

## **January 4, 2016**

Mayor Jeremy Nunes convened the regularly scheduled meeting of the Dawson Village Board with the Pledge of Allegiance, at 7:00 p.m.

Trustees present were Jacob Byerline, Josh Blakeman, Nancy Prytherch, John Reilly and Robin Ashton-Hale. Also present were Mayor Jeremy Nunes, Clerk Pat Curry, Water Superintendent Charlie Abbott, Engineer Kevin Kuhn and Treasurer Shelly Farley. Joan Davis was absent.

Josh Blakeman made a motion to accept the minutes as written, with a second by Robin Ashton-Hale. MC

Nancy Prytherch made a motion to approve payment of the bills, with a second by Josh Blakeman. MC

**Treasurer's Report:** Shelly Farley said she had given copies of the monthly financial report to financial subcommittee trustees Josh Blakeman and Joan Davis. However, if anyone else wanted a copy, she would supply one to them.

Everyone was given a copy of a 5-year comparison report of the water department finances.

**Engineer's Report:** Kevin Kuhn said he had nothing new to report

### **Old Business:**

A. Water Tower Painting: Mayor Nunes asked about the status for painting the water tower. Charlie Abbott said it would be Spring before anything could be done. Mayor Nunes said we have the funds set aside. The contractors will review the inside of the tank to determine if it needs painted as well.

B. Water System Improvements: Charlie said we need to drill a new well. Well #3 is an 8" well, designed to pump 100 gallons per minute. He would like to move out a short distance from that well and drill a new 12" well. We can use the same pipe and power for the new well. A question was raised whether the water plant could be moved. Charlie said all of the property to the south of the water plant belongs to the county. He further noted the cost of a new plant would probably be \$1,000,000.00 or more.

Mayor Nunes thanked Charlie for doing a great job leading the efforts against the flood, and also thanking the staff for working such long hours. Discussion on how to thank the many volunteers ensued. He added that he has been in discussions with Congressman Lahood on building a retaining wall around the plant, which the village has previously been denied permission to build.

### **Trustee's Report:**

Archive Documents: Prytherch/Davis: Nancy Prytherch said they needed to locate certain documents that could not be destroyed first. They have approval to destroy some.

Electronic Ordinance/Website Update: Reilly/Blakeman: John continues to update the electronic ordinances while Josh continues to update the website.

Robin Ashton-Hale: Nothing to report

Jacob Byerline: Nothing to report.

### **Attorney's Report:**

Municipal Tax Report: Attorney Scott said the Village has been imposing a 5% gas tax in the village for 20+ years. In 1998 that changed to electric only. The state legislature said municipalities had to base their rates on kwh used, instead of using a flat 5% tax. In 1999, the village only picked up electric tax and radio transmission tax, it didn't pick up the gas tax. The village has been receiving a municipal gas tax. It would not be a wise thing to try and go back and correct each year, and also not wise to remove it because the village would lose approximately \$6,000.00 per year. The board may want to pass an ordinance to revise the current ordinance. Nancy Prytherch made a motion to pass an ordinance to amend the utility tax ordinance to continue a 5% gas tax, with a second by John Reilly. MC

Attorney Scott said there were 237 new Illinois laws that took affect on January 1, 2016. After reviewing them, he did not see any that would apply to the village. He asked if there was a problem with golf carts in the village. The general consensus was affirmative. He went on to say there could be restrictions imposed. At the present time the village uses the state safety regulations. Restrictions can also be made regarding underage operators and hours of usage, and issue a citation for violation. Mayor Nunes said perhaps send a warning letter first, as we do with pet violations, followed by fines imposed for further violations. Mayor Nunes said these are ordinances are the ones that Robin Ashton-Hale and Jake Byerline were reviewing. Attorney Scott will provide a sample ordinance next meeting.

### **Mayor's Report:**

**Senior Dinner:** Mayor Nunes thanked Robin and Nancy for doing a wonderful job with the senior dinner, as well as everyone else who helped.

**Recycle bins:** Waste Management has assured the Mayor that they will switch out larger bins for the existing small bins, which was agreed to during the last contract renewal. Clerk Pat Curry commented

she had received emails and phone calls over the weekend asking about recycling pickup, which had not been done for two weeks. She said the recycling truck was picking up as she was going to the office on Monday morning, at the same time she received an phone call from Waste Management notifying her that they were going to pick up on Monday.

Comprehensive Plan: Jeff Fulgenzi is still working on it. He continues to say he can finish it up in January and would like to include photos of the water plant flood efforts.

Christmas Lighting Contest: The winners this year are: Tyler Abbott-314 Constant St., \$50.00; Michael Stuart-433 Walnut St., \$30.00 and Daniel Waligurski-206 Elm St., \$20.00. Congratulations to them and thank you to everyone who participated in the lighting contest.

Drunk Driving Prevention: Each year we traditionally donate \$100 to the Tri-City after prom program for this purpose. Robin Ashton-Hale made a motion to donate \$100.00 to the Tri-City After Prom as drunk driving prevention, with a second by John Reilly. MC

Ordinance List Updates: Attorney Scott addressed these earlier.

Neighborhood Watch Program: Mayor Nunes said he had considered relaunching a neighborhood watch program. Discussion followed, detailing past experience with a neighborhood watch program and the sheriff's office. Mayor Nunes asked if anyone objected to him looking into the program again. The board was in agreement with him getting further information.

Christmas Décor Purchases: Mayor Nunes said he would like to purchase four new pole ornaments to replace some of the old ones that are in poor condition. The cost would be about \$1,700.00. Discussion followed. Robin Ashton-Hale made a motion to purchase four new pole ornaments, with a second by Jacob Byerline. MC

Charlie Abbott told the board he had spoken to Austin Etherton about wireless security cameras at the park that could be monitored from the village hall, rather than at the machine shed. Mayor Nunes asked for contact information and said he would review that.

Meeting adjourned: 7:49 p.m.