

**Thomasboro Village Board of Trustees  
Regular Board Meeting  
July 12, 2021**

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*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, July 12, 2021. President Evans called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

**Roll Call**

Upon roll call, the following members were found to be physically present: President W. Tyler Evans; and Trustees Mick Curry, Anthony Grilo, Dustin Hill, Dustin Rhodes, Jeff Robertson and Craig Stafford.

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Following roll call, President Evans led those in attendance in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

**Discussion and Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Trustee Rhodes moved to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2021 and June 7, 2021 regular board meetings as prepared. Trustee Curry seconded the motion. Motion carried, all voting "yea".

**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 Stafford – 6

**NAYS:** None – 0

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

**Old Business**

**Authorize approval of EPA laboratory expense**

Trustee Grilo moved to authorize the payment to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency for laboratory expenses incurred for an amount not to exceed \$3,500.00. Trustee Robertson seconded the motion.

The Clerk called the roll:

**YEAS:** Curry, Grilo, Hill, Rhodes, Robertson, and Stafford – 6

**NAYS:** None – 0

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

**New Business**

**Consider proposal from Feller & Kuester CPA to perform annual audit services**

Mr. Albers reported that a total of four Requests for Proposal had been issued to local firms to perform the upcoming audit of the Village's financial records. Feller & Kuester had been the sole firm to respond with a proposal.

Trustee Grilo moved to authorize acceptance of the proposal from Feller & Kuester CPA to perform annual audit services. Trustee Robertson seconded the motion.

The Clerk called the roll:

**YEAS:** Curry, Grilo, Hill, Rhodes, Robertson, and Stafford – 6

**NAYS:** None – 0

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

**Ordinance No. 626, Annual Appropriations Ordinance for the Village of Thomasboro for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2021 and ending April 30, 2022**

Trustee Grilo moved to pass Ordinance No. 626. Trustee Robertson seconded the motion.

The Clerk called the roll:

**YEAS:** Curry, Grilo, Hill, Rhodes, Robertson, and Stafford – 6

**NAYS:** None – 0

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

**Discussion on American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) funding and projects**

President Evans reported that the Village was expected to receive a total of \$130,000.00 in federal funds under the American Rescue Plan Act. Federal guidelines stipulated that the use of these funds would be specifically limited to infrastructure projects in the areas of water, sanitary sewer, storm drainage, and/or broadband internet services. It was also reported that Champaign County Executive Darlene Kloeppel had indicated that ARPA funding received by the County could also be available to further supplement projects undertaken by area municipalities. Following discussion, the consensus of the Board was that the additional funding would present an opportunity to focus on heretofore deferred storm drainage improvements to address chronic problem areas in the community. A special meeting would be called to further discuss potential projects that could utilize ARPA funds.

**Public Comment**

Bill Kurth addressed the Board to suggest that the upgrading and looping of the existing 4-inch main on North Church Street could be a potential project for utilizing ARPA funds. He also inquired about the status of the removal of the tree trunk from the public right of way abutting his property. President Evans responded that the Village had withheld payment to the contractor for any work performed to date on the tree removal. The contractor had also been warned that the Village would seek another contractor to finish the job if not completed in a timely manner.

Mr. Kurth also asked about the possibility of resuming regular open office hours at Village Hall, now that public health restrictions related to the Covid-19 pandemic had begun to ease. President Evans responded that the plan was to resume opening the office to the public once Ms. Billman had completed training for the office management duties.

Jim Richardson commented negatively about the lack of consequences for the individuals arrested in connection with the rioting in Champaign the previous year, noting that none of those who participated in the riots and property damage faced any jail time. He urged those in attendance to pay attention to criminal justice reform plans at the State level, and to remember these issues and hold judicial officers accountable in subsequent elections.

Mary Wanke and Dee Phillips addressed the Board concerning ongoing noise issues related to the operation of a business at a neighboring property owned by Jacob Brownfield. Ms. Wanke stated that vehicle demolition work had been observed well past the permitted hours for excessive noise. She expressed that she had no objection to work taking place during daytime hours, but noted that the Village should enforce its ordinances and require that work creating excessive noise cease at 10:00 PM. Ms. Phillips also noted that there were many instances when vehicles and trailers parked along the street made the area hazardous to navigate. She added that she and her neighbors had called the police several times with complaints of noise during late night hours. Mr. Brownfield disputed the claims of frequent excessive noise late at night, noting that he only worked on vehicles late on evenings prior to demolition derby

competitions and never into the early morning hours. He stated that the majority of complaints lodged with the police department had not been found to be legitimate. Trustees Grilo and Robertson noted that they had observed issues with the property and urged Mr. Brownfield to be a good neighbor and consider how the use of his property impacted other residents in the area. The neighbors were told that the Village would continue to monitor the situation and respond with enforcement actions as needed. Chief Shumate added that he would like to meet with the Village Attorney to discuss possible updates to Village ordinances to improve enforcement capabilities.

### **Treasurer's Report**

There was no discussion regarding the monthly report as submitted.

### **Executive Session**

Trustee Rhodes moved to enter into Executive Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (C)(1), for the limited purpose of discussing the employment, performance 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 Stafford – 6

**NAYS:** None – 0

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

The Board entered into Executive Session at 8:05 PM. The Board reconvened in open session at 8:15 PM.

### **Adjournment**

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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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 July 12, 2021, as the same appears on the records of the Village now in my custody and keeping.

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Village Clerk