

VILLAGE OF THOMASBORO BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2022

VILLAGE HALL BOARD ROOM
101 W. MAIN STREET, THOMASBORO, IL 61878

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Thomasboro was held on Monday, August 1, 2022. Trustee Grilo called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Trustee Grilo led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Upon Roll Call, the following members were present:

Trustee Jeff Robertson, Trustee Anthony Grilo, Trustee Dustin Rhodes, Trustee Dustin Hill, and Trustee Cale Coffin

The following member was not present:

Mayor Tyler Evans

The following representatives of Village departments were also present: Leon Albers, Treasurer, Chad Polsky, Public Works Superintendent, and Acting Chief Mike Martinez

Presentation / Approval of Bills

Following a review of the monthly bills, Trustee Rhodes moved to authorize and approve the payment of the current and anticipated bills as specified on the financial report. Trustee Hill seconded the motion.

On a Roll Call vote:

YEA: Rhodes, Hill, Coffin, Robertson, Grilo

NAY: None

The motion carried 5-0

Discussion / Approval of Minutes

The April 4, 2022, May 2, 2022, June 6, 2022, and July 5, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes; and the April 18, 2022 and May 11, 2022 Special Board Meeting Minutes, were reviewed. Trustee Robertson moved to approve the Minutes as presented. Trustee Coffin seconded the motion. Motion carried viva voce vote.

New Business

Trustee Rhodes presented details of the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Infrastructure Funding Program that the Village would be eligible for. The State provides an annual opportunity for \$550,000.00 award, however during this grant season this amount has been increased to \$1.5 Million. Grant funds must be depleted within two years of the award date. If awarded, the Village would be responsible for administrative fees of 16-18% of the project cost. Seth Flach with Milano & Grunloh Engineers, LLC shared additional details of the application process. Mr. Flach stated that Milano & Grunloh would handle all of the project readiness aspects, and submit the application at no cost to the Village. After the grant has been awarded, engineering cost would be implemented. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will typically offset this project cost with a Rural Development loan amortized over 40 years at a rate of 1-1.5%.

Trustee Rhodes made a motion to partner with Milano & Grunloh Engineers, LLC for the DCEO CBDG Public Infrastructure Funding Program application process. Trustee Coffin seconded the motion.

On a Roll Call vote:

YEA: Rhodes, Hill, Coffin, Robertson, Grilo

NAY: None

The motion carried 5-0

As a condition of applying for the DCEO CDBG opportunity, the Village will be required to provide income surveys from 75% of the project area. The surveys are good for two years if the Village opted not to move forward with the CDBG grant process this year.

Trustee Rhodes made a motion to allow E&J Water Cooperative to distribute the surveys. Each resident that returns the completed and accepted survey will receive a \$20.00 credit on their utility account. Trustee Hill seconded the motion.

On a Roll Call vote:

YEA: Rhodes, Hill, Coffin, Robertson, Grilo

NAY: None

The motion carried 5-0

Police Department

Acting Chief Martinez stated that due to the end of the month being only the day prior, he was unable to provide a full report. He added that he will compile a monthly log of Calls for Service to share moving forward.

Public Works

Mr. Polsky provided his monthly Public Works report. He stated that the Public Works fencing is almost completed. The old gates were used in the interim as the new ones are being produced. Duce Construction will be complete with the downtown sidewalk work on or before August 15. The West Side Park border work has not been started, and 3W Excavation & Concrete are non-responsive at this point.

Mr. Polsky discussed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) project of jetting the Storm Sewer System. Shamburg & Shamburg has completed what can be done at this point, and there are six issues that will need to be addressed. The West side of the Village will require an easement machine. Trustee Rhodes stated that there is \$36,000.00 remaining of the funds pre-approved for this project. Trustee Grilo added that after this is completed, we can compile a priority list of projects to correct the issues needing addressed.

Committee Reports

Trustee Coffin reported on the Veteran Banners. The cutoff date for 2022 was July 31, with 30 total being hung this year. The banners are still able to be ordered, but will be put on a wait list for 2023. The banners will up from Memorial Day to Veterans Day annually. The effort is currently funded 100% by donations received, but may incur a minor fee starting next season. Trustee Robertson offered kudos to Trustee Coffin for leading this project.

Trustee Coffin reported on the Housing Authority. At this time 26 Courtesy Cards for pending Ordinance violations have been served at this time. They will continue to work through this process to give ample time for compliance.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Albers provided the monthly Treasurer's report, with no additional items of note.

Public Comment

Trustee Grilo opened up the public comment portion of the meeting per the Open Meetings Act, with three minutes provided to each participant.

Rex Pillow questioned the Housing Authority on how quickly violations would be issued. He added that the property behind his residence is a biohazard. Trustee Grilo responded that the Housing Authority had a later start than usual, and this property was likely one of the 26 that Trustee Coffin had reported on during the Committee update.

Mary Wanke shared a video of loud demo cards that are fired each evening after 10:00pm until 2:00am for the past five years. Trustee Grilo stated that residents should call the Champaign County Sheriff's Office if this is occurring after hours. This will aid in enforcement of the Nuisance Ordinance.

Mary Wanke also shared video of this same citizen parking in the No Parking areas of her street, which is damaging the road, and a rude sign that he had posted. Ms. Wanke also provided video of this individual's wife harassing her at her personal residence. Ms. Wanke suggested that the Village adopt an Ordinance that prohibits, "stock cars, demo cars, or automotive."

Mel Grice questioned the speed limit on the west side of the Village. He stated that additional signs are needed to be posted. Trustee Grilo responded that it is 25mph throughout the Village, being voted in a few years prior, but he will double check that it is Village-wide.

Rhonda Scott added that additional stop signs are needed as well.

Les Johnson questioned the lawn meter policy with EJ Water Cooperative, adding that the lack of communication on the change was a hardship for family budgets. He asked the Board to reconsider the decision to discontinue the water meter policy. Trustee Rhodes responded that the Village implemented a Buy-Back Program for the additional lawn meters. Each resident that returns their additional meter will receive a \$50.00 credit on their utility statement. EJ Water Cooperative can also adjust the account for pool fills or leaks if you call in within three months. Trustee Grilo stated that this item can be revisited by the Board.

Les Johnson also stated that he had called EJ Water Cooperative with his water meter reading for the adjustment to his account. Customer Service had informed him that this was an annual credit. Trustee Rhodes stated that he would confirm the specifics of this policy, this was not the agreement to his understanding.

Diana Hespo questioned if the videos were still being recorded by the Police Department, and who would be following up on those. She also questioned the Committees that were being formed, and who was taking on the Police Chief duties. Acting Chief Martinez stated that the videos are being recorded, however they are more as a resource to review when a crime has occurred, not to be constantly watched and observed.

Diana Hespo also questioned what follow-up was taking place regarding the outstanding violations that continue to be an issue. Trustee Grilo

responded that the Village was getting more aggressive with following up with Ordinance violations.

Diana Hespo added that the citizens would like to know who had been determined to respond in the event of a true emergency at the school where immediate assistance is needed. Acting Chief Martinez responded that in the event of a major threat or crisis, Rantoul Police Department would be the first responders, with the Champaign County Sheriff's Office and Illinois State Police quickly behind them. He added that the response to an elevated bar fight had the Rantoul Police on the scene within a minute, the school is a much higher priority and would see this type of response.

Acting Chief Martinez added that he is working with Superintendent Bonnie McArthur on a crisis management protocol. He added that he is present in the Village during times that are most important for him to be on duty, and he is monitoring calls throughout the day.

Diana Hespo questioned what increase in tax revenue received to date with Dollar General. Mr. Albers stated that there is not a specific resource for determining this, however he will research this further.

Bill Kurth questioned when the decision to eliminate the additional water meters was voted in. He added that he strongly questions if this policy is legal since the citizens are being billed double for sewage usage. Trustee Rhodes stated that this was in the agreement with EJ Water Cooperative, and the Board adopted this policy during the June Board Meeting.

Gertie Richardson questioned what the plan was implemented after Chief Eric Shumate was fired. Trustee Grilo stated that no plan has been implemented at this time, and the Board is reviewing all options. He added that there are six Trustees and the Mayor, so there are seven possible plans in motion. He added that suggestions are welcome.

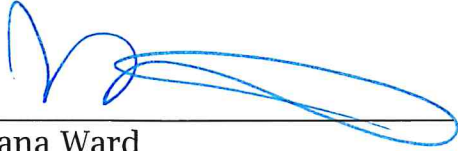
Jim Richardson questioned when a decision would be made, and if this would include a full-time Police Officer. Trustee Grilo stated that the Village is waiting for responses from outside sources.

Jim Richardson also questioned when action would be taken with the demo cars, and why these are allowed to be on the street without being licensed. Trustee Robertson stated that the Board needs to provide an answer on the Clark Street issue that has been ongoing for four to five years. Trustee Hill stated that the Village Attorney is moving forward with the Ordinance violations.

Adjournment

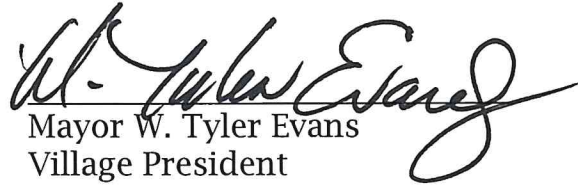
There being no further business to come before the Board, Trustee Hill moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Rhodes seconded the motion. Motion carried viva voce vote.

Trustee Grilo adjourned the meeting at 8:34pm.



Tana Ward
Village Clerk

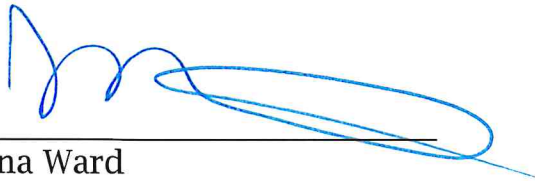
APPROVED:



Mayor W. Tyler Evans
Village President

ATTEST:

I, Tana Ward, Village Clerk of the Village of Thomasboro, Illinois, do hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees held on August 1, 2022 as the same appears on the records of the Village now in my custody and keeping.



Tana Ward
Village Clerk