

**Thomasboro Village Board of Trustees
Regular Board Meeting
March 1, 2021**

*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, March 1, 2021. Zoom Meeting ID 87934912946. President Evans called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

Roll Call

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

Other Village Staff present physically or audio: Leon Albers, Treasurer; Chad Polsky, Public Works Superintendent; Eric Shumate, Chief of Police; Deanne Wattjes, Office Manager; and Jeremy Reale, Interim Village Clerk.

Discussion and Approval of Meeting Minutes

Trustee Curry moved to approve the minutes of the February 1, 2021 regular board meeting and the February 16, 2021 special board meeting, as prepared. Trustee Scott 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 Robertson moved to approve the payment of the bills and anticipated bills as specified on the invoice listing. 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.

Old Business

Public Works Update

Mr. Polsky reported that he had engaged in conversation with the Village's insurance carrier concerning the status of Well #2. At the present time, the well was still operational; however, it was drawing too many amps of electricity for undetermined reasons. The claims adjuster had indicated to Mr. Polsky that insurance would not cover the costs of an inspection of the well under the lightning damage claim. In a subsequent discussion with Hayes and Sims, the contractor had agreed to perform the inspection at no cost to the Village. If investigation could determine that the issues with the well would be attributable to the lightning strike, then the Village could pursue repair or replacement under the original claim. Mr. Polsky had tentatively scheduled the inspection for March 8, subject to the consent of the board. Following discussion the consensus of the board was to proceed with the inspection. Mr. Polsky stated that he would report the findings of the inspection to the board.

Update on frontage road property

President Evans reported that the Village Attorney had filed paperwork with Busey regarding the family trust and ordered a title search for the property located along the North Church Street frontage that was to be donated to the Village by the Exton family.

New Business

Supplemental Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Resolution for 2020 maintenance

Trustee Scott moved to approve a supplemental MFT resolution authorizing an additional \$1,000.00 for the 2020 annual street maintenance program. 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 on creation of illegal dumping ordinance

Chief Shumate reported that he had discovered that illegal dumping was not specifically identified as a violation under the Village ordinances. The existing ordinances concerning trash are primarily focused on accumulation of junk and debris and general upkeep of property; therefore, law enforcement has not mechanism to cite individuals for dumping of trash illegally. He suggested that the Village should consider adopting a local ordinance so that such issues can be addressed through Village citation, which would alleviate the need to go through the State's Attorney's office and allow the Village to recoup a greater amount of any fine levied against the violator. He proposed that he would use the county's illegal dumping ordinance as a template for creating a draft for the Board to consider implementing at a future meeting.

Discussion on adoption of IBC and/or rental registration program

Trustee Grilo noted that he had previously brought up the subject of a rental registration program that he believed could be beneficial to the Village in terms of ensuring that such properties are adequately maintained and properly habitable. While similar programs were in place in larger area communities such as Urbana and Rantoul, he noted that it had been difficult to determine the logistics for operating this type of program in a smaller community such as Thomasboro given limited staffing and potential legal constraints. Because the Village did not have the manpower to perform physical property inspections, he suggested the possibility of having self-inspection reports signed by both landlord and tenant submitted to the Village at the time of application for utility services. He was still uncertain if this type of program might lead the Village to become more deeply involved in landlord-tenant issues than would be desirable, but expressed that he would like to be able to assist tenants when property owners are not responsive to life safety and property maintenance issues. During subsequent discussion, it was suggested that Village officials should contact the Champaign-Urbana Tenants Union for guidance.

Discussion on Astro Tire property

Trustee Robertson reported that he had fielded complaints about the accumulation of tire debris on the Astro Tire property. Chief Shumate suggested that Village officials should first research the legal regulations regarding the storage of the materials before approaching the property owner or any regulatory officials. President Evans stated that he would contact Mr. Papametro to informally discuss the situation and his timeline for removing the material.

Public Comment

Mary Wanke addressed the board with concerns about various nuisances related to a neighboring residential property at 607 W. Clark Street. She noted that the occupant of the property was operating a business out of the home which created issues for the neighbors due to the parking of trailers and additional vehicles and the accumulation of junk and debris on the property. President Evans responded that he would touch base with Ms. Wanke following the meeting because he believed the Village may have a solution to the concerns that she had raised. Chief Shumate suggested that the Village could adopt an ordinance designating that

area of the street as a no parking zone which would provide law enforcement with a mechanism to keep the additional vehicles off the street.

Jim Richardson discussed the situation at Astro Tire. He noted that the Canadian National Railroad had previously raised concerns about the piles of shredded tire materials presenting a fire hazard in close proximity to the railroad line. He also noted that tires on the property waiting to be shredded would further present mosquito concerns during the warmer months. He stressed that if discussions with Mr. Papametro did not produce results, the Village should follow up with the Environmental Protection Agency because this had been an ongoing problem for several years. Bill Kurth added that EPA regulations govern the storage and recycling of tires and suggested that the Village should obtain copies of those materials.

Cale Coffin addressed the Board with concerns about the parking of snowmobiles on properties and the accumulation of junk on the Ratts property along Thomas Street.

Jim Richardson again addressed the Board to express concerns about the condition of the property on the corner of Commercial and Eads Street, just north of the barber shop. He identified ongoing issues with trash and dilapidated fencing along the property. President Evans responded that this property had already been addressed with Chief Shumate.

Treasurer's Report

There was no discussion regarding the monthly report as submitted.

Executive Session

Trustee Scott 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 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.

The Board entered into Executive Session at 8:02 PM. The Board reconvened in open session at 8:53 PM.

Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 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 March 1, 2021, as the same appears on the records of the Village now in my custody and keeping.

Village Clerk