

Village of Easton

Regular Meeting – June 7, 2021

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. Those in attendance were President Kate Nunn, Trustees: Charlene Fangmeier, Eric Ratliff, Kent Gray, Brock Riggins and Don Mustered. Others in attendance were Chief Buddy Willis, Josh Walters, Judy Miller, and Joanna Mustered.

Absent: Zain Attebery

Public: Kenny Stiltz, Sr. and Richard DeVore

1. Newly elected board member, Trustee: Eric Ratliff was sworn into office.
2. **Public Comment:** Kenny Stiltz, Sr. informed the Board that he had purchased several lots on Route 10 in the middle of the Village. He intends to build an 8-foot fence around the perimeter of the property and later erect a garage. He said he will not be renovating the existing building that is on the property. He will be boarding up the front and removing the awning on the front of the building. He inquired if there were any questions or concerns regarding this and no one had any objections to his current plans. Richard DeVore inquired about vendor trucks being parking on Route 10 by the bar for deliveries. He mentioned that blocking a main road like that is very dangerous and wanted to know why they were no longer allowed to pull into the alley as they used to. Kate informed him there was no ordinance against them pulling in to the alley for delivery and asked Chief Willis to let the bar owner know this so they delivery trucks will again use the alley rather than parking on Route 10.
3. Minutes of the regular meeting held May 3, 2021 were read. Charlene motioned to approve the minutes. Eric 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 May. Joanna explained that a couple items that were paid from the Motor Fuel Tax Fund were not allowed expenses for that fund according to the auditors. The Motor Fuel Tax Fund will be reimbursed for those specific expenses from General Fund. Kent motioned to approve all the bills as presented. Don seconded the motion. Voice vote taken and motion carried 5-0.
4. **Street Department:** Josh noted that he met with Mike Pedigo today for the seal coating bid opening. IRC was the only vendor that came to submit a bid. Their bid was actually lower than last year.

Water/Sewer Department: Josh stated that all he had to speak on for water was regarding the water grant and that will be discussed during Old Business.

6. **Animal/Insect Report:** Don Osborn had the sprayer tested and plans to start spraying soon.

7. **Police Department:** Chief Willis explained the police report as presented. He also noted that the radar had been certified and is working properly. He informed the Board that Officer Williams will be leaving the Easton PD at the end of July, and that he (Chief Willis) intends to retire at the end of this year. He also noted the A/C in the squad car is not working correctly and the fan is not blowing like it should. He will be taking it in to see about repairing it.

8. **Treasurer's Report:** Judy presented the reports. She noted that the General Fund expenses were high last month due to the purchase of the backhoe. She mentioned that all funds were close to the same as last year at this time. A motion was made by Brock and seconded by Eric to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried with all ayes.

9. **Old Business:**

A. Revising Water Ordinance – Due to the internet not working in the Village Hall, Kate was unable to print the new ordinance from Atty. Blake Lindner. The new ordinance includes the new water/sewer rate that will be implemented this year as well as verbiage to make the homeowner responsible for any outstanding water bill due that a tenant leaves unpaid. More information will be given during the continued meeting.

B. Water Project Grant – Kate explained that she and Josh had met with the USDA representative to go over the application process. She informed the Board of the requirements to publish an ad in a newspaper as well as post the information around the Village in the normal posting spots. She and Josh also met with Wayne Dixon regarding the water meter system that Mason City has. Their system is more sophisticated than the one the Village will be getting with the new grant. Mr. Dixon informed Kate that with their software on the computer they can look for oddities in the water usage from households in the community by the hour. She and Josh will be checking to see if our new system would allow for monitoring once daily, so that the water department might be able to catch any potential issues with any of the lines.

10. **New Business:**

A. Prevailing Wage Increase – Kate informed the Board she was unsure that this needed to be done yearly as previously done. She will check into this.

B. Review of 2021-2022 Appropriations Budget – Kate recommended increasing the budget by 5%. Charlene motioned to approve the increase as recommended. Don seconded the motion. Motion carried with all ayes.

C. Changing July Meeting Date – Due to July 5th being a State Holiday the Board meeting will need to be changed. Chief Willis noted he will not be available on July 6th for a meeting, but he will be on July 7th. Eric motioned to reschedule the July 2021 meeting to July 7th from the previous date of July 5th. Kent seconded the motion. Motion carried with all ayes.

13. **Continue Meeting:** Kent motioned at 8:29 p.m. to continue the meeting. Brock seconded the motion. Motion carried with all ayes.

The next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for July 7, 2021.

Joanna Mustered – Village Clerk