

# Village of Easton

## Regular Meeting – March 8, 2021

The continued meeting of the Easton Board of Trustees was held March 8, 2021. Zain Atteberry motioned to adjourn the continued meeting from February at 7:00 p.m., with Eric Ratliff seconding the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Those in attendance were President Kate Nunn, Trustees: Eric Ratliff, Kent Gray, Zain Attebery, Brock Riggins and Don Mustered. Others in attendance were Chief Buddy Willis, Josh Walters, Judy Miller, and Joanna Mustered.

Absent: Charlene Fangmeier

Public: Richard DeVore

2. Minutes of the regular meeting held February 8, 2021 were read. Brock motioned to approve the minutes. Kent 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 and all funds were normal for the month of February. She also noted that Officer Willis was able to obtain 2 body cameras from the San Jose Police Department for \$200 each. Body cameras will be required for all officers on duty by 2025 due to a new law that was passed last month. Kate informed the Board that there is an outstanding bill from Petersburg Plumbing from a water main repair, due to a subcontractor, that Cass Communications had hired, hitting the main while trenching for new fiber optic cables. Originally, the Village did not pay this bill as it was believed that Cass Communications would be handling this. They have since not moved forward in any way, leaving the Village with this outstanding invoice. Kate recommended paying the invoice and then pursuing Cass Communications in court for reimbursement. Kent motioned to approve all the bills as presented and pursue Cass Communications for repayment as necessary. Eric seconded the motion. Voice vote taken and motion carried 5-0.

4. **Street Department:** Josh noted that he had plowed streets in the last month and he burned the brush pile at the sewer lagoons. He updated the status on the search for a backhoe. He has found one on the Governmental Bid site in Kansas City, MO. 2014 310 John Deere – 4 wheel drive with 3,000 hrs. He inquired about the maximum amount he could bid on this backhoe. It was agreed by the Board that \$35,000 would be the max amount. The end date of this auction is March 30<sup>th</sup>. Josh will also be checking local rental companies to see if they are selling any of their used backhoes at a reasonable cost.

**Water/Sewer Department:** Josh informed the Board that the control module was acting up in the water plant and he was having to turn the pumps on manually. Griffin Electric ordered another module, but the current module started working properly since it was ordered. Josh advised that he will wait on having the module replaced with the one that Griffin Electric ordered until needed.

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

7. **Police Department:** Chief Willis explained the police report as presented. He noted that both he and Officer Williams had completed online courses, and the training that was scheduled for February 15<sup>th</sup> had been cancelled due to weather. Both Officers will be participating in Range exercises with the Mason County Sheriff's Dept. on April 16<sup>th</sup>.

8. **Treasurer's Report:** Judy presented the reports. She noted that the General Fund received checks from the state use tax and income taxes. She informed the Board that the water deposits are understated on the report due to the fact she had just returned from vacation. All other funds were normal. A motion was made by Don and seconded by Zain to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried with all ayes.

9. **Old Business:**

- A. Revising Water Deposit Ordinance – Attorney Blake Lindner inquired whether to add in a part regarding bulk water distribution as some other municipalities have. After discussion, the Board decided to not pursue this any further at this time as an area would have to be built to allow for this. Kate would let Mr. Lindner know not to include this in the ordinance.
- B. Water Project Options – Josh explained to the board that he had spoken with a representative from Pittsburg Tank & Tower and they explained all the additional work that could be included on the grant. Josh went down the list of possible additional repairs with the Board. Eric motioned to approve the water system improvement project with an estimated total cost of \$826,200.00. Don seconded the motion. Voice vote taken and motion carried 5-0.

Details of these improvements:

- Install new aerator and reaction basin on the west side of the water plant
- Install new radio read water meters
- Repair all critical deficiencies found during the water tower inspection
- Partially loop water mains on Mason, Elm, Poplar, and Hayes streets
- Install Standby generator and auto transfer switch
- Coat the pressure filter and piping
- Treatment plant building modifications
- Replace two high service pumps
- Replace motor control center
- Remove all dirt, debris, and loose gravel around foundations. Repair cracks and spalling in the concrete. Grout around the base of the tank foundation connections. Seal the foundations with a sealant.
- Replace primary shell manway with 30" manway and install secondary shell manway 180 degrees from primary manway.
- Clean the area around the anchor bolts, tighten the anchor nuts to specifications, then tack weld on the circumference of the nut-to-base plate connections and bolt-to-nut connections.

## 10. **New Business:**

A. **Mowing Bids** – Kate mentioned that it was time to solicit for bids for mowing of the city properties and water properties if the Board would like to. The Board did not see any reason to solicit for bids at this time and wished to continue with using the same contractors as last year. Bids will be solicited should either contractor not wish to continue mowing for the Village.

B. **Construction of Metal Shed on Main Street** – Kate informed the Board a resident had inquired about building a new shed on Main Street as well as building a privacy fence around the property. As this property is zoned commercial certain specifications would have to be followed. Kate will be contacting the resident to obtain more information needed, including building size, fence type, fence height, etc. She will work with Eric on this to determine what permits, if any, are needed.

12. **Public Comment:** A resident inquired what the new water deposit ordinance that was discussed contained. Kate explained it was to add that homeowners would also need to pay a water deposit, instead of only renters paying this deposit. The resident also asked for more information regarding the Petersburg Plumbing bill that is outstanding due to Cass Communications' subcontractor damaging the water main during trenching.

13. **Continue Meeting:** Eric motioned at 8:20 p.m. to continue the meeting pending more information regarding the possible new construction on Main Street. Zain seconded the motion. Motion carried with all ayes.

The next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for April 5, 2021.

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Joanna Mustered – Village Clerk