

Village of Easton

Regular Meeting – August 6th, 2018

The regular meeting of the Easton Board of Trustees was held August 6, 2018. The meeting was held in the Village Hall and called to order at 7:03 p.m. Those in attendance were President Joanna Mustered, Trustees: Charlene Fangmeier, Eric Ratliff, Kent Gray, Dixie Riegel and Larry Kolves. Others in attendance were Chief Buddy Willis, Josh Walters, Judy Miller and Kate Nunn.

Absent: Brock Riggins

Public: Jeri Ballinger

2. Charlene motioned to approve the minutes for the July 2nd meeting as read. Eric seconded the motion and the motion was carried with all ayes.

3. All bills were given to the Trustees for review and approval. Kent made the motion to approve all bills as presented. Motion seconded by Dixie. Voice vote taken and approved 5-0.

4. **Water/Sewer Department:** Josh is continuing to take in water samples on the new well as we have not had 2 consecutive samples pass the test to where both have a 0 ratio although 2 recent samples did test at 0 and 1 consecutively. The dehumidifier is not working in the water treatment plant and the cost for a new one is \$2,150.00. Also needing repair is an air release valve that is leaking, the approximate replacement cost for a valve is \$200-\$300. There is an Operators Association conference being held in September in Springfield that Josh would like to attend and would allow him to take a required test. The cost of the test is \$10 and the conference is \$225. Eric made the motion to approve all expenses outlined above with Larry seconding the motion. Voice vote taken and approved 5-0.

Street Department: Josh will contact IRC to find out when we are on their schedule to seal coat the pre-selected streets.

5. **Animal/Insect Report:** Kate reported that Donald Osborne continues to spray for mosquitos and has placed traps at Suzanne Lowers and Colander properties.

6. **Police Department:** As noted in the monthly report. Chief Willis informed Trustees that Officer Williams is now working full time at the Department of Corrections in Lincoln but will still work weekends for the Village. We have the new radar gun and it is working great. Chief Willis is needing to talk to our attorney on the correct wording on the Ordinance citations. He has spoken with Mrs. Isom about mowing the lot behind her residence which has become overgrown. It was noted that the lot had been mowed on August 5th. He noted that there are issues with a resident on the 300 block of South 3rd Street. They have connected a water hose to a neighbor's outside spigot as their water service has been shut off, also, the back of their property has become overgrown and they have a vehicle parked on the sidewalk. Chief Willis will address the water and vehicle issues and Josh will trim back the overgrowth that is in the alley. A discussion was held as to whether or not Mrs. Melton's ordinance violation payment of \$300 is valid. Upon review, the certified mailing showed a received date of July 6th, 2018 and the check date was July 12th which is within the required 10 day payment period. It was noted that property formerly owned by Giggy Justice at 204 North 3rd Street has been sold for taxes in the amount of \$1,200. Supposedly the property was

purchased by someone from Goofy Ridge. Chief Willis is still needing to contact Ron Knollenberg regarding the cleanup of Danny Richardson's property on East Mason Street.

7. Treasurer's Report: Judy presented the reports. The General Fund received \$20,900 from the 1st installment of property taxes and there were additional expenditures for the installation of the new well. The Water/Sewer Fund and Motor Fuel Tax Fund had normal income and expenses. Eric motioned to approve the Treasurer's reports as presented. Motion seconded by Kent and carried with all ayes.

8. Old Business:

- A. BJ Armbrust plans to address the installation of additional decorative posts this fall. There has been another party interested in sponsoring a lamp post which would bring the total to 10 new posts to install.
- B. Eric has tried to contact Janssen Concrete to get a bid on sidewalk repair/replacement but no one has returned his calls. He has also called Tim Clark. Brian Shawgo has informed Eric that he could do the work, so Eric has asked him to place a bid on the areas of major concern and then the Board will discuss what areas can be repaired within the allocated budget of \$5,000.
- C. Charlene made the motion to accept and approve the Annual Appropriations Ordinance for the fiscal year of 2018-2019 as presented. Dixie seconded the motion with a voice vote taken as follows: Charlene-yes, Eric-yes, Kent-yes, Dixie-yes and Larry-yes. Motion carried with all ayes.

9. New Business:

- A. Resident is no longer interested in request to have a band in their back yard.
- B. Kate had been approached by a concerned citizen living on East Mason in that there is a considerable amount of traffic on the street with most appearing to be going over the speed limit. Said citizen suggested the possibility of placing stop signs at the intersections Hayes and Elm Streets. Trustees discussed the issue and recommended to have more police presence on that street and to look further into possible options to slow down traffic on Mason Street.
- C. The last water/sewer rate increase was in April 2014 at 2.0%. After much discussion, Larry made the motion to approve a 2.5% increase to the water/sewer rate effective October 1, 2018 with a notice to be posted on the August billings. Plus to have an annual review of possible rate increases on the August agenda each year. Eric seconded the motion. Motion carried with all ayes.
- D. Kate noted that the interior lighting in the Town Hall needs to be addressed as many light fixtures were no longer working. Trustees agreed to hire Josh's services as an independent contractor to look at the interior lighting to replace bulbs and/or ballasts.

10. Comments/Suggestions: Jeri Ballinger addressed the Board on how the community no longer displays flags during the holidays. It was noted that this project had been handled in the past through the ETC club. Joanna will check with them to see if they have any plans to continue doing this or not.

11. Executive Session: None held.

12. Kent motioned at 8:34 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Eric. Motion carried with all ayes.

The next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for September 10, 2018.

Cathy J. Nunn–Village Clerk