent

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Minutes taken by Clerk Sherry Koszesza