

VILLAGE OF OAKWOOD

Board Study Session – October 13, 2021

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Heather McArty called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

ROLL CALL	PRESENT	ABSENT	OTHERS PRESENT
Jason Elliott		X	
Cathi Fritz	X		
Bob Parr	X		
Doit Roberts	X		
Ferrell Stroh	X		
Robert Wright	X		

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

Brett Harrison presented to the board his interest in expanding his business to include the property north of his current location. This plan would include an extended outside space along with a stage with gates that would open up to the road if the village was to hold some time up event. He came to the board requesting the use of available TIFF funds to help with the expansion. The board felt it would fit into future downtown development. Harrison will come back and submit a full plan and projected costs so Mayor McArty can provide this the villages TIFF manager for guidance.

Harrison also is requesting to the board to be able to adjust his times for serving and shutting down. He is just requesting this for the days of Thursday, Friday and Saturdays. He is requesting to stop serving till 1:00am and closing by 1:30 am. The board felt it could be piloted and to see if there are any complaints with the additional request of time.

ARPA FUNDS

Mayor McArty stated the village received \$200,000 which is from the federal government that must be allocated by October 31, 2021 and completed by 2026. She provided information on how municipalities could spend ARPA funds. Her first thought was towards investing in a broadband infrastructure but talked with Pavlov who presented at a past board meeting. Their representative stated supplies and manpower are the biggest impediment and that these federal funds would require an “open access” network vs. a common arrangement where one company owns and operates and provides services on the network. This would be where the village owns the network and allows other internet complies to light up their own strands. Other villages in the area have tried this and just ended up selling it to Pavlov.

Her second thought was investing in the village water and sewer infrastructure. It’s a matter of time something catastrophic could happen because of the age of the system. She has talked with Lisa Lashuay and she will be taking a look and creating a list of projects that the money could be used in the water and sewer infrastructure.

Robert Wright asked if it would be possible to allocate money to several different projects. With downtown development, the money could be used to provide economic aid in supporting small business. Heather said she would provide the board with Lisa’s recommendations and then the board can have more discussion.

STORM WATER ORDINANCE

Mayor McArty updated the board that Lisa Lashuay was still reviewing the sample storm water ordinance and at this time does not have a recommendation for the board to review. This will be presented at a future meeting.

PILOT PROJECT

Mayor McArty provided to the board the invoices that have been received from Fehr Graham on the Pilot project proposal. It was founded that the project is not a Pilot project but a project for Southern Tire Mart. They would be leasing the land from Pilot and they are not sure they want to inherit a mess to clean up that should be taken care of by Pilot. The Southern Tire Mart is a full service center that is not just for semis but also for residents who wish to get their oil change etc.

There was discussion on the cost of Fehr's services, but the board felt the village was stuck right now with this particular project and suggests to find someone else for future projects.

COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

Mayor McArty provided the board a list of suggested committees and how they would function. The following committees were suggested and village trustees provided the mayor with their interest of what committee they felt they would best serve.

Mayor McArty reminded the board that work that is done, is in the interest of policy and procedures. It would involve gathering information and working with our partners for the purpose of relaying it to the board.

Vacant & Abandoned Properties	Working with Chief Soderstrom, Mike Davis at CILBA & David Biggerstaff on managing properties that could not be resolved with regular ordinance enforcement.
Business Develop	Make initial inquired to marketing firms on how to best attract business
Street, Sidewalks & Projects	Work with engineer and Public Works Supervisor to formulate future plans. Gain better understanding of special infrastructure projects.
Parks	Work with Public Works Supervisor and Office Manager as needed. Review sports calendars, leases and park improvements.

CONCRETE BID REVIEW

Mayor McArty emailed the two bidders asking for the bids to be broken down into sections around the village hall. Only one bidder got back with her. She provided this information to the board. There was discussion on the front of the building. Cathi Fritz stated she would like more green space rather than put cement out front of the main entrance. Ferrell Stroh voiced concerns with the up keep of the green space and possible root damage from what is planted around the building. There was discussion on possibly doing river rock around parts where water drains and along the units outside. Heather will get a price on the rock and present to the board.

VILLAGE BUILDINGS

Ferrell Stroh stated he was willing to compromise and supports bringing businesses into the downtown. He would like to keep the fire station bay for a place for the historical society to keep their items. He would like to see the historical society utilize the conference room for their monthly meetings. The American Legion could continue to use the fire station as their meeting place. But he would like to pilot having the senior citizens have a place to visit and drink coffee in the conference room as well. He was thinking 2 days a week from 9am-12pm.

Ferrell Stroh left at 8:07pm.

PARK IMPROVEMENTS

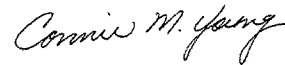
Mayor McArty provided the board with the bids to epoxy and paint the park facility floors. There was a question on one of the bids for all work that would be covered. There are several large items in the concession stand area that one of the bidders was not going to move. After review of the bid's references were going to be requested. It will also be looked into to see if the public works department could move the large items.

OAKWOOD GRADE SCHOOL DRAINAGE

Mayor McArty informed the board that the village will need to look at the drainage around the grade school and asked if the board felt another engineer needed to be pursued. Robert Wright felt from the bills that were received on another project he felt other avenues needed to be looked at. He stated there are freelances that others use that are reasonable rates then an onsite superintendent is utilized for review as work is completed.

Mayor McArty asked for a motion to go into executive session. Bob Parr made a motion at 8:33pm to go into executive session seconded by Cathy Fritz.

Submitted by:



Connie Young, Village Clark

Approved: 11/15/2021