

Village of Easton

Regular Meeting – February 3, 2020

The regular meeting of the Easton Board of Trustees was held February 3, 2020. The meeting was held in the Village Hall and called to order at 7:00 p.m. Those in attendance were President Kate Nunn, Trustees: Charlene Fangmeier, Eric Ratliff, Kent Gray, Zain Attebery, Don Mustered and Brock Riggins. Others in attendance were Chief Buddy Willis, Josh Walters, Judy Miller, and Joanna Mustered.

Public: None.

2. Minutes of the regular meeting held January 6, 2020 were read. Brock motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Zain seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes

3. All bills were given to the Trustees for review and approval. Joanna explained the bills were normal, with the addition of a bill from Mason County Animal Control for animal removal from a residence in the village in December. Joanna also informed the board that Arnold Service had given a quote for four new tires for the squad car in the amount of \$647.38. Eric motioned to approve all the bills as presented with the inclusion of the new tires. Charlene seconded the motion. Voice vote taken and motion carried 6-0.

4. **Street Department:** Josh reported that he had plowed several times since the last meeting. He replaced the blades on the bottom of the snow plow. He also purchased an additional set for future use as needed. He opened the brush pile gates several times in January for residents to dispose of yard waste.

Water/Sewer Department: Josh noted that water test reports were normal. He sent the fiscal report & response letter to the IEPA. Josh mentioned the need to start moving forward with grants to repair water facilities. Kate reviewed the differences between the grant agencies. She noted that Rep. Norine Hammond said there is a possibility of receiving up to 90% of costs in grants. Kate will email Rep. Hammond to inquire if she recommends a specific company to write the grant. Scott Desplinter was contacted via phone to discuss this with the board during the meeting. Scott recommended submitting a pre-application to the IEPA. This will allow us to show the IEPA the village has an interest in their grant as well as let us know where we may fall on the list of grant requests. He also said the village should check with the Rural Community Assistance Program (RCAP) regarding grant writing. He said they write grants for free for many communities. Charlene inquired whether the village should submit pre-applications to both the IEPA and the USDA. Scott recommended picking one and focusing our efforts on that. He explained that is due to both applications being very detailed and lengthy. The board decided to move forward with the IEPA pre-application. Scott will get this paperwork to Josh within the week.

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

7. **Police Department:** Chief Willis read the police report as presented. He noted that trash build up at a residence has been resolved. Both village officers have completed the Adult Use Cannabis training. He will contact Sheriff Gann this month to schedule taser training and duty weapon training. He also stated the squad car had an oil change and that is when he also received the quote for the tires.

8. **Treasurer's Report:** Judy presented the reports. She noted that the General Fund revenue was higher than normal due to State Use & Income Taxes. The Water/Sewer fund had lower expenditures in January. All other funds were normal. A motion was made by Kent and seconded by Brock to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried with all ayes.

9. **Old Business:**

A. IML Consideration Adult Use Cannabis Ordinance – Kate recommended the board discuss this more in depth at the next meeting.

B. Easement Ordinance – Kate reviewed with the board the information that had been gathered from other communities within Illinois regarding parkway/boulevard ordinances. The board agreed property owners shall be responsible for city owned property that lies between the edge of the pavement or curb and their property line. This includes, but is not exclusive to, mowing (grass/weeds not to exceed 10 inches at any time), trimming of plants, bushes and shrubs, removal of fallen limbs and/or leaves. In addition, it was also agreed that the property owner will be responsible for maintaining any swale, drainage easement, drain way, and entrance culvert by regular maintenance, to ensure sufficient drainage. If the property owner wishes to bring in rock for parking, it must be approved by the board, will be at the owners expense, and the property owner will be responsible for continued maintenance of the rock.

10. **New Business:**

A. Village Website Domain Renewal – Joanna reviewed the costs with the board for 1 yr (\$19.95), 3 yr (\$33.90) and 5 yr (\$74.80) renewals. Don motioned to approve a 2 year? renewal of the village website domain. Eric seconded the motion. Voice vote taken and motion carried 6-0.

B. Mileage Reimbursement Amount – Kate informed the board that the current Federal rate for mileage reimbursement dropped by half a cent from last year and is now 57.5 cents per mile.

13. **Adjourn:** Kent motioned at 8:10 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Eric seconded the motion. Motion carried with all ayes.

The next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for March 2, 2020.

Joanna Mustered – Village Clerk