

August 7, 2023

Regular Meeting

6 p.m.

Regular meeting of the Village Board held at the Village Hall and called to order by President Starcevich with the following members present: Loving, Olson, Sappington, Willems, Baker, Waugaman, Starcevich, and Johnson. Absent: none.

Motion by Waugaman, second by Loving to accept the July 10, 2023 Budget Hearing and Regular Meeting minutes. Voice votes: all votes were in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Loving, second by Olson to authorize the July 2023 bills. Voice votes: all votes were in favor, and the motion is carried.

Cory Humphrey present concerning the "riff – raff", shootings, and fires in the Village. He stated that when he calls the Village's police, there is no response, and if he calls Mercer County Sheriff's Department, no one shows up. Mr. Humphrey said he was upset that the Village does not have a full time Police Chief, and more of a police presence. President Starcevich stated that it is hard to find a cop. Kyle McKewen present and said he would check at his Mercer County Better Together meeting. Mr. Humphrey said he had reached out to his neighbors, met them and knew what is going on in their area and are looking out for each other. President Starcevich said the Village would do whatever, with more community events or town meetings. He said the Village has put up speed limit signs, stop signs, and speed bumps. Rich Werkheiser and his wife present on the same topic, and talked about a neighborhood watch.

President Starcevich reported that the new electronic sign will be up Thursday in the Depot Park.

Curt Geyer of the Podcast Group present and stated that they have cameras up in the back of their building on Main Street, and they could put cameras in front, and they could have one up tonight.

Kyle McKewen present for Mercer County Better Together and is looking for general idea of the Village's land and wants to target industry and stores the Village needs. He said there is a Federal grant with matching funds. He wants feedback from the Village.

Curt Geyer and Eric of the podcast group present and stated that they had bought the building next to theirs and are remodeling it. They stated that they would like to buy the former pub and restaurant, and the gas station. President Starcevich stated that the Village wants to condemn these buildings, and he will check with Village Attorney Halpin. The Board considered that there may be mold or lead, and that there may be State Statutes, the Mercer County Health Department, or the

Illinois Attorney General that would condemn these buildings that have the roof open and are falling apart.

Trustee Sappington stated that there are removable speed bumps by using anchors bolted down, and that can be unbolted in winter. He said that the speed bumps would go in front of each stop sign and at the end of Eleventh Avenue. The Board agreed that the Township should be notified of these. President Starceвич stated that he would talk to Attorney Halpin about a weight limit and routes for commercial equipment.

Motion by Willems, second by Baker to pass Ordinance Number 4, Series 2023 Tax Levy. Voice votes: all votes were in favor, and the motion was carried.

The Board asked Village Clerk Johnson to check on getting a credit card for the maintenance department.

President Starceвич stated that the deadline for sewer hookups is August 15, 2023, and then after a fine unless the resident has proof of a contractor lined up to put their sewer in. President Starceвич asked Stephen Thorp, maintenance, to make a list of residents who have not put a sewer in after the deadline, so that a fine of \$800 will be made. Mr. Thorp said there were about forty or so who have applications in, but there are some residents who do not want to hook up.

Trustee Willems reported that they are waiting on the pole and lens for the cameras at the Rodeo Park and maintenance building. He said Black Hawk Electric will put them in.

President Starceвич stated that the litigation and lawsuit are over. and the roads are done and will be evaluated after the rodeo.

Trustee Willems stated he would check on the fiber optics with the New Windsor Telephone Company. President Starceвич stated he would check on other services.

President Starceвич reported that he and Village Clerk Johnson signed the Resolution for the parade route.

Mr. Thorp reported that there is a tree on Franklin Street and a tree on Walnut Street across from Steve Brooks that need to come down and some trees that need to be trimmed. He said the cost would be \$2,300. The Board agreed these trees need to be done.

President Starceвич gave the police report, and Chief Frenell requested ticket books.

Motion by Olson, second by Loving to adjourn. Voice votes: all votes were in favor, and the motion was carried. The meeting was adjourned.

Claudine D. Johnson, Village Clerk