

Village of Easton

Regular Meeting – September 11, 2023

The regular meeting of the Easton Board of Trustees was held September 11, 2023. The meeting was held in the Village Hall and called to order at 6:00 p.m. Those in attendance were President Don Mustered III, Trustees: Eric Ratliff, Louis Wagner, Zain Attebery, Brock Riggins and Noah Krause. Others in attendance were Josh Walters, Judy Miller and Joanna Mustered.

Absent: Charlene Fangmeier & Chief Nick Robbins

Public Present: Mike Burris

3. Josh informed the Board that Don Onken purchased the property north of the post office and would like to donate it to the Village. If accepted, the Village would maintain the property along with the other Village properties. Louis motioned to accept the donation of the property north of the post office, with Eric seconding the motion. Motion carried with all ayes.
4. Minutes of the regular meeting held on August 14, 2023 were read. Eric motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Noah seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.
5. All bills were given to the Trustees for review and approval. Joanna explained that the bills were normal for the month. Zain motioned to approve all the bills as presented. Brock seconded the motion. Voice vote taken and motion carried 5-0.
6. **Street Department:** Josh reported he had received a call from Illini Central asking if they could dispose of a fallen tree in the Village brush pile. He agreed to let them bring it over, as it would not take up much room.

Water/Sewer Department: Josh informed the Board that there was an issue with the control panel of the water plant. Griffin Electric was called to fix the issue.

7. **Animal/Insect Report:** None to report.
8. **Police Department:** Chief Robbins was absent, will present at next month's meeting.
9. **Treasurer's Report:** Judy presented the reports. She that all funds were normal. She recommended transferring \$2,000 from the water /sewer fund to the construction account. A motion was made by Brock and seconded by Noah to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented & transfer the money as recommended. Motion carried with all ayes.

10. **Old Business:**

A. Post Office Parking – No New Information

B. Water/Sewer Improvement Project – See Below in New Business

C. Bank Parking Ordinance – Joanna explained the original plan for the parking at the Bank needed to be changed due to not being able to restrict public right of way for a business. Louis motioned to make the first parking spot in front of the bank be handicapped only, with the spot, directly to the west, the spot across the street on the corner, and the two first spots on the east side of the bank being regular parking with a 20 minute time limit. Eric seconded the motion. Voice vote taken and the motion carried 5-0.

10. New Business:

- A. 2023-2024 Tax Levy – Joanna explained that yearly the Board has raised the tax levy by 5%. Louis motioned to raise the levy by 5% with Brock seconding the motion. Motion carried with all ayes.
- B. Sealcoating Payment Split – Joanna inquired how the Board would like to split the sealcoating payment this year. Eric motioned to pay \$7,000 of the bill out of the MFTF and the remained out of the General Fund. Noah seconded the motion. Voice vote taken and motion carried with all ayes.
- C. Opening Debt Service Account – Joanna explained that she had spoken to the Rural Development rep and was informed the Village had to also open a Debt Service acct for the loan payments to be automatically debited from monthly. Louis motioned to open a Debt Service account to repay the water/sewer project loan with Eric seconding the motion. Voice vote taken and motion carried with all ayes.
- D. RPR Service Agreement – Mike Burris presented the RPR Service Agreement for his Professional Services during the construction phase of the water/sewer project at the rate of \$30/hr. Eric motioned to approve the RPR as presented with Brock seconding the motion. Voice vote taken and motion carried with all ayes.
- E. New Water Rate Ordinance – Mike Burris recommended revising the ordinance to break down the last \$6 capital improvement charge to be split \$4.75 to the water fund and \$1.25 to the sewer fund. Joanna will contact Atty. Lindner to make that revision. Louis motioned to approve the New Water Rate Ordinance with the revision as stated. Eric seconded the motion. Voice vote taken and carried with all ayes.
- F. Authorization to Send the Water/Sewer Project Out for Bid – Brock motioned to approve sending out the project for bidding with Noah seconding the motion. Motion carried with all ayes.

Don informed the Board that Margo Kreiling had contacted him to meet with him to give him a certificate from Norine Hammond. Don then presented the Board the certificate recognizing the Village's 150 year anniversary.

11. **Adjourn:** Louis motioned at 6:40 p.m. to adjourn meeting. Eric seconded the motion. Motion carried with all ayes.

The next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for October 2, 2023.

Joanna Mustered – Village Clerk

