

Village of Easton
Regular Meeting – May 6, 2019

The regular meeting of the Easton Board of Trustees was held May 6, 2019. The meeting was held in the Village Hall and called to order at 7:00 p.m. Those in attendance were President Joanna Mustered, Trustees: Charlene Fangmeier, Eric Ratliff, Kent Gray, Dixie Riegel, Brock Riggins, and Larry Kolves. Others in attendance were Chief Buddy Willis, Office Brenden Williams, Josh Walters, Judy Miller, Kate Nunn, and Zain Attebery.

Public: None.

2. Newly elected board members and the appointed village clerk were sworn into office. Village President: Kate Nunn; Trustees: Eric Ratliff, Kent Grey, Brock Riggins, and Zain Atterberry; Village Clerk: Joanna Mustered.

3. Minutes of the regular meeting held April 8, 2019 were read. Charlene motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Brock seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

4. All bills were given to the Trustees for review and approval. Eric motioned to approve all the bills as presented. Kent seconded the motion. Voice vote taken and motion carried 6-0.

5. **Street Department:** G.A. Rich has begun its project to cut out part of Park street and replace the asphalt which was torn up during the backwash project in front of the water plant. Josh will begin cold patching the roads throughout the village when he has received a supply of cold patch from the county and as weather permits.

Water/Sewer Department: Josh informed the Board that there was a sink hole that had formed not far from the lift station. Petersburg Plumbing inspected the hole and found that it was full of sand. Due to this issue they had to replace 15 feet of the sewer line. He also explained that the trash pump, which is utilized to help pump the excess water from the pump station to the drainage ditch, had to be repaired.

6. **Animal/Insect Report:** Don Osborn had the mosquito sprayer tested. Nothing else to report.

7. **Police Department:** Chief Willis noted that he had spoken with the gas station regarding the proper coding that needs to be applied to our account when purchasing fuel for the village. There is a property that he will be contacting the owner to remedy the current issue of raccoon and possums frequenting the property due to the unkept yard.

8. **Treasurer's Report:** Judy presented the reports. She noted that the General Fund received \$3,000 from income taxes. The Water/Sewer fund had the loan amount of \$80,000 deposited as well as expenses of \$50,000 which was for payment to G.A. Rich. Petty Cash and Motor Fuel

funds had normal income and expenses. A motion was made by Charlene and seconded by Brock to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried with all ayes.

9. Old Business:

A. After reviewing the water rate study that was done by Craig Cameron, Kate recommended changing the current base rate of 2,000 gallons at a cost of \$31.36 to the new base rate of 1,000 gallons at the cost of \$31.36. With a charge of \$3.20 for each additional 1,000 gallons. This will be reviewed annually. She also recommended the surcharge of \$5.00 that was to be effective June 1, 2019 be rescinded due to the proposed change. It was also noted that due to Easton having such low rates for water/sewer, it is difficult for the village to get approved for grants needs to help improve the infrastructure. Eric motioned to approve the water rate base effective June 1, 2019 with a notification to be printed on the water bills. The motion was seconded by Larry. Voice vote was taken and motion carried 6-0.

B. Josh explained to the Board that Scott Desplinter of CMT is currently looking into finding grants for the village to cover repairs that are anticipated within the next few years including, but not limited to: new water meters for electronic reading, wet well repairs, raising the lift station, aeration repairs, and replacing existing pipe with larger pipe from lift station to the lagoons.

C. Kate informed the Trustees that she had looked into the draining issue on East Mason street that was brought up last meeting. She had found that the field in question was actually draining into the village and causing this part of the road to flood. There are currently two storm drains near this area. She recommended nothing be done at this time due to the water not actually coming from the village area into the field, but coming from the field instead. She will be speaking with the Easton Fire Department regarding asking them to assist the village with clearing the drainage ditch at the corner of 2nd street and Park street.

D. Joanna informed the Board that the Town Wide Clean Up is scheduled for June 22, 2019. She has posted the flyer from Area Disposal on the Village's facebook page. She will also be putting flyers on the bulletin boards in the village as well as making note of it on the water bills.

E. Annual Review of Salaries to be discussed during Executive Session.

10. New Business:

A. Kate notified the Board that the date has been set for the annual audit and it will be on May 20, 2019.

B. With the reorganization of the Village Board, there is a need to change signers for the bank accounts and safe deposit box at the Easton Community Bank. Eric motioned to approve Kate Nunn, Judy Miller, and Joanna Mustered to be signers on the safe deposit box, and Kate Nunn, Judy Miller, and Larry Kolves to be signers on the checking account. Charlene seconded the motion. Voice vote was taken and carried with all ayes.

C. The Board reviewed the 2019-2020 Appropriation Budget and decided to continue with a 5% increase that has been done in previous years.

11. Comments/Suggestions:

- On behalf of Mark Tucker of TT's ADC, Kate and Char presented to the board a request to close the alley next to the tavern to use for a stage for bands that are to play for the Cancer Crawl Benefit on June 8, 2019. Food will be served and the bands will play from 8 pm and ending at 11 pm.
- Kate presented to the board that due to the police department currently not using the village cell phone that she will use this phone for mayor business and this number will be listed on the website.
- Kate informed the Board that the rate the employer pays into IMRF will change next year to 7.73% from the current rate of 3.69%.

12. Executive Session: At 8:31 p.m., Charlene motioned to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel performance and compensation, with Eric seconding the motion.

Regular session resumed at 8:48 p.m.

Old Business 9-E: Charlene motioned to approve the personnel salaries for the upcoming year as proposed: Brenden Williams increased to \$16.50/hr, Don Osborn increased to \$10.00/hr, Josh Walters increased to \$20,000/year, with reviews to be carried out annually. Zain seconded the motion. Voice vote taken and carried 6-0.

13. Adjourn: Kent motioned at 8:50 p.m. to adjourn meeting. Eric seconded the motion. Motion carried with all ayes.

The next regular monthly meeting is scheduled for June 3, 2019.

Joanna Mustered – Village Clerk