

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
COUNTY OF MACON)
VILLAGE OF BLUE MOUND)

REGULAR MEETING
July 1, 2024

The Board of Trustees met in Regular Session on Monday, July 1, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. at the Village Hall. The meeting was called to order by President Scott Younger. Roll call indicated the following Board Members present:

Trustees: Jeff Reed Jr., Jeanette Crackel, Rick Moma, Ross Carls, Terre Moma, and Phil Jacobs
President: Scott Younger
Employees: Charlie Stickel, Chadd Peden, Chief Chad Lamb
Attorney: Andy Bourey

After the meeting was called to order and attendance recorded, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Rick Moma made a motion to exit the Regular Meeting and go into Executive Session. Ross Carls seconded it. In a roll call vote, the following Board members voted yes: Jeff Reed Jr., Jeanette Crackel, Rick Moma, Ross Carls, Terre Moma, and Phil Jacobs. Employees left the room.

Jeff Reed Jr. made a motion to exit the Executive Session and resume the Regular Meeting. Phil Jacobs seconded the motion. In a roll call vote, the following Board members voted in agreement: Jeff Reed Jr., Jeanette Crackel, Rick Moma, Ross Carls, Terre Moma, and Phil Jacobs.

Ross Carls made a motion to return to the Regular Meeting. Jeff Reed Jr. seconded the motion. In a roll call vote, the following Board members voted in agreement: Jeff Reed Jr., Jeanette Crackel, Rick Moma, Ross Carls, Terre Moma, and Phil Jacobs.

Chadd Peden, Charlie Stickel and Chief Lamb returned to the meeting.

Scott Younger said the Executive Session was to discuss the suspension of Jenny Prasnun. Employees and the Board are not to discuss particulars of the matter. The only thing that should be said is Jenny is gone due to "Actions detrimental to the Village". **Jeanette Crackel made a motion to terminate Jenny Prasnun effective July 1, 2024. Terre Moma seconded the motion. In a roll call vote, the following Board members voted in agreement: Jeff Reed Jr., Jeanette Crackel, Rick Moma, Ross Carls, Terre Moma and Phil Jacobs. The motion carried with unanimous consent.**

Scott Younger said in Executive Session the Board's consensus is to pursue legal action and it has been turned over to Chief Lamb. Chief Lamb said he has contacted Tom Filman of the ISP for guidance. He will email known details along with some of the evidence. Chief Lamb believes it would be best to have the ISP handle the matter since they are impartial. Chief Lamb will box up Jenny's personal items left at the Village and get them to her.

Minutes were distributed and reviewed for the Regular Meeting held on June 3, 2024. **Rick Moma made a motion to accept the Minutes as presented. Terre Moma seconded the motion. The motion carried with all 'Aye' votes.**

The usual report was not able to be printed so the physical Bills were presented and passed around to the Board members and reviewed. Some bills had been approved for payment at a previous Board meeting. **Rick Moma made a motion to accept the Bills. Jeff Reed Jr. seconded the motion. The motion carried with all 'Aye' votes.**

Attorney Andy Bourey

- Brad Damery has a court date set for July 24th. A text message has been drafted to serve as a notice of the hearing and will be sent if the judge will allow the alternate method of service.
- Dustin Clark's property on the corner of High Street is still an eye sore but several of the issues have been improved but not totally resolved. Mr. Bourey will send a letter to Dustin regarding his other property on Bolls & Burgess which also needs to be addressed.
- 48 Motors still has power and cars on the lot. Mr. Bourey will get a letter to the property owner addressing the basic complaints.
- Budget needs to be filed with the county clerk.

On behalf of Mark Bingham Engineer, rock has been hauled in to chip and oil which will start the 3rd or 4th week of July. Chadd will post it on the website and put up fliers to notify residents. Terre Moma asked if they could rock and chip the triangle with the cross and flowers too. Potholes will be filled before the rock and chip project.

Village had a meeting with Chastain regarding the **Water Tower project** which is expected to start mid August. They will do the pedestal tower first expecting it to be out of service for 5 weeks. The tower will be put under a tent during the project to minimize debris getting in the paint. Terre Moma inquired about funding from the federal government. Scott said the final bill will cost about \$200,000 more than the original estimate.

The Osage Indians sent Chastain a printout of what they want concerning the project. Chastain replied but have not heard back from the Indians.

Treasurer's Report was verbally discussed being unable to print out the report. The accounts are similar to the May report but overall decreased by about \$10,000 showing \$427,000 in all accounts.

Public Works - Water/Sewer Report – presented by Chadd Peden

- **June Projects**
 - Been cleaning out the back shed
 - Cleaning out the south side of the shop (for Chief Lamb's vehicle)
 - Mowed and sprayed

- Met Nick from Midwest Meter (from Edinburg) to learn our meter reading system.
- Hauled dirt from water plant to sewer plant
- Locate for CTI & METRO
- Worked alleys
- Picked up new pickup 2024 GMC 2500 on 6/7/24
- Rented JLG and trimmed trees (looks good)
- Brush pickup on 3rd Wednesday (the following day had wind that took down more branches and trees, still picking up that brush)
- Cut tree down on Crane after wind storm
- Had 8 shut offs.
- Water leak at 17 Margaret Dr after the meter
- Mowed 7 acres at sewer plant
- OSHA inspection (no real issues)
- Worked on water service on Jackson
- **July Projects** (Tentatively)
 - Spray for bugs (can't do it if it's 90 degrees)
 - Clean and organize the Water plant office
 - Work on roads
 - Clean culvert at Seiberling and Bolls
- **Miscellaneous**
 - Distributed 'Abatement Notice' for grass cutting
 - Working with Mark Bingham on the Sewer Plant and lift station #2
 - Need to start allocating ARPA funds (\$75,000) before we lose them (Infrastructure projects only – earmark for well & pump)
 - Continue looking for a bucket truck

Building Permits: three

- 307 Seiberling for Shonkweiler for a fence.
- 129 S Sunnyside: Jeff & Ellen Moma to rebuild back room & concrete patio
- Lewis Street: Nicole & Shane Smith for a fence

Police Report: a written Shift Detail Report distributed showing 319 hours in May.

Village of Blue Mound

Patrolling: 246 hrs. + 45 in-office hrs
 Complaints: 16 ea.
 Ordinance Violations: 1 ea.

During the month of June, there were 57 traffic stops, 3 police assist, 1 medical assist, 1 arrest, 1 school event, and 45 hours on administrative duties including writing reports. Chief Lamb met with his committee and provided a shift schedule for June to them.

- Vehicles are slowing down on Seiberling.
- The portable Speed monitor is working and in use.

- Chief Lamb will be on vacation from July 15-19 and Alex will cover the area.
- Website is pending government approval.
- CTI will come in Tuesday to change passwords.

New Business:

- Terre Moma asked when was the last audit and why did they not catch anything. Scott said the auditors audit what is given to them. They have a disclaimer on their agreement to that effect.
- Scott believes the Village needs to get a safe for important documents including checks, payments, and other valuables. It should be at least 36" tall and anchored to the wall or floor.
- Repeating the answer to inquiries is "can't comment on personnel" and "activities detrimental to the Village".
- What do we want of new employees? Rick reminded the Board that there is a summary of expectations for each department in the Employee handbook. We need someone with computer skills, bookkeeping knowledge and experience and needs to have a background check. We use Assist 50 but most communities use Lotus or Muni. Quickbooks would be a great program to use. Scott will write up an ad for employment. (pay \$18-20 hourly wage, 8-4:30, 90 day evaluation, computer skills).
- Consider hiring separate Treasurer to reconcile statements, pay bills and do payroll.
- Meanwhile, Diana Kupish has agreed to do payroll and pay bills and should be compensated.
- Anjolee is working 40 hours and trying to learn how to send out water bills. It has been since mid 2022 that she assisted while Jenny Prasun was out due to medical issues.
- Scott wants a new laptop just for the office. He is currently using his personal computer.

Terre Moma made a motion to get pay Diana Kupish \$25 per hour for doing payroll and paying bills. Ross Carls seconded the motion. The motion carried with all 'Aye' votes.

Terre Moma made a motion to get a laptop for the Scott's office. Jeanette Crackel seconded the motion. The motion carried with all 'Aye' votes.

Ross Carls made a motion to buy a safe for the Village office. Terre Moma seconded the motion. The motion carried with all 'Aye' votes.

Old Business: Got the new truck.

At 7:52 p.m., Jeff Reed Jr. made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ross Carls seconded the motion. The motion carried with all 'Aye' votes. The meeting adjourned.

The next **Regular Board Meeting** will be Monday August 5, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Approved:

Scott Younger, Village President

Diana Kupish, Village Secretary