

**Thomasboro Village Board of Trustees
Regular Board Meeting
June 1, 2015**

*Thomasboro Village Hall
101 W. Main Street, Thomasboro, Illinois*

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Thomasboro was held on Monday, June 1, 2015, President Brad Morris presiding. President Morris called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Roll Call

The Village Clerk called the roll, finding the following members physically present: Village President Brad Morris; and Trustees Jeff Robertson, Anthony Grilo, Kyle Henegar, Anna Martin, Dustin Rhodes, and Mickey Wilson.

Other Village officials present: Leon Albers, Treasurer; Tyler Martin, Public Works Superintendent; Keith Willis, Chief of Police; Karen Eller, Office Manager; Laurel Zook, ESDA Coordinator; and Jeremy Reale, Village Clerk.

Pledge of Allegiance

Following roll call, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Discussion/Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Trustee Grilo moved to approve the minutes of the May 4, 2015 regular meeting and the May 4, 2015 special meeting, as prepared. Trustee Henegar seconded the motion. Motion carried, all present voting "aye".

Presentation of Bills

Following review and discussion of the monthly bills, Trustee Grilo moved to approve the payment of the bills listed and the regular bills yet to be received. Trustee Martin seconded the motion.

The Village Clerk called the roll:

YEAS:	Robertson, Grilo, Henegar, Martin, Rhodes, and Wilson – 6
NAYS:	None – 0
ABSENT:	None – 0

Motion carried by roll call vote of 6 to 0.

Committee Reports

Police & Safety: Chair Martin discussed the monthly activity reports. Chief Willis reported that he would be on vacation for one week beginning June 7. During that time, Sr. Officer Martinez would assume command of the department and an on-call schedule was in place to ensure coverage.

Personnel: No report.

Building Permit & Liquor License: No report.

Health, Sanitation & Public Relations: Chair Grilo reported that the spring community cleanup had gone well; however, the Village may need to revisit the process for coordinating pickup service before the next cleanup day. The Village had received just over \$230.00 from scrap metal recycling, and an additional \$550.00 had been collected in freewill donations from residents using the service.

Waterworks & Sewer: Chair Henegar reported that Village personnel had continued changing out non-functioning water meters. Mr. Martin added that he was currently out of new meters to replace the approximately 20 to 25 remaining broken ones. This item was tabled to the next Board meeting. Mr. Martin also reported that the Village may need to consider purchasing pH and chlorine meters for the water treatment plant due to discrepancies in the readings taken using Mr. Clendaniel's equipment. Each meter would cost around \$300.00. He suggested that if the Village was interested in pursuing any such purchase, the chlorine meter would be the first priority. He also told the Board that he would like to have Bodine jet four different storm lines to help improve drainage in impacted areas of the Village. He was directed to find out if this service had been performed last year in the area around South Church Street and to obtain cost estimates.

Streets & Alleys: Chair Grilo reported that a truckload of rock had been delivered for filling holes in streets and roadways around town. Mr. Martin noted that he would like to consider replacing the bristles on the street sweeper, as the current bristles had been used since the equipment was first obtained in 1997. Replacement would cost approximately \$650.00. He also reported that he would be continuing to stripe parking area around downtown this week.

Civil Defense & Parks: Chair Rhodes reported that siren testing would be conducted tomorrow. Trustee Robertson noted that a resident had reported not being able to hear the siren located on St. Joseph Drive. Ms. Zook would follow up on that during the monthly test.

Old Business

Filter Media Replacement at Water Treatment Plant

Greg Gustafson reported that the estimated cost of engineering services related to the project would be \$17,500.00. Trustee Grilo suggested that the Village should consider the alternative of hiring a firm to vacuum out the existing filter media, and then purchase new media separately. The four pressure filters could then be filled with the replacement media by Village personnel under the supervision of the engineers. Mr. Gustafson reminded the Board about the radium component of the existing filter media which would factor into any plan for disposing of these materials. President Morris expressed concern about the potential liability for the Village if it was to assume responsibility for the project. Following discussion, the consensus was to table this item and further investigate options for the disposal and replacement of the filter media prior to the next regular meeting.

Contract with Frank Clendaniel to perform required water testing

President Morris noted one amendment to the original agreement with Mr. Clendaniel to permit the Village to operate under his license at the water treatment plant. It had been requested to increase the monthly payment to \$400.00, to cover the 1099 taxes incurred as an independent contractor.

Trustee Grilo moved to approve the contract as amended. Trustee Henegar seconded the motion.

The Village Clerk called the roll:

YEAS: Robertson, Grilo, Henegar, Martin, Rhodes, and Wilson – 6
NAYS: None – 0
ABSENT: None – 0

Motion carried by roll call vote of 6 to 0.

Employee Health Insurance for Tyler Martin

Ms. Eller reported that due to the Affordable Care Act, Mr. Martin would not be able to obtain his own health insurance plan until the next open enrollment period in November. President Morris also noted that questions had arisen about how the approved stipend for the employee's health insurance were to be paid, adding that the Village was working with Health Alliance to possibly set up a pre-tax account to set aside money toward the premium costs. Trustee Martin inquired about the possibility of adding Mr. Martin to her insurance as part of a family plan and then receiving the stipend from the Village. President Morris stated he would research the legal issues so the insurance matter could be settled as soon as possible.

Employment Agreement with Tyler Martin

The Board reviewed the agreement to employ Mr. Martin as Public Works Superintendent, as drafted by the Village Attorney. President Morris commented that he felt it was important for Mr. Martin to have one designated individual to whom he would directly report. As such, Trustee Grilo, as chairman of the Streets and Alleys Committee, would oversee Mr. Martin. Trustee Rhodes suggested that the language of the agreement should be changed to specify that any payout upon voluntary termination would be contingent upon the employee giving at least two weeks' notice.

Trustee Wilson moved to approve the employment agreement, as amended to specify that payout of leave upon separation would be contingent upon the employee providing a minimum of two weeks' notice. Trustee Henegar seconded the motion.

The Village Clerk called the roll:

YEAS: Robertson, Grilo, Henegar, Rhodes, and Wilson – 5
NAYS: None – 0
ABSTAIN: Martin – 1

Motion carried by roll call vote of 5 to 0, with 1 abstention.

Purchase of Phone for Public Works Superintendent

Ms. Eller reported that she had researched possible plan options and had recommended a plan through Sprint for \$60.00 per month, as this plan included unlimited data. There was some discussion about the quality of service through that particular provider. Mr. Martin stated that he would be agreeable to a reimbursement for his current phone plan based on the plan prices available to the Village in lieu of getting a second phone.

Trustee Grilo moved to approve a monthly phone reimbursement of \$60.00 for Tyler Martin. Trustee Rhodes seconded the motion.

The Village Clerk called the roll:

YEAS: Robertson, Grilo, Henegar, Rhodes, and Wilson – 5
NAYS: None – 0
ABSTAIN: Martin – 1

Motion carried by roll call vote of 5 to 0, with 1 abstention.

New Business

Ordinance No. 593, Annual Appropriation Ordinance for the Village of Thomasboro

Trustee Henegar moved to approve Ordinance No. 593. Trustee Robertson seconded the motion.

The Village Clerk called the roll:

YEAS: Robertson, Grilo, Henegar, Martin, Rhodes, and Wilson – 6
NAYS: None – 0
ABSENT: None – 0

Motion carried by roll call vote of 6 to 0.

Intergovernmental Agreement with Champaign County for Animal Control and Impound

Chief Willis reported that the county was beginning to charge each municipality based on a per capita rate rather than service call activity. He noted that some communities had discussed using a third party service for animal control; however, the problem was that there was no convenient option available for impoundment since insurance costs were likely too prohibitive for the communities to impound animals themselves. He therefore recommended that the Village continue employing the services of the county for animal control and impoundment.

Trustee Martin moved to approve the intergovernmental agreement with Champaign County for animal control and impoundment services, as presented. Trustee Grilo seconded the motion.

The Village Clerk called the roll:

YEAS: Robertson, Grilo, Henegar, Martin, Rhodes, and Wilson – 6
NAYS: None – 0
ABSENT: None – 0

Motion carried by roll call vote of 6 to 0.

Purchase of replacement Mobile Data Computer for Police squad vehicle

Chief Willis reported that the Village had just replaced a 13-year-old computer in Squad 1 last year, and the current computer in Squad 2 was 13 years old and beginning to slow down. The fact that the unit's XP operating system was incompatible with the new premier cad system or the county e-citation program had also made the computer virtually obsolete. He had obtained three price options for the purchase of a new mobile data computer, and was recommending the purchase of a unit with extended warranty and docking station for a total of roughly \$3,800.00. Chief Willis noted that \$1,025.00 was available in tobacco enforcement grant funds to be used toward the purchase; however, these funds were required to be spent before the end of the current month. Trustee Rhodes asked how often Squad 2 was used for routine patrol. Chief Willis responded that the vehicle was used for four to five shifts of patrol. Trustee Grilo suggested the possibility of getting a docking station that would be compatible with the tablet from Squad 1 instead of purchasing a new computer. Chief Willis noted that the interior setup of Squad 2 would need to be re-outfitted to accommodate that, adding that the Village would also not be able to use the grant funds for that particular purchase.

Trustee Wilson moved to authorize the purchase of a mobile data computer, with extended warranty and docking station, using the remaining funds available from the tobacco enforcement grant and a total of \$2,859.00 in funds from the police department equipment budget. Trustee Martin seconded the motion.

The Village Clerk called the roll:

YEAS: Henegar, Martin, Wilson, and Morris – 4
NAYS: Robertson, Grilo, and Rhodes – 3
ABSENT: None – 0

Motion carried by roll call vote of 4 to 3.

Installation of new fencing at Water Treatment Plant

The consensus was that this project needed to be addressed; however, the item was tabled pending investigation of other options.

Possible Sewer Connection with Cherry Orchard Apartments

Mr. Gustafson reported that Berns Clancy & Associates had been contacted by the current owner of the apartment complex, located just off of U.S. Route 45 between Rantoul and Thomasboro. The owner was looking to sell the property to a prospective buyer and was interested in finding the most expedient option for providing sanitary sewer service to the complex. BCA had investigated various options for the owner, and had determined that the most viable solution would be connection to the force main the currently services the Village of Thomasboro. It was noted that the current sewer ordinance and intergovernmental agreement with Rantoul did not contemplate such a connection and would therefore need to be amended if the parties were interested in accommodating the owner's request. If such a connection were established, the Village of Thomasboro would be able to charge for the necessary hookup, pump station construction, and monthly user fees. Following discussion, the consensus of the Board was to continue researching this option.

Limiting truck traffic to certain roadways

Trustee Grilo noted that Main and Commercial Streets receive a good deal of wear and tear from truck traffic to and from the grain elevator, and suggested that the Village could consider limiting this traffic to Central and Commercial to spare Main Street from further damage. He also suggested containing semi traffic from Altamont and Astro Tire to the section of North Church Street between North Street and the access road to U.S. Route 45. Considerable discussion followed on this subject, with residents in attendance expressing their opposition to such a policy given the importance of agriculture to the local economy. Trustee Henegar suggested that the Village should reach out to officials from Premier Cooperative, who had previously indicated a willingness to contribute funds toward the improvement and maintenance of streets in the downtown area. If such an offer was to be put on the table, he stated that the Village should not consider restricting traffic routes for their customers.

Comments and Questions from the Audience

Jim Richardson questioned why Village officials had planted trees in the railroad right-of-way without obtaining the consent of Canadian National Railroad. Trustee Grilo responded that he had been involved in the project and had figured that since the Village maintained the property it wouldn't be necessary to get consent from the railroad. Mr. Richardson expressed concern that such actions could hinder the Village's ability to get cooperation from the railroad in obtaining an easement for the possible northerly extension of Thomas Street. Trustee Grilo stated that if railroad officials took issue with the trees planted on that land, they could be easily removed and relocated to other areas of the community. Phyllis Harper recommended that the Village immediately contact Canadian National and act accordingly with the railroad's wishes concerning the trees.

Mel Ghrist asked the Board if there was a means available to residents for the disposal of yard waste. Mr. Martin responded that the Village was in the process of finding a suitable location to haul these materials for disposal, as the old dump site near the railroad was not a viable option.

Treasurers Report

There were no comments regarding the Treasurer's Report.

Executive Session

Trustee Grilo moved to enter into Executive Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (C)1, for the purpose of discussing the employment, performance, and compensation of one or more employees. Trustee Wilson seconded the motion.

The Village Clerk called the roll:

YEAS: Robertson, Grilo, Henegar, Martin, Rhodes, and Wilson – 6
NAYS: None – 0
ABSENT: None – 0

Motion carried by roll call vote of 6 to 0.

The Board entered into Executive Session at 8:44pm. The open meeting was reconvened at 9:05pm.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Trustee Grilo moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Robertson seconded the motion. Motion carried viva voce vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremy A. Reale, Village Clerk

The undersigned Village Clerk of the Village of Thomasboro, Illinois, does hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the approved minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees held June 1, 2015, as the same appears on the records of the Village now in my custody and keeping.

Village Clerk