

## **Village of Easton Regular Meeting – November 4, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Easton Board of Trustees was held November 4, 2019. The meeting was held in the Village Hall and called to order at 7:01 p.m. Those in attendance were President Kate Nunn and Trustees: Charlene Fangmeier, Kent Gray, Zain Attebery, and Brock Riggins. Others in attendance were Chief Buddy Willis, Josh Walters, Joanna Mustered and Judy Miller.

Public: Donald Mustered III, Nelda Freeman, Jean Hubbard and Richard DeVore.

2. The newly appointed trustee, Donald Mustered III, was sworn into office and welcomed to the village board.

3. Charlene motioned to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held October 7, 2019. Brock seconded the motion and the motion was carried with all ayes.

4. All bills were given to the Trustees for review and approval. All reports are normal. Joanna explained that the annual insurance payment and the payment for the auditors were included this month, both bills had a slight increase from last year. IRC's bill for the seal coating came to a total of \$29,464.30 which the board decided to pay \$25,000 from the general fund with the remaining \$4,646.30 coming from the Motor Fuel fund. Charlene made the motion to approve all bills as presented. Motion seconded by Brock. Voice vote taken and approved 5-0.

5. **Water/Sewer Department:** Josh informed the board that CMT recommended installing a camera in the pump station with a remote monitor placed inside the water plant as a way to be compliant with the IEPA until pump station improvements can be made. B.J. Armbrust proposed doing this project for \$750. This method would allow for more time to get grants that are needed for the infrastructure improvements needed in the future. Brock motioned to approve the installation of the camera and monitor by B.J. Armbrust at a cost of \$750. Zain seconded the motion. Voice vote taken and approved 5-0.

Update on grants for water plant improvements: Scott DeSplinter put together pros and cons from each of the sources that the village could apply for grants from for the improvements. It was noted that while the IEPA SRF Loan would have a lower interest rate it would not include engineering fees. Application deadline for IEPA is February. The USDA Rural Development Funding would have a higher interest rate however this funding would include all engineering fees. There is no application deadline for this funding. DCEO Infrastructure Development Grant can only be applied for during August and does not allow for engineering fees to be paid with this funding. The board will discuss this further in December to decide which funding source to proceed with for this project.

Josh reported that after letters were sent to the delinquent water/sewer customers last month that the past due balance was down to a total of \$4,700. He will continue to follow up on this.

**Street Department:** Josh plowed snow and cleaned the streets on October 31<sup>st</sup> after the first snow of this fall. Nothing else to report.

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

**7. Police Department:** Chief Willis presented the monthly report. Ms. Melton has done nothing to clean up her property, however, she has paid the first citation for \$300. Another citation in the amount of \$450.00 was sent to her with no response thus far. Nothing has been done with the property owned by Toby Tungate at 303 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> St. The board agreed to collect bids for clean-up of this property. Chief Willis made contact with Rick Gray regarding a vehicle at his property that does not have a current registration sticker on the license plate. Mr. Gray informed Chief Willis that he put the new sticker on and it must have fallen off. Chief Willis checked with the Mason County Sheriff's Department and this license plate is valid. Mr. Gray said he would contact the DMV to request a new sticker. Officer Williams took a free class "Stop the Bleed" offered in Havana. The village received a free first aid kit for the squad car along with his training.

**8. Treasurer's Report:** Judy presented the reports. The General Fund received one large check for income taxes. The village also received what is expected to be the final property tax check for this year. The General Fund expenses were larger than normal due to sidewalk repairs that were completed. The Water/Sewer Fund and Motor Fuel Fund expenses were both normal. The Motor Fuel Fund received two large checks from taxes, normal checks are expected for the remainder of the year. Brock motioned to approve the Treasurer's reports as presented. Motion seconded by Donald and carried with all ayes.

**9. Old Business:**

- A. The village will collect bids for clean-up of the property at 303 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> St, as previously stated above.

**10. New Business:**

- A. The board discussed the new contracts for water & sewer operator for Wayne Dixon. The fee will increase to a total of \$400 monthly for these contracted services. Kent motioned to approve the contracts for the water & sewer operator as presented. Charlene seconded the motion. Voice vote taken and approved 5-0.
- B. The board reviewed the requirements for FOIA and OMA. Donald will complete the OMA training within 30 days. Designated FOIA officers remain Charlene Fangmeier and Joanna Mustered.

**11. Comments/Suggestions:** Kate informed the board that she has noticed several new discolored spots on the ceiling in the village hall and requested having someone check this out. Charline proposed Josh to look for possible leaks in the roof. Josh agreed to see if he could find the issue on the roof.

A resident questioned Chief Willis regarding an unkept property on North 3<sup>rd</sup> St. Chief Willis explained the person complied with the city ordinance of mowing when a letter was sent. This resident also questioned the ordinance that forbids burning of leaves and grass on city property and also questioned whose responsibility is it to take care of trees located on the easement between the street and sidewalks. Kate explained the rules regarding the burning ordinance and explained the rules regarding trees on the easement.

The ordinance regarding what time children are allowed in TT's Adult Day was brought up, and Kate explained that 8:00 p.m. is the latest people under the age of 21 can be in the establishment.

**12. Executive Session:** None held.

**13.** Kent motioned at 8:11 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Brock. Motion carried with all ayes.

The next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for December 2, 2019.

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Joanna Mustered–Village Clerk