

November 22, 2021

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF  
THE DWIGHT VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Held in the Public Services Complex  
209 South Prairie Avenue, Dwight Illinois  
November 22, 2021 at 6:30PM**

**PRESENT:** Paul Johnson, Village President; Marla Kinkade, Trustee; Randy Irvin, Trustee; Pete Meister, Trustee; Justin Eggenberger, Trustee

**ABSENT:** Chuck Butterbrodt, Trustee and Jenny Johnson, Trustee

**Other Village Officials in Attendance:** Austin Haacke, Finance Director; Tim Henson, Police Chief; Cory Scoles, Public Works Director; Irv Masching, Village Attorney; Kevin McNamara, Village Administrator; Deb Karch, DEA; Whitney Scott, Village Clerk

The Village Board Minutes from November 8, 2021 were presented for approval. Trustee Kinkade made a motion, with a second from Trustee Eggenberger, to approve the minutes as submitted. Roll call. All voted aye. Motion carries, 4-0.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Payment of the November 22, 2021 bills in the amount of \$133,591.85 were presented for payment from the various funds. Trustee Kinkade made a motion, with a second from Trustee Meister, to pay the bills as submitted. Roll call. All voted aye. Motion carries, 4-0.

The Treasurer's Report for October 2021 was presented for review. Trustee Meister made a motion, with a second from Trustee Kinkade, to approve the report as proposed. Roll call. All voted aye. Motion carries, 4-0.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

NONE

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

President Johnson confirmed that the Livingston County Board approved our grant request of \$290,000.00 from their ARPA funds to re-chassis the two ambulances and that he's in discussions with the company doing the work. President Johnson thanked Kevin for getting that grant submitted and expressed his thanks to the whole Board for their efforts contacting County Board members.

President Johnson advised that he had received a letter from Illinois DOT confirming that they're developing plans for the improvement of the IL 17 at I-55 overpass and a bike/walking path will be incorporated into the overpass plans.

President Johnson concluded his report by wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!

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## **VILLAGE REPORTS:**

Chief Henson first reported on behalf of the Police Department and advised that his two new guys are doing well – progressing nicely, and that everyone else is continuing mandated training and things are going well overall.

Chief Henson also reported on behalf of the EMS and wanted to express his thanks to the Board for their work on the Livingston County ARPA Fund grant; they've been down to one ambulance for a while and the news of re-chassis is greatly appreciated. Chief also expressed the EMS Staff thanks for the appliance replacements in their quarters. He advised that everyone has stepped up and extends his kudos to the EMS staff.

Sara Tutterow reported that the sludge would be pumped after the Thanksgiving Holiday and that the vertical pump is in Peoria getting looked at. She advised that the three pump stations are not at 100%, but they're working on all necessary repairs.

Cory Scoles expressed his thanks to his crew for another great year of chipping and advised that there is one more leaf pickup scheduled for the month. He also explained that the filter at the water pump, cell 1 floor is not rotten away as anticipated – the lateral air lines were tweaked and old/plugged, and he is working on getting estimates for replacements. He did advise that all line laterals are the same age and probably in the same condition, so he'll be getting estimates to replace all at the same time. Cory also advised that Cell 2 looks good.

Cory wanted to remind everyone that the overnight Parking Ban starts December 1 and ask that the Dwight PD assist with reminders as they have in the past, especially for visitors over the holidays. Chief Henson confirmed they'd be happy to, and that they'd also tighten up enforcing the downtown overnight parking restrictions, too.

Cory closed with sharing how proud he is of the village; streets are looking great, and a CONGRATS to Sara for 6 years and Tony for 5 years with the Public Works team.

Deb Karch reported that the DEA has hired Katie Rieck Folkers as the new administrative assistant for the DEA Office, she'll have offices hours Tuesdays – Fridays.

Deb also reported that the DEA has been hard at work preparing for the upcoming Christmas Holiday events: Breakfast with Santa and the Holiday Parade will be Saturday December 4<sup>th</sup> and Catie Wilkey, Shayla Smith, and Tom & Susie Legner are heading those events this year. They'll also be coordinating an article with The Paper. Randy Irvin also mentioned that Harvest Days & FCCLA will be providing complimentary gift-wrapping Saturday December 4<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am – 2:00 pm.

## **NEW BUSINESS (PART 1 to accommodate Adam's schedule):**

Adam Dontz with GLCEDC provided a spreadsheet overview that tracks all Requests for Information regarding available development locations in Dwight specifically. There are 26 code-named companies listed, which averages out to about once every six weeks. They're currently on the third round of questions/interview with one of the companies. Adam also explained that the Governor's Electric

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Vehicle and Green Energy Incentives are proving to be the most advantageous thing the state is doing; advising the reason we've lost previous bids or were not as competitive as other potential Mega Sites, is because of the overall cost of doing business in Illinois vs. other states. Adam has written a letter to the governor and has met with the new Director of Intersect Illinois. He's also spoken with the Illinois Manufacturer's Association and has a meeting in early December with the rail to further discuss what recommendations we can make to the Governor's Office.

Adam fielded a few questions regarding how Dwight compares to the rest of Livingston County and how Dwight might fulfill the employment numbers needed. He explained that most requests provide him with the list of criteria, Dwight is leading because we're so near rail and interstate and check most boxes compared to other municipalities in Livingston County. He also explained that the Employment Numbers question is sold as kind of a "Field of Dreams", that many people are already driving an hour to work, and that could be miles driven instead of sitting in traffic; the real challenge will be getting that first executive to take a chance to move away from 55/80.

#### **RESOLUTIONS:**

The 2022 MFT Resolution of \$50,000 for salt and tree removal was presented for approval. Trustee Eggenberger made a motion, with a second from Trustee Irvin, to approve the Resolution as submitted. Roll call. All voted aye. Motion carries, 4-0.

#### **RESOLUTION 2021-15 IS ON FILE IN THE OFFICE OF THE VILLAGE CLERK**

#### **COMMITTEE MEETINGS:**

***ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE COMMITTEE met 11/22/21 at 5:30pm.*** Present were Mayor Johnson, Trustees Irvin, Meister, Kinkade, Chief Henson, Gary Beier, Cory Scoles, Sara Tutterow, Austin Haacke, Whitney Scott, and Kevin McNamara. The Administration Committee reviewed the 2021 Tax Levy compared to 2020, confirming that it was very similar to last year and that reserves built up for Liability Insurance could be moved to another reserve fund. The Administration Committee also reviewed the IMIC Liability / Work Comp Insurance Renewal Proposal, showing the 85% funding cost is \$175,197 plus the yet to be determined Cyber Liability, noting the \$11,000 increase was due to the workman's compensation portion due to 10 new employees charged for a full year (vs. partial year last year) and that the renewal rate is less than last year's even without cyber insurance not added in currently. Austin confirmed that this insurance is bid out each year by the group cooperative.

Trustee Eggenberger made a motion, with a second from Trustee Irvin, to renew the Illinois Municipal Insurance Cooperative proposal of \$175,197 as submitted. Roll call. All voted aye. Motion carries, 4-0.

*The Administration Committee also discussed spending a portion of the Round 1 Federal Government ARPA Money received as a one-time hazard pay option for the village employees who worked through the pandemic. There are a total of 24 full-time employees that were hired prior to 1/1/2021 that are still employed as of 11/19/2021, and the committee unanimously agreed that everyone should receive the same dollar amount across the board. Marla said there's never an acceptable amount that expresses Thank You well enough but suggested starting the discussions at \$1,500 - \$2,000 per employee. President Johnson suggested \$2,500 per employee.*

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Trustee Irvin made a motion, with a second from Trustee Kinkade, to issue a **one-time** hazard pay/bonus check of \$2,500 to each of the 24 full-time village employees. This money would be issued as a separate check on December 15, subject to applicable taxes and pension. Roll call. All voted aye. Motion carries, 4-0.

*The Administration Committee discussed eliminating the DEA Gift Certificates for those who would be receiving the \$2,500 hazard pay/bonus check, but to still provide one to all others who typically get those each holiday season (new employees that wouldn't qualify for the hazard pay, Planning Commission & Zoning Board Members, etc.).*

Trustee Irvin made a motion, with a second from Trustee Meister, to amend the recipient list of DEA Gift Certificates as determined above. Roll call. All voted aye. Motion carries, 4-0.

*The Administration Committee also discussed the upcoming Christmas Parade scheduled for Saturday December 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm and unanimously voted to approve the route even though a formal request was not received. The Administration Committee Meeting adjourned at 5:55pm.*

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Chamlin & Associates submitted Pay Request #1 and FINAL to the Village recommending payment for the 2021 MFT Crack Filling Project in the amount of \$20,377.50 to SKC Construction.

Trustee Kinkade made a motion, with a second from Trustee Meister, to issue payment as recommended. Roll call. All voted aye. Motion carries, 4-0.

**NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED:**

Trustee Irvin inquired about the status on St. Louis Street and Kevin advised that IDOT is still not in their office(s) daily and that is the reason for their delay in reviewing plans. Trustee Irvin also inquired about the signage at 47 & 66 that was hit last year and suggested it may be time to replace all "Welcome to Dwight" signage and should be discussed during budgeting for next year.

Finding no further new business, President Johnson asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Irvin, with a second from Trustee Kinkade to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 PM, all voted aye.

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Paul Q. Johnson. Village President

ATTEST:

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Whitney M. Scott, Village Clerk