

VILLAGE OF BETHANY
REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
November 14, 2024

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

A motion was made by Trustee Ruppert to approve the minutes from the October 10, 2024, regular meeting with the noted date change, seconded by Trustee McLain. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Ruppert to approve the Special Meeting minutes from October 17, 2024, seconded by Trustee McLain. 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 Gill to approve the "Banks and Checks Journal", seconded by Trustee McLain. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

Public – None

Greg Gustafson Water Improvement Project Updates - Watermain restoration with SNC is continuing to install new fire hydrants. There is some landscaping that needs finished, along with some road repair in town and in the country. Oil and chip will not happen now due to the time of the year and the oil plant has shut down for the season. Mr. Gustafson asked for a schedule update from SNC and received nothing. He does have a punch list that seems to be a bit lengthy. There are places where they need to disconnect the old main and attach to the newly installed mains. He has a pay request from SNC in the amount of \$137,028.71. This is pay request #6. The electrical work from Commercial Electric, has been mostly completed. Along with a lot of work in the building for wells #6 and #7. Mr. Gustafson will be meeting with them at the water treatment plant looking at the control panel. He asked for a schedule update from Commercial Electric and received one. They will be back at work on Monday. He asked for an update on the detention tank replacement with A&R services and he kind of received one. Bruder tank says the tank is scheduled to be completed at the end of next week. He is hopeful the tank will be ready to set in about three weeks. The tank still needs to be tested, it is all stainless steel. The 500 new water meters were delivered to the Village last week. A&R and a subcontractor will be installing them and we have extended the time allotment for this out to March 31st. IEPA new Chlorine plan is under way. Once it's ready it will be sent off for permits. A motion was made by Trustee McLain to approve the change order #4 for A&R Services with a \$46,136.85 increase in contract price and a time increase of 204 days, seconded by Trustee Ruppert. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried. A motion was made by Trustee McLain to

approve pay request #6 from SNC in the amount of \$137,028.71, seconded by Trustee England. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried. A motion was made by Trustee McLain to approve pay request #53 from Berns Clancy in the amount of \$20,693.72, seconded by Trustee Ruppert. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

Hire of New Police Officer - Chief Nichols asked to keep this on here every month until a hire has been made. There is nothing currently.

Tree Trimming Service - RNL is looking to start in a couple of weeks.

Employment of New Utility Employee - This will be discussed in Executive Session.

Village Attorney Patrick Sullivan stated he sent a letter to Andrea Doty concerning her coming in for a special use permit for her dog breeding business. She has not been to the Village Hall to get this permit. Mr. Sullivan will proceed with a complaint letter.

Trustee McLain wanted the Board to know that the Township has sent a letter to not support the TIF extension. And the County Board will be voting on it tonight. Trustee McLain plans on going back out to the Township to discuss misinformation that they have received. The Park Board agrees with the Extension but will not give a letter of support.

Crisis Pay for Police Officer - Chief Nichols was wanting to check into what was paid before for this. He suggested doing this for just weekend shifts. Trustee Allen made a motion to increase the part time pay for police officers to \$30 per hour regardless of shift worked, seconded by Trustee England. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

Police Bonus Agreement - Village Attorney Patrick Sullivan handed out a copy of the Bonus Agreement to the Trustees. The overview is to pay \$5000 at hire date or completion of academy and then \$5000 after completing three years. It is listed that if the employee leaves before the three years have been completed, they would need to repay the Village a prorated amount of the sign-on bonus. This will be tabled until next month.

Hiring Process of Employees - Trustee Gill wanted to look into this to try to shorten and streamline this process. He believes we need to turn more of this over to the Managers.

Sexual Harassment for Elected Officials - Elected Officials are to have Sexual Harassment training once a year. The slides are in their packets to read and there is an acknowledgement sheet that needs signed and returned tonight.

Christmas Lighting Contest - Last year prizes were \$100, 2 - \$50 and 4 - \$25. The dates would be December 6th through the 23rd lights need to be on from dusk to 9pm. A motion was made by Trustee Allen to approve the lighting contest from December 6th to the 23rd from dusk to 9pm to be 1-\$100; 2-\$50 and 4-\$25 as a credit on their electric utility bill, seconded by Trustee Ruppert. Roll call taken all ayes, motion carried.

Donation for Post Prom - Last time the Board donated \$250 for the save Post Prom at OVHS. The committee sent a letter asking for the Village Board for donation this year. A motion was made by Trustee Ruppert to donate \$300 to the OVHS Post Prom payable from the Utilities, seconded by Trustee McLain. Roll call taken: Gill-yes; Ruppert-yes; England-yes; McLain-yes; Allen-abstain (conflict of interest); motion carried.

Property Transaction with Heritage Grain Co. - The Trustees were given a map of the plot of land that Heritage Grain would like to obtain from the Village. They would like to put in another grain bin. One suggestion was to lease this small plot of land. This will be tabled until next month so hopefully someone from Heritage Grain will be able to attend.

Treasurer Jessica Henderson talked with Kristi Hart, the Zoning Admin for Moultrie County. She was asking if the Village had a Zoning Board or a Planning Commision. She is concerned, after looking at our ordinances, that something might come back on the Village Board.

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

Correspondence – Received a letter from Marrowbone Township stating that they do not wish to extend the TIF District.

Committee Meeting Dates – None

A motion was made by Trustee McLain to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel and property acquisition, seconded by Trustee Ruppert. Roll call taken, all ayes, motion carried.

A motion to return to Open Session was made by Trustee Allen, seconded by Trustee Ruppert. Voice vote taken, all ayes, motion carried.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Jackie McLain, Clerk

Jonathan Book, President