

Village of Easton

Regular Meeting – January 8, 2024

The regular meeting of the Easton Board of Trustees was held January 8, 2024. The meeting was held in the Village Hall and called to order at 6:00 p.m. Those in attendance were Village President Don Mustered and Trustees: Charlene Fangmeier, Eric Ratliff, Zain Attebery, Brock Riggins and Noah Krause. Absent: Louis Wagner. Others in attendance were Josh Walters, Judy Miller, and Chief Robbins.

2. **Public – None**

3. Minutes of the regular meeting held December 4 and Continued meeting held on December 21 were read. Charlene motioned to approve the minutes, with the time of the meeting changed to 6 pm. Eric seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

4. All bills were given to the Trustees for review and approval. Joanna explained all bills were normal for the month. She also informed the Board that she recommended the auditors handle preparing the taxes this year due to the new online requirements. Eric motioned to approve all the bills as presented, and to have the auditors prepare the taxes for the village. Noah seconded the motion. Voice vote taken and motion carried 5-0.

5. **Street Department:** Nothing to report.

Water/Sewer Department: Josh informed the Board that 43 customers did not return the Lead & Copper Survey that is a required by the EPA. If they are not returned soon he will need to go door to door to complete the surveys. He will also ask for an extension from the EPA to have more time to have this completed as they are due April 15th at this time.

6. **Animal/Insect Report:** Nothing to report.

7. **Police Department:** Chief Willis explained the report as presented. He also informed the Board that the Village of Bath Police Department was looking to purchase a radar. Chief Robbins recommended the Village sell the old radar to the Village of Bath for \$150.00. Charlene motioned to sell the old radar to the Bath Police Department for \$150.00. Eric seconded the motion. Voice vote taken and motion carried with all ayes.

8. **Treasurer's Report:** Judy presented the Treasurer's reports. Judy reported that the General Fund has normal monthly transactions. All other funds were normal. A motion was made by Noah and seconded by Brock to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried with all ayes.

9. **Old Business:**

- A. Water/Sewer Improvement Project – Mike Burris explained that the adjusted budget as presented. He explained that the Village needed \$398,000 more in funds for the project which would need to be split between loans and grants. He also explained that he completed a grant application for the Village to request \$150,000 from the Mason County Community Foundation for improvements to the elevated water tank.
- B. Award of Contract/Rebid - Tabled

10. **New Business:**

- A. Auditors Preparing Taxes – See section 3.
- B. Annual Review of Employee Salaries – Will be discussed in Executive Session.
- C. 2023 Mileage Rate Change – Joanna explained that the Federal Mileage rate has changed to .67 cents as of 1/1/2024.
- D. Late Water Payments – Don inquired about the number of customers that are behind on their water payments. Josh will be sending out notices this week.

11. **Executive Session:** At 6:56 p.m. Eric motioned to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel performance and compensation, with Brock seconding the motion. Motion carried.

Regular Session resumed at 7:12 p.m.

New Business 10-D: Eric made a motion to approve the personnel salaries for the upcoming year as proposed: Brian Shawgo increased to \$16.00/hr., Don Osborn increased to \$16.00/hr. and keep \$65.00 per mosquito spraying. Josh Walters, Jill Riegel, and Judy Miller will all receive a 3% increase in pay. Chief Robbins's pay will increase to \$25/hr. The Part-time officer pay will remain at \$17.75/hr. Noah seconded the motion. Voice vote taken and carried 5-0.

12. **Continue Meeting:** Noah motioned at 7:16 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Eric seconded the motion. Motion carried with all ayes.

The next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for February 5, 2024.

Joanna Mustered – Village Clerk