

Village of Easton

Regular Meeting – April 9, 2020

The regular meeting of the Easton Board of Trustees was held April 9, 2020. The meeting was held in the Village Hall and included participation via telephone due to COVID-19 restrictions. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. Those in attendance at the Village Hall were President Kate Nunn, Trustee: Don Mustered. Others in attendance at the Village Hall were Josh Walters, Judy Miller, and Joanna Mustered. Those that participated via telephone: Trustees: Kent Gray, Brock Riggins, Eric Ratliff, and Zain Attebery.

Absent: Charlene Fangmeier

Public: None.

President Kate Nunn explained that all persons participating via telephone needed to announce their presence to be able to speak during public comment.

2. Minutes of the regular meeting held March 2, 2020 were read. Eric motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Don seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes

3. All bills were given to the Trustees for review and approval. Joanna reported that all expenses were normal. Joanna informed the board that the village website has been renewed for 2 years. Kent motioned to approve all the bills as presented. Brock seconded the motion. Voice vote taken and motion carried 5-0.

4. **Street Department:** Josh reported that the storm on April 8th blew down trees and limbs throughout the village that he has been busy cleaning up.

Eric inquired about getting a back hoe to help with issues such as fallen limbs/trees during times like this. He suggested looking into purchasing a used one, and said it is possible the Village could acquire one through a program that the Easton Fire Department uses to obtain equipment/vehicles.

Water/Sewer Department: Josh reported that a cover on the water treatment plant was broken during the storm that happened on April 8th. He explained that this cover is not needed anymore and can be shingled over.

Kate and Josh informed the board they had discussed the installation of a mail slot at the Village Hall for water payments. They recommended one be installed on the south side of the building. The board trustees agreed this was a good idea and Josh will install one soon.

6. **Animal/Insect Report:** Kate will be contacted Don Osborn to discuss this year's mosquito spraying.

7. **Police Department:** Chief Willis read the police report as presented. Several resident complaints have been addressed. He reported that both he and Office Williams had completed duty weapon qualification through the Mason County Sheriff's Department.

8. **Treasurer's Report:** Judy presented the reports. She noted that the General Fund received deposits for State Use Tax, Video Gaming Tax, Income Tax, as well as the new Cannabis Use Tax. 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. None.

10. **New Business:**

A. MFTF Expenditure Statement – Mike Pedigo prepares this report with data sent to him from the Village. He then sends it to IDOT for approval. The Village underspent, therefore did not exceed the budget in 2019. Eric motioned to approve the MFTF Expenditure Statement as presented. Kent seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

B. Mowing Quotes/Bids: Kate explained that Hannah Bess and Jason Gunterman have declined to give a quote for mowing this year. Zain asked what the qualifications for the mowing positions were, Kate explained that the person would need to be self insured to ensure the Village is not liable for accidents. Austin Williams has submitted a quote for mowing the Lift Station & Lagoon for \$100 per mowing; Floyd's Corner & the adjoining triangle of property for \$35 per mowing; the water tower, water plant, & ditch for \$35 each area per mow; and the town hall, west of town hall, and the old tavern property for \$65 per mowing. Brock suggested letting other interested parties put in a quote/bid. The board agreed to allow bids/quotes until the May 4th meeting, at which time the board will vote on the mowing bids/quotes.

C. Annual Town Wide Clean Up: This is normally done every other year. The last clean up was last year, 2019. Zain motioned to not have the clean up this year, and have one next year, 2021. Eric seconded the motion. Motioned carried with all ayes.

D. Village water Billings during COVID-19: Kate discussed new regulations regarding billings and disconnections. The board agreed to suspend late fees and disconnections for the month of April. There will be a grace period of 3 months to catch up with payments. Late fees will restart in May. The board will revisit this matter at the May 4th meeting.

11. **Executive Session:** None.

12. **Adjourn:** Kent motioned at 8:29 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Don seconded the motion. Motion carried with all ayes.

The next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for May 4, 2020.

Joanna Mustered – Village Clerk