

2022-06-28 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

The Ladd Village Board met in regular session on Tuesday, June 28, 2022, 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, Molly Thrasher, Mike Urbanowski. (6)

In attendance: Attorney Pat Barry, Clerk Bezely, Engineer Adam Ossola, Police Admin Assistant Samantha Sarosinski, Superintendent, Doug Englehaupt, Attorney Colin Barry.

Thrasher motion/Margherio second to accept the June 14, 2022 meeting minutes as presented.

Ayes: Manning, Margherio, Martin, Nelson, Thrasher, Urbanowski - Motion carried 6-0

Urbanowski motion/Nelson second to authorize payment of the bills in the amount of \$125,270.86

Ayes: Manning (abstained from Springfield Electric Invoices due to his position with the company), Margherio, Martin, Nelson, Thrasher, Urbanowski - Motion carried 6-0

Manning motion/Martin second to accept the Treasurer's Report for May 2022.

Ayes: Manning, Margherio, Martin, Nelson, Thrasher, Urbanowski - Motion carried 6-0

Correspondence: None

Public Comment: None

Committee Reports: Nelson spoke with PC Painting regarding sandblasting and painting the tank. They will try to make our next meeting to discuss this with the council. Mike Edgecomb, A Cleaner Image, has pressure washed it and it looks a lot better. The canvas that goes around the gunner is broken away. Nelson will speak with Gary Marini, Ladd Upholstery to see if anything can be done to fix this.

Engineer's Report: Ossola said we are moving forward with the water main project. He will have Cattani sign the contracts tonight and return them. Superior is approximately 1-2 months out before they can begin. The project should be close to completion by the end of the year. Manning questioned if getting materials will cause an issue. Ossola feels there is no trouble getting pipe so this won't delay the project. Ameren will be moving the gas line within the next 2 months. Ossola distributed the sidewalks the last walk-through determined. Discussion ensued regarding the sidewalk around War Memorial Park. It was noted that the safe routes to school grant will cover some of these areas so we don't need to include them. There are 8 locations council members agreed upon. Ossola has put together numbers based on recent pricing. Ossola will move forward with the application outlining these 8 areas.

Urbanowski motion/Margherio second to move forward with completing the application for these 8 selected sidewalk locations for the \$150,000.00 DCEO grant for Main Avenue Sidewalks.

Ayes: Manning, Margherio, Martin, Nelson, Thrasher, Urbanowski - Motion carried 6-0

Superintendent's Report: Englehaupt is still working on pricing for a new bucket truck. The used truck in Texas is progressing, it is not done. He is still accepting bids for transportation. \$6200.00 is the lowest bid thus far.

New Business: IEPA Mandatory Water Line Inventory: Joe Glynn told Englehaupt that it is not as in-depth as previously thought. We will have to go into people's homes to determine what type of line comes into the home. Englehaupt feels this would be a good winter project. The Village is responsible for inventory and cataloging each resident and what type of line comes into their home.

Police Chief: Samantha Sarosinski read notes from Chief Frund. The new phone system is in and works great. This has definitely stopped liability issues with the clerk getting police calls. The Village of Mark is letting us borrow their speed trailer for a couple of weeks. Information on complaints from the Senior housing and residents near Central Avenue and Western Avenue has been heard and the council is being asked to install stop signs going east and west on Central Avenue and also on Western Avenue. The yellow ordinance violation tags are working well. Chief Frund places them on a property or at homes detailing the violation and he sees results in the allotted timeframe given. Margherio spoke about stop signs and feels that we may need to assess stop sign locations and look at possibly removing some. Thrasher felt we may not need one on Western Ave. The concern is people coming in from the West are speeding into the Village limits. Discussion ensued and it was determined we wouldn't place any at Western Avenue at this time but keep an eye on speeding. It was mentioned maybe the speed trailer could be placed there.

Urbanowski motion/Thrasher second to install stop signs going east and west on Cleveland Street at the Central Avenue intersection.

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

Nays: Nelson

Inspector's Report: None

Village Attorney: Atty. Barry told the board he has been in contact with the buyers of 336 S. Main Ave. Barry prepared a contract and it is subject to some contingencies. They have requested the sale include all existing appliances for \$192,500.00. Taxes and rent will be prorated subject to the closing date. Security deposits will need to be transferred to the new owner. The contract is dated to close on or before August 13, 2022. It is subject to having the building inspected to make sure no major problems they didn't catch. They have 10 business days after they sign the contract. It is also subject to a termite inspection, financing, and a liquor license since they will be opening a gaming parlor. Barry will have Cattani sign the contract tonight. Kevin Bauer would like to keep moving forward with this purchase. Bezely mentioned that the downstairs tenant purchased the washer/dryer in the business front. Barry will change the contract to read all existing appliances owned by the Village. Nelson asked who the purchasers are and Barry stated: Kevin Bauer, James Robbins, and Matt McDonald. They are forming an LLC that will own the property. Atty. Barry will keep us informed as things progress.

Unfinished Business: NE Leg of 100,000-gallon water tower Nelson stated that the leg is deteriorating further. Englehaupt informed the board that in 2023 the water tower will be emptied to be painted. It is the ideal time to repair that leg. Englehaupt will reach out to Kelly from Central Tank Coatings to coordinate this repair while here painting it. We can have a concrete company form up the leg to help with the repair.

Additional Public Works Employee(s) Cattani asked about Englehaupt's status. He stated he had his follow-up today and was told no work for 1 month and they will reassess in 1 month. He can begin physical therapy. Nelson asked Englehaupt if any of the temporary help would be interested in applying for a permanent position. Englehaupt didn't know. Englehaupt stated that some jobs can be done with 3 guys but for any line clearance

or doing live line work there are safety concerns. Englehaupt informed the board of many concerns. The council understood Englehaupt's concerns. Englehaupt stated that the contract allows us to convert our overtime to comp time it causes more challenges to cover the Village and leaves public works short-handed in the summer. It was agreed that we need to hire another employee. It was mentioned that Englehaupt is looking to retire in the near future. We need an employee qualified to do electric work. They must be very willing to do whatever is needed. The Village will advertise for a full-time utility employee. Martin asked what has to be in the advertisement. Manning said most companies use Indeed to advertise. Bezely will look into this site and Sarosinski can help her. A resume will be requested.

Urbanowski motion/Nelson second to advertise for a Public Works Employee for the Village of Ladd.

Ayes: Manning, Margherio, Martin, Nelson, Thrasher, Urbanowski - Motion carried 6-0

New Business: CD's Mayor Cattani stated that we will hold off on this until the July meeting and obtain CD rates. Business Façade Grants: Margherio stated he thinks \$500.00 maximum grant to any commercial business on Main Avenue. Cattani stated that 10% would be the grant amount with a \$500.00 grant cap. Manning feels we need to determine how many grants we want to give annually. Nelson questioned if someone who has done the work already can obtain the grant and it was determined no. They must apply for the grant before beginning any renovation. They have the opportunity to do more renovation and apply for help with those. It was determined that in 2022 (3) grants will be given for a total of \$1,500.00. The grant is only for Main Avenue commercial businesses.

Margherio motion/Nelson second to initiate downtown façade beautification grants for commercial businesses on Main Avenue a maximum of \$500.00 per business with 3 grants given in 2022. This will be 10% of what the business owner spends. i.e. \$5,000.00 in renovation allows for \$500.00 grant.

Ayes: Manning, Margherio, Martin, Nelson, Thrasher, Urbanowski - Motion carried 6-0

Atty. Colin Barry will help Bezely with the requirements to the application process.

Permission to attend the MCI Annual Training Bezely asked the board to allow her to attend the Municipal Clerks of Illinois annual training in Bloomington, IL. The cost is \$600.00 for the week plus lodging if she decides to stay all week. Bezely was told the schedule will be out in August but it is a grueling 5 days. Bezely applied for a scholarship being it is her first year of a 3-year certification. 2023 training will also be in Bloomington, IL which is ideal as Bezely obtains her RMC training.

Nelson motion/Manning second to allow Bezely to attend 10-9-22 thru 10-14-22 MCI Training in Bloomington, IL and stay overnight.

Ayes: Manning, Margherio, Martin, Nelson, Thrasher, Urbanowski - Motion carried 6-0

Announcements: Bezely informed the board that she contacted Omnitrax regarding the 3 leases that we pay. Bezely explained we will pay these forever. It doesn't matter if any work has been done in the year or not. They never stop being paid. Bezely asked if the Clerk's office could be closed on September 15 & 16 for the Civic Symposium which is software training. This will be placed on the next agenda for approval.

Margherio asked Bezely for an update on the Chicken! A concrete floating pad was poured ,14x12 last week. Barry Flanagan took the chicken and welded it to a plate and drilled holes for mounting along with shoring it up to make it more sturdy. BJ will drill the chicken into the concrete when time permits. Martin's family will be purchasing one of the 2 benches that will sit by the chicken. Bezely is hoping to have people snap a picture and

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tag the Village of Ladd on Facebook to be placed in a quarterly drawing of a \$50 gift certificate from the various Ladd businesses.

Thrasher asked if anyone objected to her backing the food trucks in the shade at the farmers market. Everyone was fine with it. They just cautioned if it was soft/muddy to consider using the street instead. She received a complaint from a concerned citizen.

Nelson motion/Martin second to adjourn.

Ayes: Manning, Margherio, Martin, Nelson, Thrasher, Urbanowski - Motion carried 6-0

The meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm

Rhonda Bezely, Village Clerk