

**Thomasboro Village Board of Trustees
Regular Board Meeting
December 7, 2020**

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

A Teleconference Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Thomasboro was held on Monday, December 7, 2020. Zoom Meeting ID 8837767869. President Evans called the meeting to order at 7:11 PM.

Roll Call

Upon roll call, the following members were found to be present via video or audio transmission: President W. Tyler Evans; and Trustees Mick Curry, Anthony Grilo, Dustin Rhodes, Jeff Robertson and Ronda Scott.

Other Village Staff present via video or audio: Leon Albers, Treasurer; Chad Polsky, Public Works Superintendent; Eric Shumate, Chief of Police; Mike Martinez, Police Officer; Deanne Wattjes, Office Manager; and Jasmyne Boyce, Village Clerk.

Discussion and Approval of Appointment of Village Trustee

President Evans announced his appointment of Dustin Hill to serve as village trustee for the remainder of the term left vacant by the resignation of Robert Pinske.

Trustee Scott moved to concur with the Village President in the appointment of Dustin Hill as village trustee. Trustee Robertson seconded the motion.

The Clerk called the roll:

YEAS: Curry, Grilo, Rhodes, Robertson, and Scott – 5

NAYS: None – 0

The motion carried by roll call vote of 5 to 0.

President Evans then administered the oath of office to Trustee Hill, who was formally seated as a member of the Village Board.

Discussion and Approval of Meeting Minutes

Trustee Grilo moved to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2020 regular meeting, as prepared. Trustee Rhodes seconded the motion.

The Clerk called the roll:

YEAS: Curry, Grilo, Hill, Rhodes, Robertson, and Scott – 6

NAYS: None – 0

The motion carried by roll call vote of 6 to 0.

Presentation of Bills

Following a review of the monthly bills, Trustee Grilo moved to approve the payment of the bills and anticipated bills as specified on the invoice listing. Trustee Robertson seconded the motion.

The Clerk called the roll:

YEAS: Curry, Grilo, Hill, Rhodes, Robertson, and Scott – 6

NAYS: None – 0

The motion carried by roll call vote of 6 to 0.

Old Business

Discussion and Approval of Ordinance No. 621 (Ameren Franchise Agreement)

President Evans noted that the Board had spent a considerable amount of time discussing the franchise agreement proposal and researching similar agreements between Ameren and other communities. Ameren had been lenient in terms of the time given to the Village to consider its

options; however, a final decision would need to be forthcoming. He noted that Trustee Scott had reported the findings of her review of other municipalities and the village attorney had reviewed the proposal as well. Ms. Boyce stated that the proposed agreement would provide the Village with an opportunity to negotiate on the terms after a period of five years, adding that it appeared to be standard practice in other communities to have a fixed twenty year term for the overall agreement. President Evans suggested that this item be tabled for one additional month to allow Village officials a final opportunity to negotiate proposed terms.

Presentation and Adoption of Ordinance No. 625 (Annual Tax Levy Ordinance)

Trustee Grilo moved to pass Ordinance No. 625, adopting the annual tax levy for the Village of Thomasboro. Trustee Robertson seconded the motion.

The Clerk called the roll:

YEAS: Curry, Grilo, Hill, Rhodes, Robertson, and Scott – 6

NAYS: None – 0

The motion carried by roll call vote of 6 to 0.

Discussion and Approval of Water Service Installation invoice - \$4,700.00

President Evans reported that he had been engaged in conversation with a representative of the Overland Group concerning this overage in the costs to extend utility service across U.S. Route 45 to the Dollar General site. It appeared that the developer may possibly be amenable to absorbing those costs, so this item was tabled pending further discussions.

New Business

Discussion and Approval of Purchase of Bolawrap equipment – Police Department

Chief Shumate discussed a request to authorize the purchase of a Bolawrap for the use of department personnel. He explained that the equipment was a handheld remote restraint device that would offer law enforcement officers another non-lethal means of dealing with armed or uncontrollable suspects. If approved, Thomasboro would be the first department in the area to employ a Bolawrap and he felt it would be beneficial in terms of increasing officer safety. The total cost for purchasing the necessary cartridge, holster and belt clip would be less than \$1,200.00 and Chief Shumate noted that there was sufficient funding available in the budget for this item.

Trustee Grilo moved to authorize the purchase of a Bolawrap for an amount not to exceed \$1,200.00. Trustee Curry seconded the motion.

The Clerk called the roll:

YEAS: Curry, Grilo, Hill, Rhodes, Robertson, and Scott – 6

NAYS: None – 0

The motion carried by roll call vote of 6 to 0.

Discussion and Approval of tree removal and associated expenses – Public Works

Mr. Polsky reported that in his efforts to obtain quotations from area tree removal contractors, only Clean Green Services had elected to submit a formal quote in the amount of \$4,500.00. He added that he had also received a verbal estimate from another service that would be approximately \$900.00 less expensive; however, he did not have anything formally submitted in writing. Some trustees expressed a preference for using a local contractor such as Petmetcky Tree Service for Village projects; however, Mr. Polsky stated that Petmecky had not been responsive to his request for quotes. Trustee Grilo then contacted Petmecky during the course of the meeting and received a response that they would inspect the two trees to determine a cost for removal. The consensus of the Board was that the removal of the trees should be authorized at a not-to-exceed amount, pending receipt of a quote from Petmecky Tree Service. In the event Petmecky quoted within the parameters set by the Board, they would be authorized to complete the work.

Trustee Grilo moved to authorize the removal of Village-owned trees at 100 W. Eads and 204 W. Pearl for an amount not to exceed \$4,750.00. Trustee Robertson seconded the motion.

The Clerk called the roll:

YEAS: Curry, Grilo, Hill, Rhodes, Robertson, and Scott – 6

NAYS: None – 0

The motion carried by roll call vote of 6 to 0.

Resolution 2020-12-07, approving a loan of \$42,500.00 from General Fund to Sewer Fund

Trustee Rhodes moved to pass Resolution No. 2020-12-07, authorizing and approving a loan in the amount of \$42,500.00 from the General Fund to the Sewer Fund. Trustee Grilo seconded the motion.

The Clerk called the roll:

YEAS: Grilo, Hill, Rhodes, and Robertson – 4

NAYS: Curry and Scott – 2

The motion carried by roll call vote of 4 to 2.

Resolution 2020-12-07A, adopting the 2021 regular meeting schedule

Ms. Boyce noted that an amendment to the original meeting schedule had been proposed concerning the rescheduling of meeting dates that conflict with holidays. Typically, the practice had been to hold such meetings on the Tuesday following the holiday observation. President Evans stated that those Tuesday meetings tended to be less productive because officials and staff are not given adequate time to prepare for the meeting after the holiday weekend. It was therefore proposed that such meetings would instead be held on the Monday of the following week. Under the terms of the amendment, this would impact the regular meeting dates in January, April, July and September.

Trustee Scott moved to pass Resolution No. 2020-12-07A, adopting a schedule of regular meetings for the calendar year of 2021. Trustee Curry seconded the motion.

The Clerk called the roll:

YEAS: Curry, Grilo, Hill, Rhodes, Robertson, and Scott – 6

NAYS: None – 0

The motion carried by roll call vote of 6 to 0.

Public Comments

Jim Richardson requested that the Board provide the public with more detailed information about items prior to voting. He noted that it was difficult for those viewing the meeting to understand the substance of actions taken by the Board when they simply refer to ordinance or resolution numbers.

Executive Session

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

The Clerk called the roll:

YEAS: Curry, Grilo, Hill, Rhodes, Robertson, and Scott – 6

NAYS: None – 0

The motion carried by roll call vote of 6 to 0.

The Board entered into Executive Session at 7:53 PM. The Board reconvened in open session at 8:15 PM.

Authorization of wage adjustments for Village employees

Trustee Rhodes moved to authorize an increase of \$2.00 per hour for part-time Public Works employee Lance Cloninger and an increase of \$1.00 per hour for Officer Mike Martinez to be effective for the next payroll. Trustee Curry seconded the motion.

The Clerk called the roll:

YEAS: Curry, Grilo, Hill, Rhodes, Robertson, and Scott – 6

NAYS: None – 0

The motion carried by roll call vote of 6 to 0.

Discussion and Approval of hourly wage for upcoming training – Village Clerk

Ms. Boyce reported that Eastern Illinois University would be offering an upcoming online training series for municipal clerks that she would request to attend given the reduced amount of training opportunities offered due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It had previously been discussed paying her at a rate of \$17.00 per hour for attending any training sessions and she did not anticipate more than six hours of total training between the sessions. She noted that the Board would be required to approve payment for the training expenses before she would be permitted to register for the session.

Trustee Grilo moved to authorize an amount not to exceed \$300.00 to cover employee wages and registration fees associated with the municipal clerk training program. Trustee Curry seconded the motion.

The Clerk called the roll:

YEAS: Curry, Grilo, Hill, Rhodes, Robertson, and Scott – 6

NAYS: None – 0

The motion carried by roll call vote of 6 to 0.

Discussion and Approval of annual bonus payments for Village personnel

Trustee Rhodes moved to authorize one-time bonus payments of \$100.00 for all full-time employees, treasurer and village clerk and \$50.00 for all part-time employees. Trustee Robertson seconded the motion.

The Clerk called the roll:

YEAS: Curry, Grilo, Hill, Rhodes, Robertson, and Scott – 6

NAYS: None – 0

The motion carried by roll call vote of 6 to 0.

Treasurer's Report

There was no discussion regarding the monthly report as submitted.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, Trustee Grilo moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Curry seconded the motion.

The Clerk called the roll:

YEAS: Curry, Grilo, Hill, Rhodes, Robertson, and Scott – 6

NAYS: None – 0

The motion carried by roll call vote of 6 to 0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremy A. Reale, Interim 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 December 7, 2020, as the same appears on the records of the Village now in my custody and keeping.

Village Clerk