

Village of St. Joseph

Village Board Meeting

May 14, 2024

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
 Page Present
 Vallee Present
 Painter Present
 Wolfersberger Present
 Cummings Present
 Rapp Present

Others in attendance: Joe Hackney, Village Administrator; Debbie Routh, Village Treasurer; Mike Sennert, Interim Village Clerk/Village IT; Marc Miller, Village Attorney; Mike Peters, Public Works Director (via Zoom); Terry Lawhead, Michelle Lawhead, August Voges, Mason Voges, Danny Ehmen, Amy McElroy, Ethan McElroy, Braden McElroy, Tiffany McElroy Smetzer, Butch Dalhaus, Brandon Williams, Ryan Barnes, Village Residents; and Nora Maberry, The St. Joseph Record.

Appointments:

Fruhling-Voges recommended appointing Mike Sennert as Interim Village Clerk. Cummings motioned and Painter seconded to support the President's appointment of Mike Sennert as Village Clerk Pro-Tem for a period of three months with compensation equivalent to the Clerk's position prorated for the time served. Roll call was taken: Page-Aye, Vallee-Aye, Painter-Aye, Wolfersberger-Aye, Cummings-Aye, and Rapp-Aye. Motion passed 6-0

Consent Agenda (* indicates action item, omnibus motion):

1. Regular Village Board Meeting Minutes - April 23rd, 2024* - Exhibit #1
2. Special Village Board Meeting Minutes - April 29th, 2024* - Exhibit #2
3. Executive Session Meeting minutes - April 29th, 2024* - Exhibit #3
4. Treasurer's Report - May 2024* - Exhibit #4
5. Investment Recommendations- May 2024* - Exhibit #5
6. Approval of bills in the amount of \$160,646.88* - Exhibit #6
7. Approval of amended MFT resolution* - Exhibit #7
8. Approval of IMRF resolution addressing compensation under a Section 125 Plan* - Exhibit #8
9. Consideration of Special Event Permit (2024-004) - Summerfest* - Exhibit #9

Administrator Hackney pointed out that the bill for Springfield Electric was \$33,065.89 for the ball field lights and there is a rebate to follow later. Trustee Painter helped the village get the lighting rebate that totaled over \$15,000.

Painter motioned and Cummings seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. Roll call was taken: Page-Aye, Vallee-Aye, Painter-Aye, Wolfersberger-Aye, Cummings-Aye, and Rapp-Aye. Motion passed 6-0

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Public Participation:

Village Resident Amy McElroy stated that she was here to support village employee Luke Fisher and all of the village workers that they make the village what it is.

Village Resident/Former Village Clerk Tiffany McElroy Smetzer stated she provided information for the board members about village worker, Luke Fisher, and asked them to consider the information and to be careful with their decision. She also stated that Luke has a long history working for the village.

Village Resident Ryan Barnes spoke in favor of Luke Fisher and wants the village to make a decision about his future and to move on. Mr. Barnes also commented that the police officer sitting outside the village hall isn't necessary and is hurtful for the town. He also stated that in his opinion that the park areas are suffering and need mowing due to the village workers being short staffed.

New Business (* Indicates Action Item):

1. **Acceptance of staff bid recommendations for street, sidewalk, curb and gutter projects for 2024* - Exhibit #10**

Board Member Vallee questioned why there was such a huge discrepancy in the bids. Public Works Director Mike Peters spoke about the low bidder and he felt confident that they could get the work done for the price quoted. Administrator Hackney commented the contractor has wanted to develop a working relationship with the village for a while.

Painter motioned and Vallee seconded to approve the bid for street, sidewalk, curb and gutter projects for 2024. Roll call was taken: Page-Aye, Vallee-Aye, Painter-Aye, Wolfersberger-Aye, Cummings-Aye, and Rapp-Aye. Motion passed 6-0

2. **Consideration of staff request to purchase mower deck for \$2,941.34 * - Exhibit #11**

Rapp motioned and Wolfersberger seconded to approve the purchase of a mower deck for \$2,941.34. Roll call was taken: Page-Aye, Vallee-Aye, Painter-Aye, Wolfersberger-Aye, Cummings-Aye, and Rapp-Aye. Motion passed 6-0

Old Business (* indicates Action Item):

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1. None

Village Administrator:

Hackney reported that the solar Request for Proposals (RFP's) are going out this week for both locations, and he is requesting they be submitted back for review before the June meeting.

Staff Updates:

-**Village Attorney**-Nothing to report.

-**Village Clerk**-Nothing to report.

-**Public Works**-Nothing to report.

Mayor's Desk:

-Mayor Fruhling-Voges reported that the Central IL Municipal Officials Association (CIMO) meeting is going to be held in Mahomet and the guest speaker is Tim Bannon, the director of Willard Airport. Any interested board members need to let the Village Office know this week, if they are attending.

-The Mayor reported that the County Board has asked Administrator Hackney to attend their next meeting to continue the discussion on St. Joseph receiving additional American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA funds).

-The Mayor also thanked Senator Chapin Rose for assisting the village in getting the Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity's grant.

Board of Trustees:

-Trustee Rapp asked Public Works Director Mike Peters if he has an estimate for the mower repair. Peters responded that the dealership hasn't had time to evaluate it yet, but he will check with them again later this week.

-Trustee Painter reported that he saw the Village of Homer has a gator type vehicle they use for village work. He stopped and talked to the village employee using it and the person reported it has been a great vehicle for several different jobs. Hackney responded that he and Mike Peters will touch base with the Village of Homer and get more information for the board.

-Trustee Wolfersberger reported that he spoke with 3 individuals about getting a private company to mow the village properties, possibly breaking the quotes down by sections. Hackney stated that he and Mike Peters will get quotes for mowing the different Village properties and present them to the board.

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Executive Session:

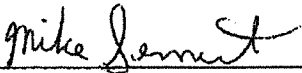
At 7:27 p.m., Cummings motioned and Painter seconded to enter into Executive Session for:

- 1) Executive session for the limited purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, performance, and/or discipline of one or more specific employees pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1)
Roll call was taken: Page-Aye, Vallee-Aye, Painter-Aye, Wolfersberger-Aye, Cummings-Aye, and Rapp-Aye. Motion passed 6-0

At 7:47 p.m., Page motioned and Painter seconded to return to Open Session. Roll call was taken: Page-Aye, Vallee-Aye, Painter-Aye, Wolfersberger-Aye, Cummings-Aye, and Rapp-Aye. Motion passed 6-0

At 7:48 p.m., Page motioned and Painter seconded to adjourn the meeting.

These minutes are respectfully submitted.



Mike Sennert
Interim Village Clerk

Approved: May 28, 2024