

## **Village of Dakota Board Meeting - Dakota Village Hall - 112 Main St Dakota, IL**

**Monday, October 9, 2023, 6:30 PM**

Board Members Attending – Alisha Lizer, Ken Vrazsity, Kaytlyn Vrazsity, Diane Clay, Jon Riley, Eric Lizer, Jeremy Knox

Board Members Absent –

Clerk –

Treasurer – Melody Sweet

Public Attendees – Denny Elmer, Dan Pepin

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### **Approve Agenda**

- A Motion made by Ken to approve the agenda for Monday October 9, 2023, seconded by Kaytlyn, all in favor, motion carried.

### **Approve Minutes**

- A motion was made by Jeremy to approve the minutes for Tuesday September 12, 2023, seconded by Ken, all in favor, motion carried.

### **Approve Bills**

- A Motion made by Jon to approve the bills for Monday October 9, 2023, seconded by Ken, all in favor, motion carried.

Review Time Sheets- New time sheets were created and distributed out for use in October. Board reviewed September hours and time sheets.

### **New Business**

CFPS Update - Dan Pepin, with Community Funding and Planning Services, provided updates for the Wastewater Treatment Facility Project. The Project has a 30% IEPA Forgivable Grant, and an EPA Compliance Grant that will help offset the total cost of the project. The projected date for bids will now be November 2023, and Open Bids in January 2024. Paperwork was given to the board.

Dan also gave some information on the park grants available. Osland and PARC grants. He would like to set up a separate meeting to get a list of what the board would like to do for the park.

Dan suggested hosting a public meeting to get residents involved at the beginning of the project. Ken mentioned going with the bullet points of upgrades listed which would allow the public to start working through the list of needs within the park. This would help Dan to move forward with the amount of what the grant would be, based on the upgrades chosen for the park. Alisha asked if there would be catalogs to look through to get some ideas. Yes, per Dan, one that they use quite often would be Park and Play Structures. The representative for the playground equipment company could look at the park and help with the process.

There would be an application fee for the grant paid to Community Planning.

Gacob Lenox from Backwoods Tree Removal stopped by to provide the quote for the tree removal that would be discussed later in the meeting.

Village Employee: Hank Schoenhard passed away. Motion made by Jon \$100.00 toward Hank Schoenhard memorial seconded by Ken, all in favor, motion carried. **Alisha will send check and card to Hanks family.**

Update of Interviews for Clerk and Office Administrator Position – There have been 7 candidates applying and interviewing for the Clerk and Office Administrator position. The final interview will be Oct. 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Second Meeting: An additional meeting is needed in October to review applicants and possibly hire a Clerk and Office Admin position. The board agreed to the second meeting to be October 16, 2023

The board will also meet on ordinances, pool, go through the ordinance book to find and mark the mistakes in the book. Kaytlyn suggested reviewing the park bullets points Dan had suggested in order to create a smaller, more affordable list of upgrades for the Park.

Development of New Digital Reports for water reporting & GPS Locating: Steve Olson met with Alisha last month and informed her of a program he was developing towards streamlining water testing, paperless recording and GPS locating of water shut offs. This project is in development and Steve will meet with the Board for a presentation and final cost in 2024. American Rescue Plan Funds can be used toward this project.

Alisha did reach out to the Orangeville Sewer Operator, and he is content with what he is doing and wouldn't be able to help with maintenance or help maintaining our equipment for the sewer plant.

Book Walk – The Early Learning Academy Regional Office of Education will be doing a book walk in Dakota Park October 18-24, 2023.

Golf Cart Renewal: This is for 2024-2026. \$75.00 sticker for 3 years. Two dates were chosen for golf cart sticker renewal. **October 16, 2023, from 4-6 PM and October 21, 2023, from 10am to noon.**

Laptops for Clerk and Office Admin: - **Jon will look at laptops and bring quotes to the next meeting October 16, 2023**

Outdoor Bulletin Board for the Village Hall: Would like to hang an agenda and minutes other information we need to post.

- Motion made by Jon to purchase outdoor bulletin board \$200.00, seconded by Ken, all in favor, motion carried.
- **Alisha will purchase the bulletin board through Amazon**

Village Hall Ballasts - Ballasts in Hall are aging and no longer work properly.

- Motion made by Jon to hire Dave Bordner to install new LED lights, not to exceed \$1000.00 total, seconded by Diane all in favor, motion carried.
- **Alisha to contact Dave Bordner to install lights.**

Chicken Ordinance: Alisha was notified of a resident with a rooster and chicken(s). She spoke with the resident informing them of the ordinance, which doesn't allow chickens in the Village of Dakota. They agreed to have the chickens removed. It appears that the chickens have been removed. If anyone sees the chickens the next step will be to issue a warning letter. The board is to watch around the Village to make sure no one else has chickens.

Review Sewer and Water Rates: The board reviewed the current water and sewer rates, as well as the anticipated increase in sewer rates that will occur Jan 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Current Water rates are:

Residential and Commercial 1 \$30.00

Commercial 2 is \$150

Commercial 3 \$200

Institution is \$1002.73

Sewer rates are:

Residential and Commercial 1 \$30.00 – Increasing to \$40 Jan 2024

Commercial 2 \$120 – Increasing to \$150 Jan 2024

Commercial 3 \$160 – Increasing to \$200

Institution \$1300 – Increasing to \$2000 Jan 2024

The board will continue with the anticipated sewer rate raise effective Jan 2024, but will not have an additional raise at this time. There was some confusion as to the wording of this rate and this will be discussed again at the next Board meeting for clarification.

Replacement of Belt on Pump at Sewer Pond: A failing belt on the pump motor was replaced by Borden Electric, as well as adding an additional pulley and belt. The motors need daily monitoring and a better maintenance checklist. Alisha will talk to Chad about this.

Water Sewer Operator II wages: A discussion was had concerning the wages of Water Operator II and Sewer Operator II. The board agreed that test samples and recording will remain at \$17.00 per hour. However, labor performed within water and sewer job duties will be paid at the labor rate of \$20.00 per hour as long as reflected on the time sheet. Alisha will explain this to Chad to properly document his time sheet.

Water and Sewer Recording Training: Alisha was trained in recording water usage and sewer rates this week since both operators are out of town. Alisha would like to train Eric and Jon to have additional board members know how to properly record information when needed.

Review Water Jetting Sewer Lines: - Frinks Sewer and Drain jetted the vacated ally between Davis and Zimmerman. Frinks noted that trees are causing roots in the sewer lines for the village and residential lines. They recommended we televise the streets to look for damaged and aging pipes as preventive measures for the sewer lines.

The Hall received a quote from Frink's Sewer and Drain to video the sewer lines up to 8 hours videoing. \$3850.00. This is for small sections at a time.

The board agrees we need to start maintenance of the sewer lines. Discussion at the next board (October 16, 2023) meeting to decide on where to start. Alisha will contact Frinks for a better understanding of how many hours it may take for the entire Village system, and if they will jet the line at the time of televising.

October Yard of the Month Award: - Board decided on 510 W Main St for the October award.

Decorative Rock for Water Mains: All rocks are purchased and installed.

140 W Main St: Jeremy let the board know that the owner for 140 W Main St passed away and reminded the board to have lower apartment change back to a business when, and if, the building is sold. It was only given a temporary variance to hold apartment units and is to revert to a business zoned building.

## **Old Business -**

American Rescue Relief - funds of \$63,654.75 can be used towards water and sewer improvements. This would include GPS for the water shut offs, or a generator. This will continue to be a discussion until the board decides where to apply these funds.

Zimmerman Repair Updates: Street repair will wait until spring to allow the dirt and gravel in the patched area time to settle.

Light Up Dakota and Cookies with Santa:The board confirmed December 9<sup>th</sup> as the date for Cookies with Santa and to present the winner of the Light Up Dakota. Alisha spoke with the Dakota Art teacher. She stated that the art club will be voting on the decorated homes the week of December 1<sup>st</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>. **Kaytlyn and Alisha will meet to discuss further planning for both events.**

Shelves and Storage Containers in Shed update: Shelves and storage containers were purchased and installed in the storage shed behind the Village Hall.

There was a discussion on removing the old clerk desk. **Will have board members remove the desk on October 23 around 5:30pm**

Filing Cabinet and Desk for Office - Looking for some files cabinets and shelving for the walls. Still need a desk and chair.

### **Board Member Committee Reports**

#### Sewer – Eric

A Broken airline to a set of the aerators needs to be fixed. Alisha had contacted Mark Kelsey to review the line and possibly fix it later in the week.

The Kubota steering went out. Eric was able to determine the cause. Alisha called AC McCartney, and they were able to repair it.

The WWT Project road wasn't looping around as part of the project, but this has been addressed and will make sure the road will go around.

#### Water- Jon

Received quotes from replacing the pipe on top of the water tower. Ceroni: \$6156 and Helm: \$9171. The charges are high because each company states it will need to rent a large lift. The board would like to find a contractor who would use the ladder and not rent the lift to save money.

**Jon will ask Mark Kelsey for a quote.**

**Alisha will call the water operator in Orangeville to see if he has any suggestions.**

#### Park & Community Center – Kaytlyn

Kaytlyn and Alisha both presented quotes for cork board to hang on walls for people who rent the community center to be able to hang things up for decorations.

Motion made by Jon cork board for community center up to \$100.00 seconded by, all in favor, motion carried. **Alisha will purchase the cork boards through Amazon.**

Painting of the Dakota Park bathroom is still needed. **Ken will at least paint the interior, but may wait on the exterior due to weather.**

#### Village Property – Ken

Ken reached out to Quinn for a Quote for the Village Hall repairs but has yet to receive a response.

Gutters for the Village Hall were in the shed and within the Village Hall. Ken will investigate finding someone to install the gutters.

Pump house doors have not been painted yet. Ken will ask to see if these are getting painted yet this year.

#### Streets and Sidewalks – Jeremy

Zimmerman St was discussed earlier. Jeremy will obtain quotes for the repairs of Zimmerman St. as well as resealing the roads quotes.

A Village / Residents cost sharing sidewalk program was brought up by Jeremy. He would like to see the board investigate this to develop for the Village.

Jeremy has requested quotes for a couple different sidewalks and will present to the board at the next meeting.

#### Trees & Signs – Diane

The board received 2 quotes for tree removal and trimming.

Carl Chriss, 203 Center, 205 E Main, 2 on the Ally, 2 on Zimmerman, tree trimming \$16,550.00

Gacob Lenox of Backwoods Tree Removal didn't have all the trees that needed to come down on the quote submitted. Ken will contact Gacob for a complete quote.

Need more post for the stop signs. There are 5 stop signs at the new shed. Eric will get a quote on the post.

#### Adjourn

- **At 8:49 A motion was made by Eric to adjourn, seconded by Jeremy, all in favor, motion carried.**