

VILLAGE OF BETHANY
REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
May 12, 2021

The regular board meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Jon Book. The following Trustees were present; Mike Jennings, Jeannie Ruppert, Greg McLain, Raven Russell, and Brian Gill. David Doty was absent.

A motion was made by Trustee Gill to approve the minutes from the April 8, 2021 regular meeting, seconded by Trustee Russell. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

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

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

Public – Minard was not in attendance

Matt Flood – Asked about why establishments are not allowed to advertise about gaming machines inside their business. Trustee McLain and Trustee Russell explained why the Board made the decision they did.

Greg Gustafson Water Improvement Project Update – We are moving forward at a bit faster rate. Rural Development has approved the final PER. There is a required public meeting to be held as soon as possible. Once this has occurred, they will underwrite the project. He has presented needed documents to Rural Development. Priority now is the color and font for the water tower. Tank replacement on the water tower is also on the list of repairs. Mr. Gustafson is talking with both tank companies in Sullivan concerning this. We are close to starting the survey work for the water mains.

Ordinance Fines/Complaint Policy - Attorney Reimer looked at Chief Nichols' notes from a prior meeting. He was asking for more direction concerning who would make up the appeals committee. More discussion followed concerning more details and changes of this ordinance.

Committee Assignments – this will be addressed next month.

Price Increase for Recycling Bins – President Book has talked with the account manager yesterday. They initially doubled the rates from \$400 to \$800. He will look into this further and it will be discussed next month.

New Utility Rates - Each year rates are reevaluated. Water rates are still in limbo due to the water project. Concerning water rates, we are 55th lowest out of 83 communities. Water would increase 10%. Gas would increase 4%. Electric rates would remain the same. Sewer rates would increase 10%. Trustee McLain made a motion to adopt the new utility rates as stated, seconded by Trustee Jennings. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried. A sheet with current and proposed new rates are attached.

Member Withdrawal from IMGGA - We belong to the IMGGA and there are two towns wanting to withdrawal from this organization. To do this, all current members need to approve an ordinance stating the communities may withdrawal. Trustee Jennings made a motion to approve Ordinance #21-795 for the approval of withdrawal for the City of Creal Springs and the Village of Tamms from the IMGGA, seconded by Trustee Ruppert. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

Employee Compensation - this will be discussed in Executive Session.

Reports – Village Manager Shannon Risley, Utilities Committee, Finance Committee, and Chief Nichols.

Correspondence – 1) communication concerning the water project; 2) the new federal act will be giving our community money about this time next year estimate of \$133, 000.

Meeting Before the Next Meeting – The special hearing for the Rural Water Project will be held Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 6pm at the Village Hall.

A motion was made by Trustee McLain to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel, and possible litigation, seconded by Trustee Russell. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Russell to enter back into Open Session, seconded by Trustee Ruppert. Voice vote taken, all ayes, motion carried.

Trustee Gill made a motion for employee compensation as follows; Shannon Risley from \$34.50 to \$36.50, Daniel Kidwell from \$23.00 to \$25.00, Hank Taber from \$21.00 to \$23.00, Rob Carlson from \$21.00 to \$23.00, Chris Nichols from \$26.00 to \$28.00, Kathy Denham from \$13.00 to \$14.00, seconded by Trustee Jennings. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

Trustee Gill made a motion for employee compensation for Jessica Henderson from \$18.00 to \$20.00, seconded by Trustee Russell. Roll call taken; Russell-yes; Gill-yes; Ruppert-yes; Jennings-yes; McLain-abstain (conflict of interest). Motion carried.

Trustee Gill made a motion for employee compensation for Hope Ruppert from \$20.00 to \$21.50, seconded by Trustee Russell. Roll call taken; Gill-yes; Ruppert-abstain (conflict of interest); Jennings-yes; McLain-yes; Russell-yes. Motion carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Jackie McLain, Clerk

Village President