

VILLAGE OF DAWSON

MAY 10, 2021 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.

Before starting the meeting, the swearing in of elected officials in the April 6, 2021 election was held. Village Clerk, Lynda Files, swore the two elected Trustees that were present, Jeremy Bounds and Theresa J. Davis-Anderson. Josh Nibbe will be sworn in next month. Mayor Dee Smith swore in elected Clerk, Lynda Files.

Trustees present were: Teri Anderson, Nancy Prytherch, Jeremy Bounds and Robin Ashton-Hale. Also present were Mayor Dee Smith, Attorney Steve Scott, Treasurer Jo D. Prytherch and Clerk Lynda Files. Josh Nibbe and Jake Byerline were absent.

MINUTES: Jeremy Bounds made a motion to approve the April board minutes and Nancy Prytherch seconded them. Motion passed.

BILLS: Robin Ashton-Hale made a motion to approve the April bills and Jeremy Bounds seconded. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Jody Prytherch passed out and went over each of the Village accounts. She reported that an accountant from Pehlman & Dold, PC, would be at the June board meeting to give the yearend report.

PUBLIC FORUM: Mayor Smith submitted a request from Joan Davis for an adjustment to her water bill because of a water leak that has since been repaired. Robin made a motion to approve the adjustment and Jeremy seconded the motion. Teri abstained from voting. Since two trustees were absent, the Mayor voted so there would be a quorum.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: NONE

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS: The Mayor discussed the purchase of a parcel of land next to the Dawson Park. It consists of 1 ¼ acres. Peggy Ashton is offering the property to the Village at a very reasonable cost of \$12,500. The Mayor felt that we should definitely take advantage of offer to continue improving the Village. In the future he would like to see a community center be built on the property with several uses. It would be built as a "safety building" for residents also. The Board agreed with him and Teri made a motion to purchase the land and Nancy seconded the motion. Robin Ashton-Hale abstained from voting so the mayor voted for a quorum.

TRUSTEE'S REPORTS: Teri reported some of the Dawson residents had questioned her on the water price increase. She explained to them why the new plant was needed. She also reported that several residents had reported to her that they really feel we need police protection in the Village. The Mayor replied he would love to have police in the Village. He had checked into this previously and the cost would be approximately \$70,000 a year or more, which would cause a large increase in the property taxes. This amount would not pay for 24 hour protection and that would not guarantee no criminal activity.

Also, Teri complimented the Dawson website and what a good job whoever was writing it was doing. Jody Prytherch, Tyler Abbott and Casey Wood have all been setting it up and working on the improvement.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Attorney Scott presented two ordinances to the Board. Ordinance No. 2021-VOD-006 regarding Adopting the Water and Waste System Grant Agreement with the Dept. of Agriculture, Rural Utilities Service was presented and went over the with the Board by the attorney. This one is in regards to the new water plant. Nancy made the motion to approve the ordinance and Teri seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Also introduced was Ordinance 2021-VOD-00 which covers the annual budget and appropriation for 2022. Steve submitted to the Board giving details of increased budget amounts for 2022. Nancy made motion to accept and Robin seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT: The Mayor reported that Kevin has been working on getting Dawson's streets oiled this summer. It would be all the streets this time, not certain ones. Austin Etherton has agreed to help us oil and chip Dawson's streets. He has availability to equipment we do not have. More information will follow on this subject.

Dee purchased a new set of phones for the Village Office. Our old phones completely quit working. After AT&T trying to locate any problems he thought it may be our phones since they were approx. ten years old. He explained to the Board we couldn't wait for the next board meeting for their approval to purchase them. This brought up the matter of giving the Mayor authorization to spend under a certain amount of money in emergency situations without first getting Board approval.

Discussion on utility rates (water) for apartment buildings need to be adjusted to incorporate the water price increase with the new water plant being built. In years past, apartments that have one meter for entire building are paying one set lump sum for all units. Now, with the increase, it would be below the minimum monthly cost. This will be tabled for now but further investigation done.

The Mayor reported he had located the desired door for the concession stand at the ballpark. He asked for approval from the Board. Jeremy made the motion to purchase the door and Nancy seconded the motion. Motion approved.

A discussion was held with the Board, Mayor and Attorney Scott regarding the requiring of an update to the Village zoning maps. Attorney Scott advised the Mayor since Dawson has no changes we do not need to do all the requirements and paperwork for the State of Illinois this year.

Dee also reported that one of our Village workers received an eye injury while working on the Village's tractor. He did have to go to urgent care, however, no workmen's comp claim has been filed at this time.

The mayor received a phone call from the Buffalo Women's Club and they requested to plant some flowers in the area of our monument that honors the military. It was agreed that would be fine.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business the Mayor asked for a motion to adjourn. Nancy made the motion and Robin seconded. Motion passed and meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

