

VILLAGE OF ST. JOSEPH
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
September 26, 2023

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
	Vallee	Present
	Painter	Present
	Cummings	Present
	Rapp	Present

Others in attendance: Joe Hackney, Village Administrator; Tiffany McElroy-Smetzer, Village Clerk; Marc Miller, Dana Dow and Matt Wolfersberger Village Residents; Nora Maberry, The St. Joseph Record.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Regular Village Board Meeting Minutes – August 22nd 2023* - Exhibit #1
2. Executive Session Minutes – August 22nd 2023* - Exhibit #2
3. Regular Village Board Meeting Minutes – September 12th, 2023* – Exhibit #3
4. Approval of bills in the amount of the \$26,172.57*- Exhibit #4

Cummings motioned and Vallee seconded to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. Roll call vote was taken: Vallee – Aye, Painter – Aye, Cummings – Aye, and Rapp – Aye. Motion passed 4 – 0.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Dana Dow expressed her frustration regarding a request that she sent to the Village in December of 2021. She reported a dead tree in her neighbor's yard that had was a liability to her property. She referred to the Village Ordinance stating that residents must remove dead trees from their property. She asked why the Village did not at least send a letter to the property owner stating that there was a Village Ordinance and they needed to remove the tree. Fruhling-Voges answered that the Village did not usually get involved in property issues between neighbors. Dow said that the tree had branches that impaled her home in storms two different times. She hired a lawyer and did get the tree taken down. She is frustrated that there is an ordinance and that the Village did not do anything. She is not the only one in this situation.

Painter and Vallee questioned why we would not send a letter out. Hackney noted that he feels that it weakens the Village's credibility if they send out a letter and do not pursue action.

Hackney and Fruhling-Voges noted that the Village does not have the resources to enforce every ordinance. Painter asked why we have ordinances if we don't enforce them. There was further discussion regarding code enforcement and the cost to the Village.

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OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **An Ordinance Authorizing Loan Agreement with Philo Exchange Bank* - Exhibit #5:**
Fruhling-Voges reported that the other items that might be included in this loan have not been firmed up. If these purchases do not end up happening, that portion of the loan will be immediately repaid. Painter motioned and Cummings seconded to approve the Ordinance Authorizing the Loan Agreement with Philo Exchange Bank. Roll call vote was taken: Painter – Aye, Cummings – Aye, Rapp – Aye, and Vallee – Aye. Motion passed 4 – 0.
2. **First Reading of 2023/2024 Budget Appropriations Amendment – Exhibit #6:**
Hackney noted that he would have the Budget Appropriations Amendment before the Board in October.
3. **A Resolution in Support of the Safe Routes to School Grant Application* Exhibit #7:**
Painter motioned and Rapp seconded to approve the Resolution in Support of the Safe Routes to School Grant Application. Roll call vote was taken: Cummings – Aye, Rapp – Aye, Vallee – Aye, and Painter - Aye. Motion passed 4 – 0.
4. **Experience Champaign Urbana Membership Discussion – Exhibit #8:** Fruhling-Voges noted that the Champaign County Visitor's Bureau had changed their name to Experience Champaign Urbana. She was disappointed that their name did not include Champaign County. She questioned if the Board wanted to continue their support since Champaign County was not reflected in the name. Fruhling-Voges noted that the Board's contribution was \$700 last year. Cummings noted that Jane DeLuce would be here at the next meeting and could answer any questions that the Board might have.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR:

- Hackney reported that Clark Dietz had told him that by being able to route sewer pipes across the newly acquired property, it would save the Village \$500,000.

STAFF UPDATES:

- **Village Attorney** – None.
- **Village Clerk** – None.
- **Public Works** – None

MAYOR'S DESK:

- Fruhling-Voges noted that she will be having her Halloween parade on Saturday, October 28th.
- Fruhling-Voges reported that the Halloween Proclamation will be done at the next Board meeting. Halloween will be celebrated on October 31st as it always is.
- Fruhling-Voges reported that the County has been discussing taking away the Village's authority to restrict development within a mile and half of the Village's border.

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- Fruhling-Voges said that the Black Tiger Honor Guard had presented a certificate to the Village thanking the Village for allowing them to perform at the Community Festival. She noted that it was a very moving experience.

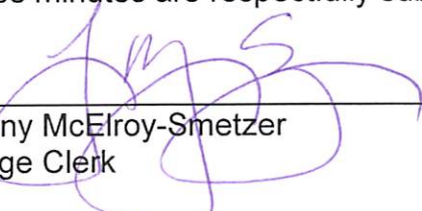
BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

- Painter reported that he had spoken with a solar company at the IML Conference. They will be having a presentation October 3rd for the Urbana Park District. He encouraged all Board members to attend. They strongly recommend purchasing the equipment versus leasing the equipment. Painter would like to have him come speak to the Board.

OTHER: Nothing.

At 7:55, Rapp motioned and Cummings seconded to adjourn the meeting.

These minutes are respectfully submitted.



Tiffany McElroy-Smetzer
Village Clerk

Approved: October 10, 2023