

VILLAGE OF BETHANY
REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
February 8, 2024

The regular board meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Jonathan Book, President. The following Trustees were present; Dave Doty, Zakary England, Greg McLain, Raven Allen, and Brian Gill. Trustee Jeannie Ruppert was absent.

A motion was made by Trustee Doty to approve the minutes from the January 11, 2023, regular meeting, seconded by Trustee Gill. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee McLain to approve the special meeting minutes from January 29, 2024, seconded by Trustee Doty. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Doty to approve the "Statement of Income and Expenses", seconded by Trustee McLain. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Gill to approve the "Banks and Checks Journal", seconded by Trustee Doty. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

Public – None

Tyler Wagy Compensation for Damage Due to Water Main Leak – Trustee McLain has been doing a lot of research on this topic. Due to the way the Ordinances are written and because there was no negligence on the part of the Village, there doesn't seem to be anything that can be done. Village Attorney Sullivan agrees with this and does not recommend any compensation be given. No action will be taken on Mr. Wagy's request.

Trustee Ruppert arrived at 7:05pm.

Zoning Agreement with Moultrie County Zoning – President Book spoke with Zoning Administrator Kristi Hart to find out exactly what services the county could provide to us. They also discussed the use of the county's zoning regulations and building codes. There would be no cost to use the county services with the exception of the costs for using the county building inspector. The Village does not currently have any guidelines for building inspections, so to use the county for this would be an asset. The Village Attorney will review the county's proposed agreement to begin discussion and negotiations.

Greg Gustafson Water Improvement Project Update – Mr. Gustafson reported that we are in the submittal process for the water main project and will hopefully have a start date soon. The electrical project is in the same part of the process and things that were ordered are starting to be shipped. The drawings for the detention tank and all projects are being submitted and reviewed by the contractors. Mr. Gustafson completed negotiations between Midwest Meter and A&R to save the Village approximately \$3000 on the new water meters.

Approval of Special Liquor License for the Bethany Celebration Committee – Cassandra Lambdin was in attendance to submit the paperwork and payment for the Bethany Celebration Special Liquor License. The Bethany Celebration for 2024 will be on June 21st and 22nd. The beer tent will be held from 8pm-12am both nights with bands playing from 8pm-11pm. A motion was made by Trustee Allen to approve the Bethany Celebration Special Liquor License for June 21st and 22nd, 2024, seconded by Trustee England. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried. Ms. Lambdin also asked about a donation for the Bethany Celebration fireworks but because it was not an agenda item, the board cannot take action. It will be added to the agenda for next month.

Purchase of A Mini Excavator – Trustee England presented the idea of purchasing a mini excavator for the Village. He and Shannon have discussed the purchase as a way to be more efficient and save time and money in the long run. The excavator would help with digging in smaller spaces, help clean the sewer lagoon and allow more than one job to be done at once with the extra equipment. A motion was made by Trustee McLain to approve President Book to sign an agreement needed to purchase a used mini excavator, pending statute authority, from Altorfer in the amount of \$67,000 to be paid by dividing cost equally between electric fund, gas fund and sewer fund seconded by Trustee Ruppert. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

Digitizing Gas Utility System – Shannon Risley, Utilities Manager, had a GUA audit this week and one thing they suggested was to implement a digital GIS program for the gas system. USDI presented a 192.GIS proposal to digitize all the Village's records for the gas system and maps. Trustee McLain would like Shannon to look into other company options for price comparisons.

Reports – Utilities Manager, Shannon Risley & Police Chief Chris Nichols

Correspondence – President Book brought to the attention of the board, emails that have been received from a disgruntled resident threatening potential litigation. This was for the board's information and no action is needed at this time.

Committee Meeting Dates – None

With no other business to discuss a motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Allen and seconded by Trustee McLain. Voice vote taken, all ayes, motion carried. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Henderson, Interim Clerk

Jonathan Book, President