

RUSHVILLE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

May 9, 2016

TIME: 7:00 PM

PLACE: Rushville Village Hall

PRESENT: Mayor John Sawers

Trustees: Charles Elwell, Holly Krossber, David Masters

Trustee Appoint: Kimberly Payne

ATTENDANCE: Amanda Lee, Reggie O'Hearn, Art Rilands, Mike Pierre, Dodie Baker, Janet Landcastle, Jamie Landcastle, Anne Grover, Pat Sawers, Kelly Doran, Gabrielle Doran, Kevin Smith, Chandra Gilman, Jonnette Keneston, Jody Payne, Denise Baylor, Lyn Magill, Valerie Bay

EXCUSED: Jennifer Gruschow

Re: Calling the Meeting to Order

Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm by Mayor John Sawers. All who were present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Re: Approval of Minutes

Trustee Kim Payne is questioning the \$1,700 in the minutes that goes to the History Room. She doesn't remember that number from the previous meeting.

Trustee Holly Krossber addresses Public Works Supervisor Art Rilands, wondering if there is still a need for more seasonal laborers, mowers, sidewalk help, as well as concrete work. Rilands states that there is pipe work to be done on Warren Street, and to finish the sidewalks on Gilbert.

Trustee Dave Masters would like to know the cost to finish the sidewalks.

Rilands reports that \$22,000 has been budgeted for the sidewalks and asphalt.

Trustee Krossber asks if adequate help isn't found, will the Village choose to outsource?

Rilands states that in the past he and Mike Pierre have done the work themselves. Last year there was only one extra employee to help, so the Village subcontracted the work out. That was only about \$3,000 more than doing the work themselves.

Krossber asks which Rilands prefers.

Rilands prefers to contract it out. In the past he's hired a few guys and rented the necessary equipment for a month. It took them a month to do 100 linear feet of sidewalk. The subcontractors completed 700 feet in one day.

Krossber wants to make sure that Rilands has the necessary help.

Mayor Sawers notes that the Village is still hiring.

Rilands states that it's difficult to find good help for one month of work. Last year we paid \$18/hr. We have enough help to do the mowing.

A motion was made by Trustee Holly Krossber to approve the minutes from the April Board meeting. Motion seconded by Trustee David Masters. The motion was unanimously carried.

Re: Approval of Minutes from April 25 Special Meeting

Payne mentions again that she does not remember the \$1,700 in the fiscal year budget.

Trustee Charles Elwell reminds the Board that that is the money that is allocated yearly to the History Room to help with expenses.

RUSHVILLE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

May 9, 2016

A motion was made by Trustee Dave Masters to approve the minutes from the April 25 Special Meeting. Motion seconded by Kim Payne. The motion was unanimously carried.

Note: Though not clearly heard, the appointment of the Clerk-Treasurer is removed from the April 25 Special Meeting/Organizational Meeting Minutes.

Trustee Dave Masters would like to remind the Board members and Village residents that next month's Board meeting will be held on Monday, June 6.

Re: Public Works Supervisor, Art Rilands

Trustee Elwell addressed Rilands remarking that it took 10 days for the turbidity monitoring company to get back to you?

Rilands replies yes. His excuse was that he was busy.

Mayor Sawers states that the mowing started today with the help of some new employees. The plastic containers need to be removed so that the mowers can do their job.

Rilands states that artificial flowers and plastics are not supposed to be there during mowing season. These can be a hazard if the string gets caught up and throws the plastic flowers around.

Resident Chandra Gilman addresses Rilands asking if that's just plastic flowers or all?

Rilands responds that there is to be no plastic during mowing season. It is okay to plant real flowers in clay pots.

Re: Fire Department Chief, Art Rilands

Rilands reports that this wasn't a very busy month.

Mayor Sawers asks if there's anything the fire department needs in the future?

Rilands says that one of the trucks needs replacing. He is looking for a used one. He's budgeted \$65,000 for a used truck. The one that the fire department would like to replace is a 1986. The Fire Dept. would like to get one 10 years newer than that. Brand new trucks are about \$400,000.

Re: Reading Center, Dodie Baker

Baker has an update on the library sign. Dillon from Boy Scout Troop #43 will do the sign. He'll ask for assistance from an electrician. Baker talked with Troop leader Christ Dhondt, the sign installation should be complete mid-June.

Baker would like to thank the Board for providing the luncheon for the library volunteers. 10 of the 14 volunteers were able to attend.

Baker also reports that the Library received a donation from the Lions Club. The Library members plan to march in the Memorial Day parade.

The library has had the opportunity to work with a volunteer from Safe Harbors of the Finger Lakes. She's planning to do 5 programs that will tie in with the summer read program.

Baker had a handout that explained the next meeting for the Christmas in Rushville event planning.

Dodie Baker and Felicia Baker attended a workshop about gaming in the library. Baker reports it was a wonderful workshop. Throughout the next year, Baker plans to bring some of the things she learned to the library. She'll start with role playing and story-telling using

RUSHVILLE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

May 9, 2016

Dungeons and Dragons, which is story-telling and fantasy. Will report more on that when she has more information.

Mayor Sawers offers help with the electrician if Baker needs it. Baker says she still needs to get the proposal from Dillon of Troop #43 first. She's excited to get the sign finished.

Trustee Masters would like to know if there is space left in the library?

Baker reports the library is pretty full. She works with Southern Tier Library System. STLS is getting a grant next year that will help the smaller libraries, such as ours. The library would like to expand out, as well as up. Up would be for storage of books for the annual book sale, etc. Outward expansion would be for group meeting rooms. STLS has a 3D printer that our library will have for a week. We don't know yet if the grant for next year will be a straight grant or a matching funds grant, so she may be asking the Board for funds, she will report when she has more information.

The library has had a very busy month. There was a woman who came in to help with story-telling. Whether it was along the lines of heritage, people, pets or research. The library will be inviting her back.

Trustee Elwell points out to the Board and the Village that Baker is excellent at looking up books.

Baker reports that she could not do what she does without the STLS. Our library wouldn't have a 3D printer or computer lab without them. The library can borrow an entire computer lab from them, or order books from Utah, or California.

Resident Anne Grover asks Baker when she needs to know about the Christmas in Rushville events?

Baker says the planning is still ongoing, but the date has been firmly set for Friday, December 2, 2016. No time set yet.

Mayor Sawers wonders if the help situation has improved at the library yet?

Baker says that they still need volunteers.

Lyn Magill addresses the Board that the library is still in need of volunteers for the Circle of Friends. The library has lost a few volunteers that were very active, even if they can just volunteer for one event. The book sale always needs help.

Re: Code Enforcement Officer, Reggie O'Hearn

Mayor Sawers addresses O'Hearn that the burning at the Zimmerman property went great, and thanked those involved. Asks if O'Hearn had received a copy of the zoning variance back yet.

O'Hearn – yes.

Re: DOT Shared Service Agreement

The agreement is basically the same as in previous years, the only change noted was that this agreement is for 4 years instead of one.

Re: 3 Bassett Street

A motion was made by Trustee Holly Krossber to declare the property as surplus Village property. The motion was seconded by Trustee Masters. The motion was unanimously carried.

RUSHVILLE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

May 9, 2016

Mayor Sawers states that he has been advised to sell the property with sealed bids. Bids will be accepted for a period of 90 days. The Village reserves the right to accept or refuse any or all bids. After the period of 90 days the Village can list the property with a realtor is necessary.

A motion was made by Trustee Charles Elwell to advertise the sale of 3 Bassett St with sealed bids for 90 days. The motion was seconded by Trustee Kim Payne. The motion was unanimously carried.

Re: Memorial Day Committee – Meeting May 17th at 1:00pm

Memorial Day meeting has been set for May 17th at 1:00pm at the Gorham Hall on South Street.

Re: Review of Village Finances

Mayor Sawers reports that the Water Fund audit that we have done yearly will remain the same. This is a requirement of the Federal Government until that loan is under \$1million.

Trustee Elwell comments that's this is a large sum of money, and will take several years.

Mayor Sawers reports that he, Clerk-Treasurer Jennifer Gruschow and Deputy Clerk Amanda Lee had a meeting with Tom Zuber, a representative of Raymond F. Wager CPA. Wager has proposed \$1,995 for Agreed Upon Procedures for 1 year.

Trustee Elwell addresses the Mayor and the Board that he has stated his opinion previously on this matter because of the cost. Trustee Elwell hopes that this clears the air from rumors.

Mayor Sawers replies to Trustee Elwell that the Village is not questioning anyone.

A motion was made by Trustee Dave Masters to accept the Water Fund Audit proposal from Raymond F. Wager CPA. The motion was seconded by Trustee Holly Krossber. The motion was unanimously accepted.

A motion was made by Trustee Kim Payne to accept the Agreed Upon Procedures proposal from Raymond F. Wager CPA. The motion was seconded by Trustee Holly Krossber. The motion was unanimously carried.

Re: Recreation Room

Mayor Sawers points out that Kevin Smith is in attendance of the meeting. Mayor Sawers would like to set up a time to meet with Kevin Smith to discuss what goes on in the recreation room so that he and the Board can discuss the future of it.

Trustee Masters states that when the Board last talked there was discussion of others using the room.

Kevin Smith addresses the Board that the cheerleaders have expressed interest in using the room. Mr. Smith is concerned about the mats getting misused, but other than that – the room is there to be used.

Trustee Holly Krossber addresses Kevin Smith asking if he can please provide the Village with proof of insurance.

Mayor Sawers would like to check the Village insurance policy to make sure that we have appropriate coverage as well.

RUSHVILLE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

May 9, 2016

Trustee Elwell points out to the Board that he can see that Lyn Magill and Kevin Smith have such a level of enthusiasm. They really care and have a passion for what they do. Lyn teaches many classes at several different locations.

Lyn Magill addresses the Board that this community is her focus. She believes in what Yoga stands for. It's therapeutic and it supports the community. She's been working with the elderly and helping them through their illnesses. She encourages the Board and the residents to reach out to her with any questions that they might have.

Trustee Charles Elwell addressed Kevin Smith, that he is inspirational; Mr. Smith is so devoted to helping the boys. A figure of \$1,500 is estimated for a year for heat and electric. Since Lyn and Kevin are so devoted to their craft, Trustee Elwell proposed a motion to charge Kevin Smith \$100/month to cover the costs of the heat/electric for the room, at the end of a year if that number isn't adequate we can adjust the fee.

A motion was made by Trustee Charles Elwell to charge \$100/month for the use of the wrestling room.

Mayor Sawers addresses Trustee Elwell that the Board isn't going to make any decisions until insurance is discussed and a meeting has been had with Kevin Smith.

Trustee Elwell notes that there is a motion on the floor, he's looking for a second to the motion. After a short pause Elwell states that if there no second on the motion, he'll wait until the next meeting to revisit the motion.

Re: Bay Easement

Mayor Sawers informs the Board that the Bay easement has been signed, notarized and is completed and ready to be filed.

A motion is made by Trustee Kim Payne to file the Bay easement. The motion is seconded by Trustee Dave Masters. The motion is unanimously carried.

Re: Soccer Boosters barn usage

A motion was made by Trustee Charles Elwell to allow the soccer boosters to use a bay of the old Martin building for storage of their can and bottle drive for the month of July. The motion was seconded by Trustee Holly Krossber. The motion was unanimously carried.

Re: Hourly Wage for Seasonal Laborers

Trustee Kim Payne states that minimum wage is now \$9.00/hr, which will be increasing to \$9.70 in December.

Mayor Sawers would like to set a wage that is the same for all of those hired for this season. The previous help was being paid \$11.00/hr. Mayor Sawers would like the Village to set the rate for summer help to \$10.00/hr. One boy that is working in the cemetery has certificates to use larger equipment.

Trustee Holly Krossber would like to know Supervisor Art Rilands thoughts on the wage.

Rilands states that he thinks all of those hired in the same year should have the same set wage.

RUSHVILLE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

May 9, 2016

A motion was made by Trustee Kim Payne to set the seasonal laborer wage at \$10.00/hr. The motion was seconded by Trustee Holly Krossber. The motion was unanimously carried.

Re: Bills

A motion was made by Trustee Dave Masters and seconded by Trustee Charles Elwell to authorize payment of the general bills in the amount of \$6,486.39. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Charles Elwell and seconded by Trustee Holly Krossber to authorize payment of the cemetery bills in the amount of \$602.98. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Dave Masters and seconded by Trustee Charles Elwell to authorize payment of the water bills in the amount of \$3,742.85. The motion was unanimously carried.

Trustee Krossber would like to know if Phillip-Stenzel does the tank pumpings for the Village. Rilands replies, yes, as needed. Trustee Elwell would like to know if their charge is the same as last year? Rilands says it is the same.

A motion was made by Trustee Dave Masters and seconded by Trustee Kim Payne to authorize payment of the sewer bills in amount of \$8,102.19. The motion was unanimously carried.

RE: Public comments

Jamie Landcastle addresses the Board re: the Community Center. He states that we do not have a Community Center, we have a wrestling room. You (the Board) want to give Kevin Smith a deal. If more people are using the room, than that's more energy and higher bills. According to his calculations there's \$16,000 left, \$22,000 spent – on what? The mats can't be removed? So, it's not a community center.

Mayor Sawers addresses Mr. Landcastle stating that the remaining funds have been re-allocated to the sidewalk fund.

Trustee Elwell has asked Kevin Smith for a list of donations made to the room. Electricity; \$2,500, insulation, painting; \$4,000, door; \$450, roof; \$650. Plus Mr. Smith's own money, and all of this work done by contractors has been donated.

Dodie Baker points out that this is just a small section of the building that has been renovated.

Mr. Landcastle says that not for profit doesn't exist.

Baker states that volunteers are needed.

Denise Baylor stands to address the Board. She states that she still has the flyer that went out to residents asking thoughts on the community center. There hasn't been enough communication to the community. The school has sports; we expected a center to help all of the kids, not just a select few.

Trustee Charles Elwell states that he has never been in favor of the title "Community Center." He would like a new heading of "Parks and Recreation." Since the Village has

RUSHVILLE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

May 9, 2016

purchased those buildings they've increased in value. The one building is all set up to rent out as a garage for repair work. \$15,000 in donations from Kevin Smith has added value.

Discussion ensued.

Denise Baylor said when the survey was sent out, she expected the community would have a voice.

Rilands states that the original idea of a community center was supposed to be in the garage part of the buildings. The part that has already been renovated is a separate building.

Kelly Doran states that there has been a lack of communication between the Board and the residents.

Anne Grover says that the Village is trying to move forward, can't change the past. We know how everyone feels, let's move forward.

Mr. Landcastle would like the property put back on the tax roll and sold.

Mayor Sawers says that he doesn't think that's possible, there are contamination issues in the ground.

Anne Grover states the DEC came in and put it on a contamination list.

Mayor Sawers said that Jim Rice had it cleaned up about 6 years ago.

Valerie Bay addresses the room stating that the Methodist Church has a youth center that is booming. There's free food, and more and more kids each week. Kids are welcome there.

Trustee Holly Krossber addresses the room saying that because they are a new Board, she appreciates the information, and she looks forward to speaking with Kevin Smith. Krossber would like to check on the insurance, and is surprised that there is no formal agreement between the Village and Kevin Smith.

Mayor Sawers addresses the room and says that he thinks the bad guys are behind us.

Valerie Bay responds that such a statement was not okay to say; derogatory comments are unfair.

Rilands states that he agrees with Mrs. Bay.

Mrs. Grover comments that when people are informed they are happier.

Janet Landcastle states that maybe we all just need to relax.

Mayor Sawers comments that the Village needs a fresh start.

Valerie Bay addresses the room stating that we all need to be respectful to all of the years of hard work they've put in.

RE: Adjournment

A motion was made by Trustee Dave Masters and seconded by Trustee Charles Elwell to adjourn the meeting at 8:27pm. The motion was unanimously carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amanda Lee
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer