

VILLAGE OF DAWSON
SEPTEMBER 14, 2020 MINUTES

The Dawson Village Board meeting was called to order by Mayor Dee Smith at 7:00 p.m. and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Trustees present were: Terri Anderson, Robin Ashton-Hale, Nancy Prytherch and Jeremy Bounds. Also present were Mayor Dee Smith, Attorney Steve Scott, Treasurer Jo D. Prytherch and Clerk Lynda Files. Tyler Abbott of the Water Department also attended the meeting.

MINUTES: Robin made a motion to approve the August minutes and Nancy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

BILLS: Jeremy made a motion to approve the bills and Nancy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Jo D. Prytherch went over the treasurer's report. Most balances are doing fine. New water plant balance dipped because of the Village made another large payments (\$30,000.00) to MECO. However this money will be replaced once the loans for the plant are processed.

PUBLIC FORUM: Jimmy and Terri Turner appeared regarding their request for a building permit at their residence. He is adding a screened porch. Mr. Turner had already paid the fee and filled out the application. Robin made the motion to approve the application and Terri seconded the motion. The motion carried. The permit given to Mr. Turner.

NEW BUSINESS: Cassandra J. Duerr Dougherty's Beauty Shop on Patricia Street requested a "special use" permit to operate her business. She has completed the application and paid the fee. Nancy made a motion to approve request and Jeremy seconded the motion.

Two brochures were passed out to Board Members from the IRWA (Illinois Rural Water Association). One was Rate Assessment & Application and the other was a Water Rate Study. The Mayor asked Tyler Abbott to go through these with the Board. One discussed the water produced and water billed for. It showed the amounts the Village charges at the present time is right in line where it should be. These figures, however, do not show figures for when the construction of the new water plant begins. The Water Rate Study brochure was mostly charts showing expenditures and income. Their association recommended a 3% increase in water bills. Again, this is being based on current equipment and not costs with the new water plant.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: NONE

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

TRUSTEE'S REPORTS: Terri questioned the progress of eliminating the burning pile on Main and Locust. Mayor Dee reported that it will be used until shortly after October 10th. After the all town pick up by Waste Management the pile of ashes will be removed and there will be signs posted showing "No Dumping, No Burning" at the sight.

She also questioned if the Fire Department had purchased the defibrillator which the Village had paid some of the cost. Mayor Dee said they had purchased it and he would see if he could set up a time for them to show it to the Board.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Attorney Scott presented Ordinance No. 2020-VOD-004 to the Board regarding adopting expense reimbursement policy for the Village. Mr. Scott went through the Ordinance explaining its contents

regarding being reimbursed from the Village for monies spent on travel, meal and lodging expense, the limits set, etc. Trustee Robin made a motion to accept the Ordinance and Terri seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Also, submitted to the Board was the 2020-VOD-005 Ordinance adopting an updated policy prohibiting sexual harassment for the Village of Dawson. Attorney Scott also went through this ordinance and explained it all to the Board. Terri made the motion to accept and Nancy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Scott Hale requested an adjustment to his water bill because of a leak. The leak has been repaired. Jeremy made a motion to approve the adjustment and Robin seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Tyler Abbott did pass the Test D for the water department. Per a contract with a past mayor and Mayor Dee concurs, he is now entitled to receive a pay increase.

The Mayor reported the streets had been inspected and most are in pretty good shape. The street in the trailer park is in need of oiling and the alleyway in front of the Village Water Dept. along with the parking spaces are in need of oiling. The Mayor contacted the township who has agreed to do this for a charge. It would be below \$3,000. The Mayor requested approval to spend up to \$3,000 but not over that, for the township to do them. Robin made a motion to approve and Nancy seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Complaints have been received regarding the bad sidewalks in the Village. Attorney Scott advised we could use money in the Motor Fuel Fund to accomplish this. It was discussed if maybe we should budget so much a year for this project and replace sidewalks in portions each year. This will be checked out before any decisions are made.

The Mayor discussed our loan at UCB for purchase of Charlie Flexster's building on Route 36. UCB has had some delays in processing this but the bank is working on it and should be calling Mayor Dee any day to finalize the loan to get the money to pay Mr. Flexster.

After discussion the Board approved having the annual wiener roast at the park on October 24. In the past attendance has been below the requirements of the state rules. Village will set up tables enforcing the social distancing and masks will be required except when eating. Suggested attendees bring their own lawn chairs. Costumes will be welcome.

The Board also agreed to allow trick or treating at parent's discretion. It will be on October 31st, 5pm to 8pm.

Due to the Covid pandemic, we had the complete Village building deep-cleaned and disinfected by Serv-pro the entire building for a cost of \$1,300. The Village and the Fire Department split this cost. Also in the cost was the Fire Department's upgrading all the radios used including the Village radios. Mayor Smith agreed to pay half of these costs and requested the Board to approve the expense. Nancy made a motion to approve and Jeremy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Village also has a problem with the water main which runs under the river. Approx. 8 in. is exposed above the river water level. The cost to repair would be \$120,000 which is above the amount the Village could afford. The Mayor is checking on emergency grants to see what kind of help they could receive.

The issue of people riding four-wheelers in the Village was again addressed. There is no ordinance prohibiting it but there is an ordinance saying they must follow the same "rules of the road" that vehicles do. One of the trustees suggested having some kind of a meeting with the kids and parents to go over the Rules of the Road booklet. There will be more discussion on this.

ADJOURNMENT: With nothing further to discuss, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Motion to adjourn was made by Nancy with Robin seconding. Motion carried and meeting adjourned.

DATE: _____

Lynda Files, Clerk