

VILLAGE OF ST. JOSEPH
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
MARCH 8, 2022

Mayor Fruhling-Voges called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all present.

Roll call was taken.	Fruhling-Voges	Present
	Wagner	Present
	Van Buskirk	Present
	Painter	Present
	Davis	Absent
	Cummings	Present
	Rapp	Present

Others in attendance: Joe Hackney, Village Administrator; Tiffany McElroy-Smetzer, Village Clerk; Deb Routh, Village Treasurer; Mike Peters*, Village Public Works Superintendent, Luke Fisher*, Village Assistant Public Works Superintendent, Mike Sennert, Village AV; Dani Tietz, SJO Daily; and Nora Maberry, The St. Joseph Record. (* Attended by Zoom).

MINUTES (Exhibit #1): The minutes of the February 22, 2022 Village Board Meeting and February 22, 2022 Closed Executive Meeting were presented. Painter motioned Cummings seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Roll call vote was taken: Wagner – Aye, Van Buskirk – Aye, Painter – Aye, Cummings – Aye, and Rapp - Aye. Motion passed 5 – 0.

TREASURER’S REPORT (Exhibit #2): Cummings directed the Board to the Treasurer’s Report as of February 28, 2022. Wagner motioned and Van Buskirk seconded to approve the Treasurer’s Report as presented. Roll call vote was taken: Van Buskirk - Aye, Painter – Aye, Cummings – Aye, Rapp – Aye, and Wagner – Aye. Motion passed 5 - 0.

INVESTMENT REPORT (Exhibit #3): Cummings referred the Board to the Investment Worksheet. Rates were received from Gifford State Bank and were as follows: 3 month .1%; 6 month .2%; 9 month .2%; and 12 month .25%. Rates were received from Longview Bank and were as follows: 3 month .2%; 6 month .2%; 9 month no bid; and 12 month .25%. Rates were received from Philo Exchange Bank and were as follows: 3 month .2%; 6 month .2%; 9 month no bid; and 12 month .25%.

The investment recommendations are as follows:

In the General Corp:

- CD# 24893 a 3 month CD at Longview Bank for \$75,000 will be cashed;
- CD# 25623 a 3 month CD at Longview Bank for \$ 175,000 will be cashed;
- A new 6 month CD will be purchased from Longview Bank for \$190,000;

In the ARAP Grant Money #1:

- CD# 25599 a 3 month CD at Longview Bank for \$262,372.32 will be renewed;

In the Stormwater Fund:

- CD# 25621 a 3 month CD at Longview Bank for \$100,000 will be cashed;

In the Motor Fuel Fund:

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CD# 25601 a 3 month CD at Longview Bank for \$25,000 will be renewed;

In the Sewer Fund:

- CD# 24829 a 3 month CD at Longview Bank for \$50,000 will be cashed;
- CD# 24568 a 3 month CD at Longview Bank for \$100,000 will be cashed;
- A new 3 month CD will be purchased from Longview Bank for \$150,000;

In the Sewer Depreciation Fund:

- CD# 24895 a 3 month CD at Longview Bank for \$45,000 will be cashed;
- CD# 24647 a 3 month CD at Longview Bank for \$20,000 will be cashed;
- A new 3 month CD will be purchased from the Longview Bank for \$65,000.

Cummings motioned and Wagner seconded to approve the investment recommendations as presented. Roll call vote was taken: Painter – Aye, Cummings – Aye, Rapp -Aye, Wagner – Aye, and Van Buskirk – Aye. Motion passed 5 - 0.

BILLS (Exhibit #5): Rapp motioned and Wagner seconded to pay the bills as presented. Roll call vote was taken: Cummings – Aye, Rapp – Aye, Wagner – Aye, Van Buskirk – Aye, and Painter – Aye. Motion passed 5 - 0.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1) **Zoning Map Update Discussion Exhibit #6:** Hackney referred the Board to the Zoning Map in the packet. There are only three changes that are going before the Planning and Zoning Commission. They are the same changes that were discussed when the Zoning Plan was brought before the Board a few years ago. The Commission sees these as more corrections than changes to the Zoning. The maps will be available at the Village Office if anyone wishes to obtain one. The changes include: rezoning some Commercial lots to R-3 Residential, rezoning some R-4 to R-1 Residential, and rezoning some Commercial to Commercial Downtown. The public hearing for these Zoning changes will be March 17, 2022. The Planning and Zoning Commission will be voting on the Zoning map changes at a Planning & Zoning Commission meeting that night.
- 2) **Authorize Revised Contract with Lazer's Edge:** Hackney updated the Board on the copier and the revised contract. He is requesting that the Board approve the contract. Cummings motioned and Painter seconded to approve the Revised contract with Laser's Edge. Roll call vote was taken: Rapp – Aye, Wagner – Aye, Van Buskirk – Aye, Painter – Aye, and Cummings – Aye. Motion passed 5 - 0.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) **Planning Park Bench/ Equipment Purchase (Exhibit #8):** Fisher reported that on the bottle caps projects. Currently, there are 1800 pounds of bottle caps collected. The Village needs a new picnic table at Hackler Park to replace one that is broken. The cost

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will be \$600 and 550 pounds of caps. The Village wants to order 3 benches; one for Kolb Park; one for the bike trail at the new parking lot behind Casey's, and the last one in front of the American Legion on Lincoln Street. The cost will be \$300 and 200 caps each for a total of \$900 and 600 pounds.

Fisher reported that there would be caps left over after this purchase if someone wanted to buy a memorial bench or the Village will save them for bench purchases next year. Painter brought up that he would like to see a bench purchased for Ross Booker. Fruhling-Voges said that this would be a wonderful use of the extra caps for memorial bench and the cost of the bench would be paid for by donations. If anyone would like to contribute to the bench, they can contact the Village.

Painter motioned and Rapp seconded to approve the purchase of 1 table and 4* benches. Roll call vote was taken: Wagner – Aye, Van Buskirk – Aye, Painter – Aye, Cummings – Aye, and Rapp – Aye. Motion passed 5 - 0. * The fourth bench will be reimbursed by donations.

2) **Solar Panel Permit Fee (Exhibit #9):** Hackney noted that there had been two requests recently for solar panel installations on two residential structures. As of June 2021, The Village is requiring all solar panel installations to obtain a permit prior to installations. As of March 8th, the Village did not have a fee for the permit. Hackney has contacted many other communities to determine what their solar permit fees look like. He determined that there is not a consistent standard. He then looked at the Village's permit fees and the work that would be involved in the permit process. His recommendation is to set solar panel permit fees between \$50 - \$75. There was discussion regarding other alternative sources of energy such as wind power. Hackney will investigate broadening the language to include that. Painter motioned and Van Buskirk seconded to amend the Village's fee schedule to include a Solar Panel permit fee of \$50. Roll call vote was taken: Van Buskirk – Aye, Painter – Aye, Cummings – Aye, Rapp – Aye, and Wagner – Aye. Motion passed 5-0.

3) **Minimum Wage Increases Through 2025 Exhibit #10:** Hackney gave the Board overview charts of the impact of mandatory minimum wage increases to \$15, inflation, cost of living increases, and how performance increases would tie into these other increases. Hackney told the Board that this is something that the Board needs to be looking at before it is mandatory in 2025. Hackney noted that this decision needed to be made as raises go into effect May 1st.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR:

1) **UPDATES:**

- a. Hackney reported that Bernardi Securities will be at the next meeting.
- b. **2022 Community Survey Results Exhibit #8:** Hackney stated that the Community Survey Results are in. The results have been sent to the Board

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members by email. The winners from people submitting the survey are Amber Burnett and Julie Woller. They will get IGA gift cards.

STAFF UPDATES:

- **Village Attorney** – Nothing to report.
- **Village Clerk** –
 - o McElroy-Smetzer reported that she has been working with the Champaign County Clerk's Office regarding the online filing of the Economic Interest Statements which are required to be filed May first. They have been very helpful, even sending out a second password reset email. It seems that still most Village employees and Board members did not receive the email.

McElroy-Smetzer said that there are other options to the online filing. She distributed paper copies that can be filled out and returned to the Champaign County Clerk's Office. There is also a place on the site where users can fill out the form in a fillable pdf, print, and return. From what people have heard this has been a difficult rollout. Many people are choosing to do the paper version this year. McElroy-Smetzer stated that she would be glad to work with anyone that needed help.

- **Public Works** – Nothing

MAYOR'S DESK:

Fruhling-Voges reminded the Board of important dates coming up:

- 1) March 15th - The Board will be working on the Budget that Hackney has put together.
- 2) March 17th - The Planning & Zoning Commission will be voting on the map changes for the overall Zoning project for the Village that has been years in the process. Fruhling-Voges urged Board members to attend if they have any questions or concerns so they could be addressed then and it could then be approved at the next Board meeting.
- 3) March 23rd - IML Lobby Day – Fruhling-Voges told the Board how valuable that she has found this day in the past. It gives the Trustees access to the legislators.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Nothing

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY: Did not meet.

STREETS, ALLEYS, SIDEWALKS, & DRAINAGE: Did not meet.

OTHER:

At 8:03, Wagner motioned and Painter seconded to adjourn the meeting.

These minutes are respectfully submitted.



Tiffany McElroy-Smetzer
Village Clerk