Monday, March 4, 2024

Greenup, Village Board Meeting Minutes

The Greenup Village Board held their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, March 4, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Room of the Greenup Municipal Building. Mayor Tom Bauguss called the meeting to order with all standing to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag. Roll Call was taken by Clerk Kimble, those members of the board answering Roll Call were Mayor Tom Bauguss, Trustees Alene Blade, April Harris, Josh Kingery, Max McCullough, Sherry Parker and Tony Wright. Attorney Erik Peck was in attendance at this meeting.

A motion to approve payments of bills in the amount of $330,077.84 and transfer of funds $8,000.00 by Trustee Wright, second by Trustee Parker.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Parker, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

A motion to approve the February 2024 Clerk’s report and the January 2024 Treasurer report was made by Trustee Blade, second by Trustee Harris.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Parker, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

A motion to approve February 2024 Meetings Minutes was made by Trustee McCullough, second by Trustee Kingery.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Parker, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

Under Public Comment, Nancy Kinsel stated that she did not know of the “Special” Board meeting that was held on February 22, 2024 and questioned how she is to know. Nancy was informed that all meetings are posted 48 hours prior and that she can now find meetings on the website.

Kyle Berghbower (Chamber of Commerce) informed all that the Greenup Mapping project is slated for March 21, 28 and April 4, 11, and 18, 2024, if anyone is interested in attending they can contact anyone from the steering committee or can e-mail growingwithgreenup@gmail.com.

Kyle also mentioned that there is interest in having the tennis courts of Haughton Parked marked for Pickleball. There was discussion between Berghbower and the council regarding who does marking of the courts etc., it is to be looked into further.

Bonnie Starwalt and Patti Corder (Greenup Volunteer Group) asked if the Village of Greenup would be purchasing the flowers for the flower planters along Cumberland St., they will purchase, plant and maintain them through the season. The Village will pay for the flowers as usual.

Mayor Tom Bauguss thanked and awarded Patti Corder with a plaque for 41 years of volunteer service to the Greenup Ambulance Association. Patti was an EMT-Paramedic and performed as the Ambulance Coordinator for the Village.

There was only one (1) estimate for materials and labor to construct a frame for a garage door and closure of the building at 612 Wagon Road, the estimate from Burton Home Repair, LLC in the amount of $4,795.00. Per Supt. Ryder he sent out building specifications to four (4) contractors and only heard back from one (1). Trustee Blade questioned the type of materials being used and whether Burton offers any warranty with his work. Supt. Ryder stated that the sheet metal is the same as what is already on the building. The council urged Supt. Ryder not to sign off on the construction or make payment until it meets his satisfaction.

A motion to approve hiring Burton Home Repair, LLC at an estimated cost of $4,795.00 for materials and labor to close the building & frame for a garage door at 612 Wagon Rd. was made by Trustee Wright, second by Trustee McCullough.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Parker, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

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A motion to approve hiring Cahoy Pump Service to perform test pumping at Water Well #5 in the amount of $4,866.00 was made by Trustee Parker, second by Trustee Kingery.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Parker, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

A motion to approve hiring Cahoy Pump Service for Well Rehabilitation at Water Well #6 in the amount of $17,332.00 was made by Trustee Harris, second by Trustee McCullough.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Parker, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

A motion to approve a Fair Solar Credit amount of .0537 for the year 2024 was made by Trustee Blade, second by Trustee Wright.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Parker, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

Clerk Kimble, Supt. Ryder and Makenzie Healy (Farnsworth Group) met with Garrett Miller (IDOT) to discuss Greenup’s participation in the IDOT resurfacing of IL RT 121. Clerk Kimble stated that the board needs to decide tonight if the Village is going to go ahead with the IDOT contract in an estimated amount of $81,300.00, and what other projects they want done. A letter of intent from IDOT will be sent in Mar/Apr, a Village resolution for funding will need to be passed obligating funds in Aug/Sep., a letting will be held in Jan, Mar or Apr, 2025, with construction to be done in summer 2025.

The bump outs that IDOT is suggesting can be built at a minimum (not aggressive) with enough room for the required ADI mats that will meet turning point requirements for semi traffic. The sidewalk and ramp at IL RT 121 & Jefferson St. can be moved to avoid relocation of the water line but there is an electric pole on the corner that will need to be moved by the Village. Clerk Kimble mentioned to Miller (IDOT) that there has been a request for a Handicap sign in front of 114 E. Cumberland St. he is going to check into that as well. The board needs to decide which curbing needs replacement and its footage along with the number and location of sewer inlets to be replaced.

Clerk Kimble mentioned that she questioned angle parking along the downtown area for Trustee Blade and was told that State of Illinois policy does not allow angle parking anymore. Per Miller (IDOT) Mayor Bauguss spoke to him about replacement of all curbing and guttering along IL RT 121, that request is restricted to only areas that are severely deteriorated.

The Village Board is definitely interested in a contract with IDOT for the resurfacing etc., the Clerk and Supt. Ryder will inform Miller (IDOT) to proceed.

Supt. Ryder presented estimates for labor to construct entrance approaches along S. Delaware and E. Illinois St. for access to David Yaw’s new business Midwest Towing & Cars Sales at David’s request.

Fuesting Concrete - 16’x18’ entrance $2,016.00 & 30’x22’ entrance $4,620.00 including wire.

Dittamore Backhoe & Concrete – 16’x18’ entrance $3,100.00 & 30’x22’ entrance $3,800.00 including wire.

Ballinger Concrete Construction – 16’x18’ entrance $5,200.00 & 30’x22’ entrance $4,200.00 including wire.

Trustee Harris stated that David does many things for the community and this new business will bring in sales tax to the Village so she feels as if the Village should pay for the cost of the approaches.

Trustee Wright questioned D. Yaw about the fencing he had installed asking if there were going to be slats to cut down visibility of impounded or wrecked vehicles, stating that there is a fencing ordinance to follow. Clerk Kimble corrected Trustee Wright mentioning that there is no fencing ordinance, the visibility of the vehicles acquired falls under the Nuisance Ordinance.

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D. Yaw answered that he has no intention at this time to install slats and that he was not aware of any ordinance. Midwest Towing & Auto Sales is meant to be a business selling used cars with an impound lot that will only be utilized for two (2) weeks at the most, it is not going to be a junk business.

Police Chief Wicke cautioned D. Yaw that when he (Chief) applies for junk titles it could take up to five (5) to six (6) months to get them.

A motion to contract with Fuesting Concrete for sidewalk labor 16’ x 18’ & 30’ x 22’ entrance at Midwest Towing was made by Trustee McCullough, second by Trustee Parker.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Parker, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

An estimated 24 yards of concrete will be funded by the Village of Greenup as well.

Trustee McCullough reported from the February 22, 2024 Economic Development Committee meeting stating that the committee met with Susie Beaumont to discuss compensation for her to perform grant writing for the Village of Greenup. Per S. Beaumont the general rule is to be compensated at a rate of 3% to 5% of the grant total, possibly through the grant funds. It is the committee’s recommendation to enter into a verbal or written agreement with S. Beaumont to provide grant consultation services as needed or requested on a volunteer basis until such time a grant leads to a bid letting, approval or completion at which time financial compensation would be possible with board action.

Trustee McCullough reported from the February 21 & 27, 2024 Building and Park Committee meetings. The exterior of the Concession Stand at Haughton Park is deteriorating , warping and pulling away from the framing, all door frames are showing signs of rot, the service counter needs replaced, and security covers need to be installed over the service windows. At this meeting, the committee decided to meet again on February 27, 2024 with potential contractors for material information and recommendations.

On February 27, 2024, the committee met with local contractors at the Haughton Park Concession Stand to discuss scope of work and type of materials to be used. The contractors were requested to submit sealed quotes for removal and disposal of old materials, installation of siding with sheeting and weather wrap, new maintenance free doors and casings, framing for the air conditioner, window security coverings and a serving counter. The quotes are to include labor at prevailing wage and should be delivered to the Village Clerk no later than 12:00 p.m. on April 1, 2024 for review and consideration of hire at the Village Board meeting scheduled for that night.

Full board discussion was held regarding the material to use on the outside, pros and cons were brought up by each Trustee, no decision was made regarding the type of materials to use.

Makenzie Healy (Farnsworth Group) mentioned that there are 2 potential grants to be applied for regarding park improvements, she can send them on to Trustee McCullough or S. Beaumont if the board wants. The board decided to research grant applications and will revisit the repair of the concession stand at a later date.

Treasurer Hornbeck then explained an issue the Clerk’s office is having with the Budget Billing program for utility customers. Currently there are five (5) customers who have signed up for Budget Billing who also receive LIHEAP, this funding causes issues with monthly billings and payments, and does not fall in line with the requirements/rules customers sign for. Customers want their LIHEAP to be applied to their monthly budget billing due. It is the current practice of the Clerk’s office to apply LIHEAP funding toward the bills, which is not considered budget billing for it pays the entire monthly bill and if they apply to the balance then the customer has to pay their monthly budget due, and it could create a negative or a positive that affects their budget at the end of the budget period. A negative balance could lower the budget for the next budget year, then the next it could very well increase drastically depending on usage which causes another hardship to meet the budget later on. Treasurer Hornbeck and Clerk Kimble would like the board to decide how to administer budget billing by creation of an Ordinance before the October, 2025 budget bill re-budgeting. The board agrees with the Treasurer and Clerk that customers may not be on budget billing and receive LIHEAP assistance. Attorney Peck will be working on such an ordinance to be passed prior to October, 2024.

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A motion to enter Executive Session to discuss Personnel (appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body), Section 2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act by Trustee Parker, second by Trustee McCullough.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Parker, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

This Open Session of the meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m. to enter into Executive Session.

At 7:42 p.m., the Village Council returned to Open Session with Roll Call being taken by Clerk Kimble. Those members of the board answering Roll Call were Mayor Bauguss, Trustees Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Parker, Wright.

Per Mayor Bauguss, no action was taken in Executive Session.

Attorney Peck had nothing to report to the board this month.

Under reports from the Clerk: Clerk Kimble requested the board to look into the storage cabinets for the Police Department’s confiscated weed, the weed smell is back and noticeable to customers when coming in.

Clerk Kimble inquired if the board was considering hiring summer workers and how many if they were. The board questioned the Supt. who is in agreement to hire, the board instructed the Clerk to begin advertising but to not put a number on how many workers they are going to hire.

It is time for employee evaluations and wage increases for the new fiscal year beginning May 1, 2024.

The playground equipment on the Municipal Bldg. lawn needs to have new fall material and barrier, it is in bad shape, the Pavilion located near the Municipal Bldg on the south side has a major crater/hole in the middle that needs repair or replacement. The board instructed Supt. Ryder to check into the repair or replacement of the concrete.

Clerk Kimble stated that the Clerk’s office has been taking complaints related to citizens allowing dogs to relieve themselves in the park of the Municipal Bldg., she will be ordering signage.

Chief of Police Wicke, Supt. Ryder and Clerk Kimble have a scheduled meeting with the Attorney’s to begin review of ordinances and violations regarding dangerous houses and buildings, travel trailer utility hook-ups, and dwelling structures on minimum lot areas.

Treasurer Hornbeck requested the Personnel Committee to review and amend the current employee evaluations, certain questions to not pertain to all employees of the Village. Treasurer Hornbeck also stated that she would like to meet with a committee regarding utility deposits, reconnect fees, tap fees and material cost for utility installations. Mayor Bauguss will put together a committee of one (1) Trustee from each utility committee and will get back to her.

Lastly, she called attention to a letter from the IL Municipal League referencing the Illinois Governor’s budget proposal to eliminate grocery tax, which will be a big hit to all municipalities.

Supt. Ryder invited all to look at one (1) of the new trailers to be used for carrying water or gas tools, it was parked out front at the time of the meeting.

Chief of Police Wicke had nothing to report from the Police Department.

Trustee Blade reported that she attended the 35th annual Rural Development Conference put on by the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs. Trustee Blade expressed wishes that the Village sign up to be members of the Institute at a cost of $200.00. They are a wealth of knowledge on community affairs and grants. Clerk Kimble will be checking into this membership application.

Trustee McCullough reported that he has been speaking with Attorney Peck regarding the Porches in the downtown area, ownership and easements. Attorney Peck suggested that the Village Clerk contact the Cumberland Co. Supervisor of Assessments for a map showing Porch placement and the property lines. Trustee Blade stated that the Village may want to speak with the City of Paxton, she has been made aware that recently Paxton went through something similar.

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Trustee Wright wants to pursue installation of the ventilation system for the Police Department evidence room.

Mayor Bauguss let all know that Linda Matherly (Greenup Historical Society) would like to speak to the board in April regarding the Porches. Mayor Bauguss then brought up the Toledo Democrats report of the Cumberland County Board Meeting regarding the Village of Greenup’s question as to what other municipalities are reimbursing the County for the creation of an updated Comprehensive Plan. Per the Toledo Democrats minutes Councilmen Beard and Kay stated that Mayor Bauguss and Trustee Wright stated that Greenup would pay 25% of the bill, and then Kay went further stating that Mayor Bauguss back tracked the commitment after having a private conversation with Billie Chambers (his sister). Billie Chambers then commented that there was no conversation between her and the Mayor in anyway related to such a commitment to the Village of Greenup.

A motion to Adjourn was made by Trustee Parker, second by Trustee Harris.

Yeas: Blade, Harris, Kingery, McCullough, Parker, Wright

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

This Village Board meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Jill Kimble

Village Clerk

Greenup, IL