

VILLAGE OF ST. JOSEPH  
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING  
June 22, 2021

Mayor Fruhling-Voges called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all present.

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

Others in attendance: Tiffany McElroy-Smetzer, Village Clerk; Luke Fisher\*, Village Assistant Public Works Superintendent, Julie Hendrickson\*, Village Office Manager; Mike Sennert, Village AV; Nora Maberry, The St. Joseph Record. (\* Attended by Zoom).

**MINUTES:** Van Buskirk motioned and Cummings seconded to approve the following minutes:

- April 13, 2021, Village Board minutes
- May 25, 2021, Village Board Meeting minutes
- June 8, 2021, Village Board Meeting minutes

And to accept the minutes for:

- June 17, 2021, Public Hearing Minutes
- June 17, 2021, Zoning & Planning Commission Meeting minutes.

Roll call vote was taken: Van Buskirk – Aye, Painter -Aye, Davis – Aye, Cummings – Aye, and Rapp – Aye. Motion passed 5-0.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No public participation.

**ZONING & PLANNING COMMISSION:**

- Fruhling-Voges gave an update on the Zoning & Planning Commission meeting held on June 17, 2021.

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**ZONING ORDINANCE**

- McElroy-Smetzer read the pertinent sections of the June 17, 2021, Public Hearing:  
The Public Hearing pertains to the review of a proposed revised Zoning Ordinance for the entire Village of St. Joseph, IL. There was no public participation. There will be another public hearing on June 22, 2021, at 7:00p.m. before the Village Board Meeting.  
Fruhling-Voges noted that there was no public participation at tonight's Public Hearing. There were also no comments
- McElroy-Smetzer read the pertinent section of the June 17, 2021, Zoning & Planning Commission meeting:  
Knight motioned and Crider seconded to recommend approval of the new Zoning Ordinance as presented at the Public Hearing on June 17, 2021. Roll call vote was taken. Kern – Aye, Cooley – Aye, Knight – Aye, Crider – Aye, and Furrer – Aye. Motion passed 5-0.
- Van Buskirk motioned and Cummings seconded to approve the new Zoning Ordinance that was presented at Public Hearings on both June 17, 2021, and June 22, 2021. Roll call vote was taken: Davis – Aye, Cummings – Aye, Rapp – Nay, Wagner – Aye, Van Buskirk – Aye, Painter – Aye, and Fruhling-Voges - Aye. Motion passed 5-1.
- Fruhling-Voges noted that this process began in May 2015.

**WYLDEWOOD CELLARS**

- McElroy-Smetzer read the pertinent sections of the June 17, 2021, Zoning & Planning Commission Minutes related to Wyldewood Cellars.
- McElroy-Smetzer invited Tracie Trotter to tell the Commission about her new project. Trotter is not asking for any approvals at this point. She wanted to let the Zoning and Planning Commission know of her plans to build. Trotter told the Commission that she has purchased property on Second Street to build a 4,000 square foot production building. It will be a big open space with two rooms and a bathroom. It will be built from ICF (insulated concrete form) blocks. She will be moving her production from 202 N. Main Street which is a building that she rents.
- There was discussion regarding the number of trees that would need to be taken down for the building. Trotter stated that there are two trees on the Village property and two on her own property that need to be removed. Furrer asked if there was a possibility of her planting some new trees. Trotter said that she was not averse to this. Dowling cautioned that there was a possibility that the trees might need to be removed again if the business expanded or a new owner had a different use in the future.
- There was discussion regarding siting of the building on the lot. Furrer asked if the building could be moved to the west. He stated that it would be more appealing from the street if there was more green space in front of the building. He also asked Trotter about the landscaping that she had planned.
- After zoning setbacks were looked at, Trotter will need to move her building from the original plan. She will get the Village and the Village engineers plans to show the new site plan.

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- With the changes to the location of the building on the property, Trotter will be in compliance with the Zoning Ordinance whether or not the new Zoning Ordinance is adopted next Tuesday night.
- There was discussion regarding the number of parking places that the facility would have. Trotter said that there would be 3 people working there at the most for now. The Zoning Ordinance requires one spot for every two people or one spot for every 1,000 square feet. There was discussion regarding waiving the parking requirement. Kern brought up that if the building were sold it might become retail which would need more parking.
- It was discussed that it would work well if the business were zoned Downtown Commercial as the business is in the downtown and downtown commercial businesses do not meet that parking spot requirement. It appears due to the type of business, location of the business and that it is adjacent to downtown, Commercial Downtown would be the best fit for the type of Commercial zoning. Trotter is going to petition to have her property zoned Commercial Downtown.

**MAYOR'S DESK:**

- Fruhling-Voges presented the employment contract for the Village Administrator. Cummings motioned and Painter seconded to approve the contract as presented. Roll call vote was taken: Davis – Abstain, Cummings – Aye, Rapp - Abstain, Van Buskirk - Aye, Painter - Aye, and Fruhling-Voges - Aye. Motion passed 4-0-2.
- Fruhling-Voges presented Joseph Hackney as the candidate for the first ever Village Administrator position. Cummings motioned and Painter seconded to hire Joseph Hackney as the Village Administrator contingent on a satisfactory outcome of his fingerprint background check by the Illinois State Police<sup>^</sup>. Roll call vote was taken: Cummings -Aye, Rapp -Aye, Van Buskirk -Aye, Painter - Aye, Davis – Abstain, and Fruhling-Voges - Aye. Motion passed 5-0-1.
  - <sup>^</sup> The delay in Hackney's fingerprint background check is due to IL State Police backlog. Currently, the office of Illinois State Police is not answering their phones or emails due to COVID staffing restrictions.
- Fruhling-Voges is excited about Joseph Hackney. She stated that she thinks that he is the right person for this new position and she looks forward to working with him. They have discussed a tentative start date of 20<sup>th</sup> of July.
- Fruhling-Voges gave a report on Champaign County RPC meeting.
  - o They are working on the Regional Data Portal. There is a lot of useful data that can be used by the Village.
  - o Fruhling-Voges reported that July 1<sup>st</sup> begins a new cycle for RPC hours. The Village has 30 hours that can be used at no cost.
  - o Fruhling-Voges has some concerns regarding the new Equity Map passed by the Champaign County Board. There is concern that the rural communities are not well represented in the Equity Map.

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- Fruhling-Voges spoke about the Kickapoo Rail Trail (KRT):
  - o She informed the Board that regarding the grant for the amenities along the Kickapoo Rail Trail in St. Joseph, the bids came in over budget. The Forest Preserve is working on scaling plan down.
  - o She also reported that the Forest Preserve will be working in conjunction with the Drainage District to address the logjam at the bridge.
- Fruhling-Voges stated that the Village had received a letter from Sam Furrer informed that pics are on Village Gardeners Facebook page.
  - o Fruhling-Voges stated that she wanted to thank the Village Gardeners for the hard work that they do to make the Village look so nice.
- Fruhling-Voges reported that she had received a response back from the WCIA General Manager. Fruhling-Voges expressed her personal and the majority of the St. Joseph Community's disappointment with WCIA. WCIA is working hard to make positive changes. WCIA asked for suggestions regarding how to get the trust of the community back.
- Fruhling-Voges asked for an update on the progress regarding Garrison's request for a barrier at the curve where Peters Drive and 5<sup>th</sup> Street met.
  - o Cummings said that she thinks that this should be tied in with the sidewalk to Bright Beginnings
  - o Fisher reported Rapp, the Garrisons, and Fisher met. They discussed options including guardrail as well as tension wires like those on Interstate 74. It was noted that the tension wire could have an ongoing high cost of repairs. Fisher will continue to follow up on this issue.
- Fruhling-Voges brought up the IML Conference. Fruhling-Voges asked that if Trustees decided to register for the IML Conference that they be sure that they will attend. There is a cost to the Village if cancellations are made. Fruhling-Voges expressed how much she has learned at prior conferences but she is not comfortable attending with the civil unrest at this time and will probably not attend.

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**COMMITTEE REPORTS AS FOLLOWS:**

**FINANCE:**

- Cummings reported that the audit fieldwork would be July 26 – 31, 2021.
- Cummings reported that there would be a Public Hearing for the Appropriations Ordinance at 7:00 July 13, 2021.

**BUILDINGS & GROUNDS:** Fisher reported that the boring had been done for the decorative lights. The next step will be getting them hooked up.

**SANITARY SEWER:**

- Fruhling-Voges said that she would like to have a committee meeting with Clark Dietz to check on the progress.
- Fruhling-Voges reported that Profanik would like to purchase an automatic sampling machine. This could be carried forward to the new plant.
- Fisher stated that the impellers have been recommended to purchase.

**PARKS & RECREATION:**

- Fisher reported on the progress regarding pickleball courts. Davis, Fisher, and Hawkey met out at the Sports Complex to look at the how the layout could work. They thought that they would do two courts to start.
- Fisher also looked at the pickleball courts at Hessel Park in Champaign and spoke to the Champaign Park District about the pickleball courts. They said that it is a very popular sport.
- Fisher and Hendrickson have looked online at the cost of items. They have found nets for \$1574 each and striping tape to mark the courts at \$21.99 each. They are also looking at the costs to rent fencing.
- Davis reported that the Village will need to add a new sidewalk to basketball court and pickleball court for ADA. Looking at fencing. Will have prices for the next meeting.
- Painter motioned and Davis seconded to approve a cost of not to exceed \$3,500 for the nets and the striping tape to set up 2 pickleball courts. This is to accommodate shipping costs. Roll call vote was taken: Van Buskirk -Aye, Painter -Aye, Davis - Aye, Cummings -Aye, and Rapp – Aye. Motion passed 5-0.

**PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY:** Nothing to report.

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**STREETS, ALLEYS, SIDEWALKS, & DRAINAGE:**

- Rapp discussed various streets and alleys issues.
- Fisher reported on street repairs going on this week. Meadow Circle repaving will be happening this week.
- Gifford State Bank customers driving thru the house to the south's yard. The Village is looking at how they can help. They have discussed putting delineators to protect the yard

**CLERK'S DESK:** McElroy-Smetzer stated that she likes the look of Roch's outdoor eating area. Fruhling-Voges agreed that she thinks it looks nice. Fisher reported that everything is removable. It will be removed when outdoor dining takes place. It will be removed for winter.

Fruhling-Voges is glad that people will have options to enjoy outside dining in our community. She would be open to having more outdoor dining.

**OFFICE MANAGER:** No food truck permits have been requested except for the ones for the Church of Christ program.

**PUBLIC WORKS:** Fisher reported that he had met with Will Smith who was working on his Eagle Scout project. The project is the bicycle repair station at Kolb Park. He will be completing this within the near future. Smith has asked if Champaign Forest Preserve would put sign regarding the bicycle repair station.

**ATTORNEY'S DESK:** Nothing to report.

**OTHER:** Fruhling-Voges reported that the smoothy shop would be opening within the near future. She thinks this will be a great addition to the Village.

At 8:21, Painter motioned and Cummings seconded to adjourn the meeting.

These minutes are respectfully submitted.

  
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Tiffany McElroy-Smetzer  
Village Clerk