

Village of Poplar Grove

Board Minutes of October 10, 2011

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order by President Rightnowar at 7:30 pm in the Village Hall.

Present: President Brad Rightnowar, Trustees Jeff Goings, John Neitzel, Ron Quimby, Cliff Stetter and Judi Zangs, Clerk Martha Suhr, Attorney James Stevens, Executive Assistant Maureen Brzinski and DPW Jeff Strate. Trustee Robert Fry was absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and prayer was led by President Rightnowar.

Agenda: A motion was made by Neitzel, 2nd by Quimby to approve the agenda as presented. Motion was carried by voice vote 5-0

Minutes of Sept. 12, 2011: A motion was made by Zangs, 2nd by Stetter to approve the minutes as presented. Motion was carried by voice vote 5-0.

Public Comment:

State Senator Christine Johnson spoke to the Board and audience. She stated that she replaced Senator Brad Burzynski in the 39th District. She had served as the treasurer in Dekalb County for 17 years. At this time she has been appointed to various committees at the state level. She wanted to introduce herself so people could get to know her. As she grew up in a small town and understood funding problems for aging infrastructure, she would be working to help small communities get grants.

Chad Hageman and Mike Mudge of the Rock River Energy Services spoke on aggregation of electric service to lower resident's electric bills. They would help the Village go thru the process of doing this should the Village decide to do so. They explained the process and the opt out or opt in choices for the residents. The Village would first pass an ordinance, pass a referendum then have public hearings and at that time go out for bids from suppliers.

David Manske spoke to the Board on a problem with Tilford's Towing at 219 N. State St. Mr. Tilford lets oil and anti-freeze leak onto the ground in front of his home from towed vehicles. He stated that Mr. Tilford does not have a permit for a salvage business and is asking the Village to look into this problem. He was asked to bring this to the next Administration Committee meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

Ms. Forrest reported that the audit is done and there was an \$189,000 increase in assets and there was a debt decrease of \$465,000. For the fiscal year, she projected a surplus of \$8,000 in water and sewer and \$217,000 in the general fund.

Finance Committee:

A motion was made by Stetter, 2nd by Zangs to approve Accounts Payable invoices totaling \$241, 786.66. Motion was carried by roll call 5-0.

A motion was made by Stetter, 2nd by Quimby to approve crack sealing for the Village Hall parking lot at the cost of \$700 by Bel-Rock Asphalt Paving Inc. Motion was carried roll call 5-0.

A motion was made by Stetter, 2nd by Goings to approve renewing the new 2 year contract with Ameren Energy. This will save approx \$25,000 over the current savings. Motion was carried by roll call 5-0.

A motion was made by Stetter, 2nd by Zangs to approve the 2010-2011 audit. Motion was carried by roll call 5-0.

A motion was made by Stetter, 2nd by Zangs to approve salary adjustments of \$10,000 per year to Jeff Strate, \$8,000 per year to Maureen Brzinski, effective the beginning of the next payroll period. Motion was carried by roll call 5-0.

Administration Committee:

A motion was made by Neitzel, 2nd by Zangs to the Poplar Grove Self-Storage special use permit with one change. The fence will be chain link to match the existing fence. Motion was carried by roll call 5-0.

A letter has been sent to J & D Oil Marathon saying they must no longer allow overnight parking by semi's and they must apply for a special use permit to allow overnight parking.

A motion was made by Neitzel, 2nd by Stetter to approve ordinance no 2011-015 amending the permit fee structure for low cost repairs. The permit and inspection fee will be \$25.00 for when it is \$1,000 or less cost for repairs. Motion was carried by roll call 5-0.

A motion was made by Neitzel, 2nd by Goings to approve ordinance no. 2011-016 concerning the sale of personal property owned by the Village (2 vehicles). Motion was carried by roll call 5-0.

A motion was made by Neitzel, 2nd by Stetter to approve ordinance no. 2011-017 amending Village code concerning garbage collection within the Village. Motion was carried by roll call 5-0.

A motion was made by Neitzel, 2nd by Goings to set Halloween hours for Oct. 31 from 4 to 7 pm. Motion was carried by voice vote 5-0.

At this time Brad Rightnowar tendered his resignation as Village President. He thanked God and the public for allowing him to serve the Village.

Attorney Stevens asked for a motion to appoint a new Village President. A motion was made by Stetter, 2nd by Zangs to appoint Trustee John Neitzel as Village President to fill the rest of the term which expires in May of 2013. Motion was carried by roll call 4-0. Trustee Neitzel voting present.

Trustee Neitzel was sworn into office by Clerk Suhr. President Neitzel spoke on what a great job President Rightnowar had done and he hope to continue with his ideas.

Attorney Stevens stated that Attorney Charlotte LeClercq was leaving the law firm and taking a position with Winnebago County.

President Neitzel stated that he will be asking for letters of interest in the soon to be available Trustee seat.

Good of the Village:

Administration Committee -	October 24, 2011 at 6:30 pm
Finance Committee -	November 7, 2011 at 6:30 pm
Planning & zoning Commission -	November 1, 2011 at 7:00 pm
Village Board of Trustees ==	November 14, 2011 at 7:30 pm

A motion was made by Zangs, 2nd by Stetter to adjourn the meeting. Motion was carried by voice vote 4-0. Meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm.

Cake and coffee was served for Brad Rightnowar. All wished him well in his new endeavors.

