

**Minutes of the Village of Waterman Board held at Village Hall 215 W. Adams St. Waterman, IL 60556
Tuesday, November 14, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Robinson, Radtke, Sedlacek, Genslinger, Feitlich and Johanningsmeier were present. Trustee Pearson arrived at 6:33 p.m.

Approve Agenda: Trustee Feitlich motioned to approve the agenda as published. Trustee Radtke 2nd. Roll call vote passed 5/0.

Approve Meeting Minutes: Trustee Feitlich motioned to approve the October 10, 2023, regular meeting minutes as published. Trustee Johanningsmeier 2nd. Roll call vote passed 6/0.

Accept Council Approval Reports: Trustee Feitlich motioned to accept the Council Approval Reports as published. Trustee Radtke 2nd. Roll call vote passed 6/0.

Accept Petty Cash Report: Trustee Johanningsmeier motioned to approve the petty cash report as published. Trustee Pearson 2nd. Roll call vote passed 6/0.

Accept Treasurer's Funds Report: Trustee Feitlich motioned to approve the Treasurer's Fund Report as published. Trustee Genslinger 2nd. Roll call vote passed 6/0.

Mayor's Report: Robinson received both negative and positive feedback regarding the American flags displayed in the Village alongside the Christmas decorations. Robinson and Village Manager Nykaza will be attending the Northern Illinois Mayor's Conference on November 16th.

Request for Consideration: Brian Zarbock gave a brief introduction of himself and to state his candidacy for DeKalb County coroner.

Correspondence: Nothing

Staff Reports

Chief Swanson – Swanson provided the October stats report and stated that activity is down 72.7% from last year. Informed the Board that Officer Erickson will be taking some time off. This year's Trunk or Treat event was a success with no incidents. Everything is prepared for the Gobbler Gallop 5K event on Saturday, November 18th.

Village Manager Nykaza – Dog park grant was approved by DCCF for \$12,000.00. Plans to start constructing the dog park are set for Spring 2024. The Toddler Garden project will break ground next week. Both the shelter and splash pad at Lions Park have been winterized. Letters were sent out to the business district owners notifying them of the snowfall ordinance. Met with Curtis Cook (Chastain & Associates) regarding the Well SCADA project, which will go out for bid next week. Plan to have the Well SCADA bids ready to present at the December board meeting.

Attorney Neveu – Attorney Neveu requested update on the audits. Village Clerk Pool informed the Board FY21 has been completed and submitted to the Comptroller. GW & Associates will be starting on FY22 mid-December.

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Public Works – Matt Conlin: Nothing

Committee Reports

Water & Sewer – Adam Pearson: Pearson and Nykaza met with Shabbona regarding possible sewage plant district. Looking at an option to develop a sanitary district with other local municipalities.

Streets & Alleys – Arnie Johanningsmeier: Provided update on November 13th Committee meeting. The Village has received complaints regarding the numerous cars parked on the streets in Green Ridge. They make it difficult for safety vehicles to maneuver. Nykaza presented a parking ordinance that restricted parking to one side. The committee discussed and felt that would not be the best resolution.

Public Safety – Suzanne Sedlacek: Nothing

Buildings & Grounds – Alison Genslinger: Trustee Genslinger motioned to approve Horticultural Specialties, Inc.'s mowing bid for the 2024-2025 contract. Trustee Feitlich 2nd. Roll call vote passed 6/0.

Trustee Feitlich motioned to approve Fence Sales of Sycamore, Inc.'s bid of \$13,824.64 for the fencing of the dog park. Trustee Sedlacek 2nd. Roll call vote passed 6/0.

Trustee Genslinger brought to the Board's attention the public's comments regarding the possibility of installing cameras at Lions Park due to safety concerns.

Finance & Personnel – Tony Feitlich: Provided update on October 17th Committee meeting. Modified the language for the returned check fee ordinance to allow card payment as an option. Decided to not recommend implementing a 1% food and beverage tax. Discussed Paid Leave Act. The County Assessor notified the Village of a local business appealing their tax assessment. Further discussion took place regarding the impact fees for the school and library.

Economic Development – Sarah Radtke: Trustee Radtke discussed AMK Auto Body's open TIF application. TIF policy requires work to be done within a year and we are approaching the deadline. Attorney Neveu will prepare a reminder letter.

Zoning – Sarah Radtke: Nothing

Special Hiring – Johanningsmeier: Trustee Johanningsmeier provided an update on October 16th committee meeting. Interviewed three applicants and decided to make a recommendation to hire Officer Terry Vandergrift as he was the best fit for the community.

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Planning Commission – John Ecker: Nykaza informed the Board the Comprehensive Plan is near completion and will be going to the Planning Commission to prepare for the Board’s approval.

Regional Planning Commission – John Ecker: Nothing

Public Comment: Resident, Alexander Bee, requested an explanation as to why she received a phone call advising the Police Explorer’s Post is being put on hold and why Corporal Bermudez’s isn’t being allowed to run the program. Trustee Feitlich advised the reasons the program are temporarily on hold could not be discussed with the public.

Old Business: Trustee Feitlich motioned to adopt Ordinance 2023-11: Adding Title 1, Chapter 8, Section 3 “Paid Leave.” Trustee Pearson 2nd. Roll call vote passed 6/0.

Trustee Feitlich motioned to adopt Ordinance 2023-13: Amending Title 1, Chapter 10, Section 2 “Returned Checks.” Trustee Pearson 2nd. Roll call vote passed 6/0.

New Business: Trustee Feitlich motioned to approve hiring part time Officer Terry Vandergrift. Trustee Johanningsmeier 2nd. Roll call vote passed 6/0. Village President Robinson swore in Officer Terry Vandergrift.

Trustee Feitlich motioned to approve the IDOT Rt. 23 Culvert Project at \$48,000 and to disburse the payment in halves (50% upfront, 50% after project is complete). Trustee Pearson 2nd. Roll call vote passed 6/0.

Trustee Feitlich motioned to approve GW & Associates Audit Agreement for FY23 & FY24 audits. Trustee Genslinger 2nd. Roll call vote passed 6/0.

Trustee Feitlich motioned to table the adoption of ordinance 2023-14: Adding Title 5, Chapter 2, Section 1 “Parking Prohibited.” Trustee Pearson 2nd. Roll call vote passed 6/0.

Trustee Feitlich motioned to adopt ordinance 2023-15: Approving 2023 Property Tax Levy. Trustee Radtke 2nd. Roll call vote passed 6/0.

Trustee Feitlich motioned to table approving the Memo of Understanding with ICSD #425. Trustee Pearson 2nd. Roll call vote passed 6/0.

Trustee Feitlich motioned to approve the employee manual amendment for Paid Leave Act. Trustee Sedlacek 2nd. Roll call vote passed 6/0.

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Trustee Radtke motioned to enter executive session under subsection number 11 of Section 2(c) of the Open Meetings Act to discuss open legal and personnel matters. Trustee Pearson 2nd. Roll call vote passed 6/0.

Closed Session – Legal

Attorney Neveu provided an update on open legal matters. Trustee Feitlich motioned to exit executive session. Trustee Pearson 2nd. Roll call vote passed 6/0.

Adjournment:

Having no further business to conduct, Trustee Sedlacek motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m. Trustee Genslinger 2nd. Vote passed unanimously. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, December 12, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Abigail Pool

Approved