

**Minutes of the Village of Waterman Board held at Village Hall 215 W. Adams St. Waterman, IL 60556
Tuesday, February 13, 2024**

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

Roll Call: Robinson, Radtke, Sedlacek, Feitlich, Pearson, Genslinger and Johanningsmeier were present.

Approve Agenda: Trustee Feitlich motioned to approve the agenda as published. Trustee Johanningsmeier 2nd. Roll call vote passed 6/0.

Approve Meeting Minutes: Trustee Feitlich motioned to approve the April 23, 2021 special meeting minutes as published. Trustee Johanningsmeier 2nd. Roll call vote passed 4/0 with Trustees Genslinger and Sedlacek abstaining.

Trustee Feitlich motioned to approve the January 9, 2024 regular meeting minutes as published. Trustee Genslinger 2nd. Roll call vote passed 5/0 with Trustee Pearson abstaining.

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

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

Mayor's Report: President Robinson announced that the Northern Illinois Mayor's Meeting will be held on February 15th in Stillman Valley.

Request for Consideration: Nothing

Correspondence: Nothing

Staff Reports

Chief Swanson – Swanson provided the January stats report. Swanson advised there was a virus that made it way through the department, so stats were down with a decrease in activity of 62.5% from last year. He received three qualified applicants for the part-time officer position. Notified the Board that the camera system in the Crown Victoria will need to be sent in for repair as it is malfunctioning. Radio Well has reached out to request WPD's old radios for reimbursement. Radio Well has partnered with a company called One Tree Planted so for every radio purchased they will plant one tree.

Village Manager Nykaza – Announced the dog park at Lion's Park is now officially open. Chastain & Associates is working to divide the Well House #4 Rehabilitation Project into two separate bids. Trustee Radtke brought up a concern of cyber security hacking for utility systems as it is becoming a more prominent issue for municipalities. Nykaza will work with Chastain to ensure Waterman has the proper securities in place for both water and sewer systems. Received TIF funds back from AMK Auto Body.

Attorney Neveu – Neveu stated the FY22 Audit letter has been submitted to GWA and she would provide remaining updates in closed session. Clerk Pool advised the Board the FY22 Audit has been completed and uploaded to the Comptroller. Robinson advised he received a notification from the Attorney General's Office in 2013-14 regarding the past due FY13 audit and he informed the Village President and head of finance at that time. He also commended Clerk Pool on her work in getting the past due audits up to date.

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Tuesday, February 13, 2024 - continued**

Public Works – Matt Conlin: Starting Spring clean-up early this year by removing the excess sod pulled up from snowplowing and laying down gravel where needed.

Committee Reports

Water & Sewer – Adam Pearson: Provided update on January 16th Committee Meeting. Discussed the pros and cons of a sanitary district, future additional well needs, and the capacity for the current WWTP. Working on plans for a back-up well that meets EPA standards. Chastain advised the WWTP is pumping more water than our allowed EPA rating. Thoughts are it is related to homeowners having sump pumps hooked up directly to the sewer main instead of the storm system. Clerk Pool informed the committee she is working on updating the Water and Sewer Usage Ordinance.

Streets & Alleys – Arnie Johanningsmeier: Nothing

Public Safety – Suzanne Sedlacek: Provided update on February 5th Committee Meeting. Decided 110 hours per week was the ideal amount of police coverage. Discussed part-time officers working at least one shift per month to maintain part-time status on our roster. Suggested that three currently employed part-time officers be transferred to auxiliary officer status as they do not currently work the required one shift per month; this would help reduce costs in the police budget. Discussed parking ordinance fines.

Buildings & Grounds – Alison Genslinger: Provided update on January 24th Committee Meeting. Reviewed the status of the dog park at Lions Park. Waterman was not awarded the grant with the National Association of Realtors that would have helped fund additional equipment for the dog park; hoping to reapply for the grant next round. Still looking into the status of the oak tree at Lions Park. Plans for the Gravel Cycling Event in May are moving forward. Briefly discussed potentially hiring part-time summer help for the Public Works Department.

Trustee Genslinger motioned to table the approval of the Waterman Summer Rec Memo of Understanding. Trustee Feitlich 2nd. Roll call vote passed 6/0.

Finance & Personnel – Tony Feitlich: Provided update on February 12th Committee Meeting. Discussed addressing outstanding retirement shortfall for employees, the holiday schedule, and to set the budget meeting schedule. The first budget meeting will be held on February 20th at 6 p.m. and then every two weeks after. Discussed replacement of the Bobcat Skid Steer. Nykaza plans to attend a grant writing workshop in March. Remaining updates will be provided in closed session.

Economic Development – Sarah Radtke: Clerk Pool advised she has been contacted by an individual inquiring about vacant buildings in town as they would like to potentially open a liquor store with a gaming area.

Zoning – Sarah Radtke: Nothing

Special Hiring – Johanningsmeier: Nothing

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Tuesday, February 13, 2024 - continued**

Planning Commission – John Ecker: Village Manager, Nykaza advised the Planning Commission will be finalizing the Comprehensive Plan so it can be presented to the Board in March for approval.

Regional Planning Commission – John Ecker: Nothing

Public Comment: Nothing

Old Business: Nothing

New Business: Trustee Pearson motioned to approve the Well #4 Rehabilitation Project bid from Performance Construction & Engineering for \$268,800.00. Trustee Feitlich 2nd. Roll call vote failed 0/6.

Trustee Feitlich motioned to approve the purchase of the Bobcat Skid Steer through CSR for \$32,870.15. Trustee Johanningsmeier 2nd. Roll call vote passed 6/0.

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

Closed Session – Legal

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

New Business – Continued: Trustee Feitlich motioned to approve the recommendation of the Finance and Personnel Committee regarding Chief Swanson’s performance, which included a 30-day unpaid suspension effective immediately and the creation of a performance improvement plan. Trustee Pearson 2nd. Roll call vote passed 6/0.

Adjournment:

Having no further business to conduct, Trustee Pearson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 p.m. Trustee Feitlich 2nd. Vote passed unanimously. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Abigail Pool

Approved