

**VILLAGE OF ST. JOSEPH
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
August 23rd, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:	Fruhling-Voges	Present
	Wagner	Present
	Van Buskirk	Absent
	Rapp	Present
	Cummings	Present
	Painter	Present
	Davis	Absent

Others in attendance: Joe Hackney, Village Administrator, Mike Peters*, Village Public Works Superintendent; Luke Fisher*, Village Assistant Public Works Superintendent; Mike Sennert, Village AV; Marc Miller, Village Attorney; Lowell Suits, Village resident; and Nora Mayberry, St. Joseph Record.
(* Attended by Zoom)

MINUTES Exhibit #1: The minutes for the August 9, 2022 Village Board Meeting were presented to the Board for approval. Cummings motioned and Painter seconded to approve the minutes as received. Roll call vote was taken: Wagner – Aye, Painter – Aye, Cummings – Aye, and Rapp – Aye. Motion passed 4-0.

BILLS Exhibit #2: The bills were presented. Discussion took place regarding Community festival expenses. Painter questioned the extra deputies for the festival. Hackney noted that they were budgeted for. Painter questioned what profit the festival committee makes and how it relates to what the Village pays for. Rapp questioned the demo charge on the bill. Hackney will update later. Rapp motioned and Painter seconded to pay the bills as presented. Roll call vote was taken: Painter – Aye, Cummings – Aye, Rapp – Aye, and Wagner - Aye. Motion passed 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Lowell Suits addressed the Board. He would like to see changes with golf carts. He would like for there to be one price for each cart and the age reduced to drive them. He also would like to see side by sides and 4 wheelers be included.

Cummings asked why he wanted age changed. Suits responded that he had compared it to Carlinville and that is what they do. Wagner added that we can't control what we have now and explained the process we currently have and why the age limit and fees are set the way that they are.

Fruhling-Voges asked Mark Miller, village attorney, what his knowledge is on ordinances for golf carts. He reported that the village can be more restrictive than the state statute but can't be less restrictive than the state statute. Village can set any fees and penalty amounts they want. Miller said he doesn't see that the liability will fall back on the village.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Follow up conversation on expanding golf cart ordinance.**

There was a powerpoint presentation on electric trucks. They will have 3 trucks coming in within a month and will bring two into the village to look at.

2. **Vacating alleyway ordinance (SJOHS Request) – ready for approval – Exhibit # 3:**

Hackney reported that the ordinance is not ready for tonight. He recommends that the Board wait until the high school superintendent sends over a final copy for him and Miller to review. The Board agreed to table the issue.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Business Grant Discussion – Exhibit # 4:**

Hackney reported that there is information included in the packet with an example of a grant presented from another community. He also gave an example from his old job and the grant they wrote. He talked about his last community and how they funded a car dealership with improvements to a business. He also talked about how it would give the village the ability to help with emergency repairs of a business with a loan.

Hackney mentioned that business grants can improve the look of a neighborhood. He recommends creating a scoring system if they go forward with a grant program. The Planning and Zoning Commission would be in charge of rating the applications. As an example, it could be used to assist with outdoor dining options in the downtown area.

Cummings inquired about if any businesses had shown an interest in business grants. Fruhling-Voges explained that Roche had expressed interest for facade work to his building. She also said she would be interested in helping the historic buildings in being maintained. Wagner expressed that it might help some businesses choose to do improvements if the grant was available. Rapp mentioned that he would like to see incentives for new businesses to come to town as an option. Painter would like to see a timeframe for each year to apply and applications to be approved. Cummings reiterated that the Planning and Zoning committee will score the applications and submit recommendations to the board. Hackney is going to take their ideas and combine them into a proposal to bring back to the board.

2. **Special Event Permit: Wagner Sign and Graphics 15th anniversary – Exhibit # 5**

Hackney and Wagner explained the permit is to close down the section of Lincoln in front of the store. Bounce houses and music for family fun. Wagners will have a sale at the same time and Blend Spot is talking about also doing something in front of their store. Painter motioned and Rapp seconded to approve the Special Event Permit as presented. Roll call vote was taken: Cummings – Aye, Rapp – Aye, Wagner – Abstain, and Painter – Aye. Motion passed 3-0-1.

3. **Swimming Pool without fence discussion – Exhibit # 6:**

Hackney talked about another community that had a tragedy of a pool without a fence. He identified 5 pools identified without fences around them and sent them letters to address the problem. Hackney needs to know how far the board wants to take the issue when people report a pool without a fence. Cummings asks who checks on pool permits. Hackney explained that it is either him or village staff. Hackney an example of a renter that was told they couldn't put up a pool since they weren't the owner. They went ahead and put up the pool. Hackney wants guidance of what the board wants him to do next.

Miller talks about how the fine process would work. He also recommended that the Village use an incentive where they could get the fine reduced if they install a fence within so many days. Miller stated that there is a three-month time frame for enforcement before taking them to court.

Peters commented that when they come in for a permit for pool and fence, that sometimes the fence materials are back ordered for several months.

Painter talked about if we don't enforce our policy and someone does die in a pool that we would be liable. He likes the idea of a fine process and if you put a fence up in so many days you get the money back.

Rapp discussed the need for a paper trail to back up people going against the policy.

The Board directed Hackney to follow through with the individual cases and go to the next step to enforce the board policy.

4. 2022 Fall Festival Results/Discussion:

Fruhling-Voges reported on the fall festival. She received many thank yous for the parade and festival. She thanked the Fall Festival Committee members, the 150th Celebration Committee, as well as Mike Tankersley for his paintings of the village buildings. The pictures are on display in the meeting room of the village office. Greg Knott provided the pictures for Tankersley to paint from. A lot of people were involved to make the weekend a success. Fruhling-Voges wants to thank everyone for their hard work.

Wagner reported the festival committee will meet in the next few weeks to discuss where their accounts will be held in the future. He noted that possibly the festival will be under the village umbrella with a committee that still guides it. Painter asked if other businesses were asked to be part of the beer tent. The winery has been a vendor in the past. Cummings doesn't want to discuss it here and thinks it should be a separate committee meeting.

Wagner left at 8:26 p.m.

Village Administrator:

- Hackney noted that the Ameren bills went up in the Village but the rate Village rate is still currently lower with Ameren than what other providers are charging.
- Leading up to the next fiscal year, he reported that they will need to come up with a vehicle replacement schedule for next year.
- Written Report attached – **Exhibit # 7**

Staff Updates:

- **Village Attorney:** Nothing.
- **Village Clerk:** Nothing.
- **Public Works:** Written Report attached – **Exhibit # 7**

Mayor:

- Fruhling-Voges discussed IML conference and the sessions that are available and the options the board has during the conference.

Board of Trustees:

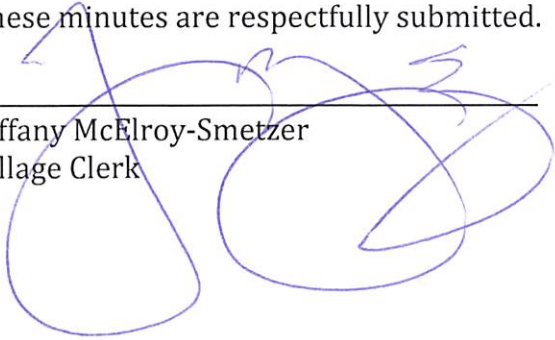
- Updates/Comments from Trustees
 - Painter attended a golf outing sponsored by Mahomet that funds their foundation to support improvements in the community. He feels the village should look into how it works and if it would work for us. Fruhling-Voges talked about how this idea came up back when the sports complex was

created and that it never happened. She thinks it is a good way to fund projects and give people a place to donate when wanted.

At 8:45, Painter motioned and Cummings seconded to adjourn the meeting.

These minutes are respectfully submitted.

Tiffany McElroy-Smetzer
Village Clerk

A large, stylized handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke, positioned over the printed name and title.