

2021-06-22 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

The Ladd Village Board met in regular session on Tuesday, June 22, 2021, in the Village Hall. President Frank Cattani called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and led the pledge of allegiance to the American flag.

Roll Call: Present: Trustees Jim Manning, Dave Margherio, Jan Martin, Dan Nelson, and Molly Thrasher. (5)

Absent: Trustee Mike Urbanowski

In attendance: Attorney Pat Barry, Clerk Bezely, Engineer Ossola, Police Chief, Bill Gaefcke, and Superintendent, Doug Englehaupt.

Margherio Motion – Thrasher Second to accept the June 8, 2021 meeting minutes as presented.

Ayes: Manning, Margherio, Martin, Nelson, Thrasher - Motion carried 5-0

Martin Motion – Nelson Second to authorize payment of the bills in the amount of \$119,786.64

Ayes: Manning, Margherio, Martin, Nelson, Thrasher - Motion carried 5-0

Manning Motion – Martin Second to accept the Treasurer’s Report for May 2021.

Ayes: Manning, Margherio, Martin, Nelson, Thrasher - Motion carried 5-0

Correspondence: None

Public Comment: None

Committee Reports: Trustees Nelson and Margherio looked at a tree at 302 S Iowa Ave. Mr. Hirkala called the Village and stated he had a few branches fall and noticed there were carpenter ants present. Nelson stated he looked at the tree as well as Margherio and Englehaupt. They agreed that this is a good-looking tree and it’s a nice hard maple. There were no hanging limbs. No carpenter ants were seen. There will be no action taken. Margherio mentioned he feels that tree maintenance should be a shared expense with the residents. He wondered why residents don’t need permission to plant a tree on the berm but then the Village is responsible if the tree is diseased or needs to be removed. Discussion ensued with board members. Englehaupt feels that trees that get reported as having dead limbs will become a liability to the Village. Cattani will discuss this with Illinois Municipal League, our insurance carrier.

Engineer’s Report: Ossola had nothing to report.

Superintendent’s Report: Englehaupt reported that the Ladd Senior Village water main is on and is considered operational and the electric infrastructure is off to a good start. All the conduit is in and the boring is done. Pads are set for the transformers. The contract deadline is July 1, 2021, and we will be going beyond that. Transformers are expected at the end of July. Hydaker-Wheatlake will be coming back Monday pulling in the overhead and run some of the underground wiring. Manning told Englehaupt the spray patch is going well. He stated that Cleveland Street is vastly improved. Cattani told the board that he received a complaint from a resident who feels it is a cosmetic fix and that they are applying it wrong. The board feels it looks good. We receive this complaint every year from this same resident. Margherio asked about the pile of dirt on the North end of the tennis courts. Englehaupt told the board that the underground wiring was bad. There was a bulb out on the Northeast side of the tennis court and they replaced it. Once turned on the breaker tripped. Therefore the underground has to be inspected for repair. Cattani asked Englehaupt to stripe a pickleball court on the tennis courts. We will obtain a price to get a pickleball court striped. Margherio will speak with Joe Brandner since he does striping at large professional team fields to see if he can give us a price.

Police Chief: Gaefcke told the board the 2017 Ford Explorer squad car is in need of 2 tires. He reported 1 has a slow leak and both are balding. He explained the two options provided in detail. Gaefcke told the board he would prefer the pursuit tires. This will be placed on the July 13th agenda.

Inspector's Report: None

Village Attorney: Enforcement of Codes: Barry told the board he and Gaefcke have been corresponding about enforcement of the codes. Barry suggested we appoint an enforcing officer for any code matters to be enforced. The board felt we should designate the chief of police, assistant chief of police, or the building inspector as our enforcement officer. Barry will draft an ordinance for the next meeting.

Frontier line: Barry discussed the letter received from Frontier regarding the Village of Ladd hitting a fiberoptic line that belongs to them. Englehaupt explained that the JULIE markings were more than 18" off from the actual location of the lines. Englehaupt said the company that did the locating was present and saw this occur. Englehaupt thought the guy called and reported his error but it seems he did not. A Frontier fiberoptic and an Ameren gas line were both hit due to no marking and mismarking. The Ameren line was "abandoned" and Englehaupt never heard back from Frontier after reporting to their representative Jason that it was not the Village of Ladd's negligence. We have not heard anything more.

Unfinished Business:

Economic Development Committee Member: Margherio read the names selected for the Economic Development Committee to Cattani and the board. Margherio stated we will send out formal invitations, on Village letterhead, to these members.

Thrasher Motion – Manning Second to appoint Gregg Ripka, Amber Zrust, Rhonda Bezely, Dave Margherio, Brad Nicholson, Bill Gaefcke, and Dan Nelson to the Economic Development Committee

Ayes: Manning, Margherio, Martin, Nelson, Thrasher - Motion carried 5-0

North Wall of Village Hall: Englehaupt told the board that he spoke with Joe Kies of J Squared Masonry regarding the Village Hall. Pictures were sent to Kies of the building and a detailed discussion ensued. Kies felt the safest and fairest way to bid this job would be time and materials which would protect the contractor and the Village. Kies feels that an architect and structural engineer should be contacted to prepare a scope of work for the Village Hall. This would better indicate what exactly needs to be done. Margherio suggested that the structural engineer take a look at all 3 of the buildings we own. This would help the board to understand what options might be in the future. The board felt they do not want to put any money into the Village Hall at this time. We will await information that will be forthcoming in July or August on the possible sale of the Village Hall. No action was taken at this time.

Police Garage: Nelson reminded the board that it was discussed to add insulation to the inside of the police garage. The two roll-up doors will need to be changed to insulated doors if insulation was being applied. Gaefcke will obtain estimates for spray foam insulation, non-insulated doors, and insulated doors and present this information to the board in July.

New Business:

Community Development Block Grant: Shug Grosenbach from North Central Council of Governments explained the situation in detail with the Village of Ladd getting the \$550,000.00 grant. Grosenbach explained that DCO will allow for a change in the application which would permit the Village of Ladd to receive the grant if the rest of the project would be funded by the Village's own money. Approximately \$600,000.00 would need to be paid out of the Village's funds to complete the project. Timing of this grant will not allow the Village of Ladd to wait to see if we would be awarded an IEPA Loan after a reshuffling of the scoring and a new list will be presented sometime in July. There is no time to wait to see according to Grosenbach. The timelines do not line up. Representative Yednock told Mayor Cattani that they are trying to work on the Country's infrastructure. He feels there may be some funding available at that time. Grosenbach stated this is accurate information but that these grants are extremely competitive. The question is does the Village

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want to move forward with using their own money to fund the other half or do we want to let the \$550,000.00 grant go. It is felt the water main is extremely vulnerable and we must move forward with this project. Grosenbach noted the American Rescue Plan Act money can be used for this project. Construction is anticipated to start in October 2021. Martin Motion – Nelson Second to Pass a Resolution of Support and Commitment of Local Funds for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

Ayes: Manning, Margherio, Martin, Nelson, Thrasher - Motion carried 5-0

2021 FY Audit: Kim Bird, CPA from Hopkins and Associates present the 2021 FY Audit to the board. She explained the fund balances and explained the report in detail.

Manning Motion – Martin Second to accept the 2021 FY Audit.

Ayes: Manning, Margherio, Martin, Nelson, Thrasher - Motion carried 5-0

Non-Union Wages: Current wages were reviewed for Police Chief and Deputy Clerk/Billing Clerk. Cattani stated that we customarily go with a 3% increase in wages. Cattani stated that he spoke with Police Chief Gaefcke to be moved from salary to hourly. Deputy Clerk/Billing Clerk would be raised to \$18.025 per hour and Police Chief would be raised to \$27.50 per hour. It was decided the Police Chief would keep his hours at 40 hours unless there was an emergency. Call-outs for the police chief would be only for the time it takes to handle the situation. Gaefcke requested that 15 days of Army training continue to be paid by the Village even though he is going to hourly. The board agreed to pass an ordinance for 1 year and revisit this next year. The board instructed that the new rates begin July 1st, 2021 and the new Ordinance will be passed at the July 13, 2021 meeting. Attorney Barry will look into the Military leave language.

Garbage Fund: The Village is charging its residents less than the amount they are charged for garbage pickup. It was discussed during the 21 FY Audit that along with the tax money the Village receives that we are not losing money overall. We will readdress garbage fees when our current contract expires on 9-30-2021.

NCICG Invoice: Martin Motion – Nelson Second to Authorize payment of an invoice for \$388.50 for Annual Membership Fee for 7-1-21 to 6-30-22 with North Central Council of Governments.

Ayes: Manning, Margherio, Martin, Nelson, Thrasher - Motion carried 5-0

Ditch Drainage by Kennedy Park: Nelson explained he's been questioned about the ditches along Kennedy Park near the railroad tracks. There is standing water even though we've had little rain this spring/summer thus far. It's questioned if this drainage is pitched correctly or if piping is properly sized. Englehaupt explained the culvert and stated that its been added to but no updates or changes. Englehaupt stated he's been told that an open ditch holds more water than a pipe. Permitting would be needed to address this issue. Vegetation is an issue. Englehaupt that the ditch is full of cattails. He has noticed the flow has decreased over time. Englehaupt stated that he contacted Lyle Kirkman when a pipe was added with a reduction of the pipe size and requested that the reduction be taken off. Englehaupt stated that Kirkman took these requested pieces off. No action will be taken at this time.

Fall Protection Quotes: Cattani discussed two quotes we've received to complete the fall protection at War Memorial Park. River Landscaping and D&M Landscaping & Excavating LLC bid the project. It was decided the Village will obtain the pea gravel to get the contractor's rate and have the chosen contractor haul it. The board agreed that we need to get this completed. Andy Ruggerio, who spearheaded the project, will be contacted to see if he has obtained the quote he mentioned he was getting. This item will be placed on the July 13, 2021, agenda for formal approval. We are hoping this is completed by Veteran's Day.

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Announcements: Manning thanked Bezely for the Parliamentary Procedures that were included in the Board packets. They were very informative. Bezely reminded the board there are 3 weeks between meetings. Bezely read an email between Dan Joos and her regarding the possible removal of the Community Center at the Ladd Senior Village. The Community Building is possibly being delayed for a while due to increased construction costs. Bezely told the board she is working with Ajster signs to design a sign for War Memorial Park thanking people for Park equipment donations. It was also decided to get the park rules reprinted. Bezely will consult other town park rules and bring this information to the next meeting on July 13, 2021. Bezely announced the Illinois Municipal League Conference will be September 23-25, 2021 in Chicago. Thrasher announced she has another food truck coming to the Farmer's Market on July 5th and August 16th but they do not need power.

Thrasher Motion/Nelson Second to adjourn.

Ayes: Manning, Margherio, Martin, Nelson, Thrasher - Motion carried 5-0

The meeting adjourned at 8:39 pm

Rhonda Bezely, Village Clerk