

**VILLAGE OF OAKWOOD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

DECEMBER 18, 2023

Mayor Wright called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jason Elliott, Scott Fegett, Cathi Fritz, Lindsey Light, Bob Parr, Matt Trimmell

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

November minutes will be reviewed and approved in January.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Lindsey Light motioned to accept the bills as presented.

Bob Parr seconded.

	ELLIOTT	FEGETT	FRITZ	LIGHT	PARR	TRIMMELL
YES	X	X		X	X	X
NAYS						
ABSTAIN						
ABSENT			X			

Motion Carried

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

VILLAGE HALL

The visit with Santa was a success, and the office appreciated everyone who contributed to the event.

FINANCES/TREASURER

LOCIS has been working correctly with the payroll. L. Light still waiting to hear back from the state before providing the board with an update on what she has been able to find out when it comes to possibly using a different software.

PUBLIC WORKS

- Village generator has been fully installed and tested.
- Sothern Tire Mart is projected to be finished by the end of the month.
- The Box project is all paid and completed, except for the appraisal.
- The board plans to have a study session in January regarding the Village Growth Plan.
- The walking bridge by Scott street survey has been completed. There may be concerns regarding owner property on the other side and it will be looked into.
- The Kickapoo Rail Trail pavilion is moving forward with different organizations providing funding. After the 1st of the year bids will be worked on and the hope is for the project to come in under \$100,000.

POLICE

A monthly report was provided to the board. The department has been asked to continue to do more policing and speed controls because vehicles are still being seen speeding down the main road in town.

EMERGENCY RESCUE

It was reported the new billing system is up and running very well. The VA has been paying everything that has billed out and payments are coming in quicker. Data was shown regarding the increase in calls and how these numbers are covering the cost of the two full-time positions. This is also providing more coverage for residents.

LEGAL COUNSEL

Review of Public Right of Way Ordinance

A draft of a proposed ordinance that was presented was reviewed. Mayor Wright asked the question of who is responsible for disputing utilities that are routed through private properties with no easement. The lawyer stated the resident can't really say anything about public right-of-way work, but they can call the village hall and ask for the village to contact the installer and have them take care of an issue. If the installer is working or installing on private property outside the easement, the property owner has to file suit against the company directly. The village can assist if possible, but the matter is legally between the property owner and the utility. If the easement is full, when plans are submitted for installation, attention needs to be given, and the utility can be rerouted. If there are any issues, they should be addressed during the installation process.

Cathi Fritz arrived at 7:02pm.

Review of Illinois Paid Leave Act Ordinance

A draft of a proposed ordinance was presented that goes with the law the state has passed. There was a loophole in the law that this ordinance helps cover. It requires that part-time employees still get 1 hour of paid time off for every 40 hours that are worked. Their current payroll system doesn't support this requirement and something will need to be figured out when address the hours of part-time employees.

SUBJECTS REQUIRING ACTION/DECISION BY THE BOARD**TULIES – TIFF PROJECT**

The restaurant is still scheduled to be open March 1st. In the coming week around the holidays, several contractors will be working. There was discussion on putting up a sign on the south curb stating no parking to help keep the corner open. Jim was advised that ½ of the drive from the main road is on his property and is a private drive also partly owned by Speedway. That is not a village street, so he can regulate parking on private property as he deems fit. The gaming parlor is waiting on their final inspection to be able to open up.

Bob Parr made a motion to extend the Tullie's TIF agreement 1 month.

Scott Fegett seconded.

	ELLIOTT	FEGETT	FRITZ	LIGHT	PARR	TRIMMELL
YES	X	X		X	X	X
NAYS						
ABSTAIN			X			
ABSENT						

Motion Carried

PURCHASE OF LOADER – PUBLIC WORKS

D. Henderson presented to the board a request to trade off the old backhoe and purchase a new Case 321F Compact Wheel Loader. The backhoe is a 2003 and has been having some issues that still haven't been resolved, and he is recommending to the board not to dump any more money into this piece of equipment. The new loader would come equipped with a 4x1 bucket (clamshell), a standard bucket, and a 108" snow blade. All attachments for the skid steer will work on this machine and vice versa.

Bob Parr motioned to purchase the proposed loader.

Lindsey Light seconded.

	ELLIOTT	FEGETT	FRITZ	LIGHT	PARR	TRIMMELL
YES	X	X		X	X	X
NAYS						
ABSTAIN			X			
ABSENT						

Motion Carried

VEHICLE PURCHASE – POLICE

R. Soderstrom presented a proposal for purchasing a new vehicle to the board. Mayor Wright asked him to price out a new replacement with a trade-in of the 2018 F150. The F150 has a slow anti-freeze leak. To have this fixed would cost around \$2,500. Due to the UAW Union Strike, there is a shortage of new Police vehicles, and the State Bid dealers have not been able to order anymore 2023 or 2024 model year cars. There may not be any for 2024 if the strike continues for some time. The 2023 Durango's State bid price is \$46,115 with no equipment. Then, when adding the up fitting of police equipment that comes to \$18,868.00 including labor. Final Price with all fees is \$64,983.00. They will give us \$13,500.00 in trade for our F150. The complete price with trade is \$51,483.00. The only added expense is \$1500 to have the radios, camera, and radar removed from the F150 and \$700 to purchase the antennas for the new Durango from our Motorola dealer.

S. Fegett voiced concerns about the purchase of new vehicles simultaneously and their breaking down all at one time. He would like to see the departments get on a rotation schedule with all vehicles. As they come off warranty, reevaluate each vehicle. B. Parr stated he feels that the money needs to be spent to fix the current issues so there could be more use of the vehicle.

Lindsey Light motioned to purchase the requested Durango with the F150 trade in. Lindsey Light seconded.

	ELLIOTT	FEGETT	FRITZ	LIGHT	PARR	TRIMMELL
YES	X	X		X		X
NAYS					X	
ABSTAIN			X			
ABSENT						

Mayor Wright voted **YES** to the motion. Motion Carried

LAND BANK GRANT REMIMBURSMENT

Mayor Wright stated the grant request has been approved but the state has not set a date on when the projects can get started. They are asking for the \$10,000 payment for the expense of securing the grant so the staff can get paid. Mayor Wright asked if the board wants to send the money without having any of the grant money at this point. S. Fegett stated they have done what they said they would do and that money the village said they would be should be sent. C. Fritz asked if the village had any legal authority to proceed and how long the money can sit there without being used. These details were not provided at this point.

Scott Fegett motioned to approve the payment of \$10,000 for the Land Bank Grant writing. Bob Parr seconded.

	ELLIOTT	FEGETT	FRITZ	LIGHT	PARR	TRIMMELL
YES	X	X		X	X	X
NAYS						
ABSTAIN			X			
ABSENT						

Motion Carried

OHS SOFTBALL FIELD LOCATION

The board was presented with letters from the other youth boards stating they can work around the Oakwood High School softball schedule if they were approved to move their home games to the field at the park. There would need to be more storage for the team due to the bays all being full currently with other youth groups. There was discussion on moving the score board and it would need to be looked into

Lindsey Light motioned to approve the request of the Oakwood High School softball program to use the park field as their home field. Bob Parr seconded.

	ELLIOTT	FEGETT	FRITZ	LIGHT	PARR	TRIMMELL
YES	X	X		X	X	X

NAYS						
ABSTAIN			X			
ABSENT						

Mayor Wright voted **YES** to the motion.

Motion Carried

AGENDA REQUESTS

Mayor Wright asked the board and the audience in attendance if there were any agenda requests. C. Fritz asked if there were any updates on the reconfiguration grant to the park. S. Fegett stated he is still trying to get ahold of the Vermilion Advantage office and it will be after the first of the year. C. Fritz also requested the Tim Lee to be added to the agenda for and update on the Mapping Committee. Mayor Wright stated if there is no action that needs to be taken this can be covered under the recognition of residents and guests. C. Fritz also asked for an update on the parking bumpers at the park. D. Henderson said they are in but still need to be painted.

R. Soderstrom stated he would like FLOCK Safety to attend a study session to review license recognition cameras.

Mayor Wright asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session for the limited purposes of discussing the employment and performance of a specific employee pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(1) and discussion about the purchase and sale of real-estate for a public purpose pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(5).

Lindsey Light motioned at 8:07pm to go into Executive Session.

Bob Parr seconded.

	ELLIOTT	FEGETT	FRITZ	LIGHT	PARR	TRIMMELL
YES	X	X		X	X	X
NAYS						
ABSTAIN			X			
ABSENT						

Motion Carried

The board came back into open session at 8:27pm. Having not further items Mayor Wright asked for a motion to adjourn.

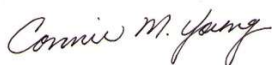
Bob Parr motioned at 8:29 pm to go into adjourn.

Scott Fegett seconded.

	ELLIOTT	FEGETT	FRITZ	LIGHT	PARR	TRIMMELL
YES	X	X		X	X	X
NAYS						
ABSTAIN			X			
ABSENT						

Motion Carried

Submitted by,



Connie Young, Clerk

Approved 1/16/24