

VILLAGE OF BISMARCK
County of Vermilion, State of Illinois
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting, August 27, 2019

1. At 6:34 p.m. in the Village office located at 106 E. Holloway, Bismarck, Illinois, President Brown opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Roll call was taken by the Clerk. Board members present were Trustees Terry Light, Karel Volpert (arrived late at 6:40), Jane Cress, Sheila Switzer, Kris Kizer (arrived late), Mary Potter, President Mike Brown and Clerk/Treasurer Valerie Moss. A quorum was established. Guests present included: Village Attorney Steve Miller, Tracey Fullen of Donohue & Associates, Phillip McDonald, Amanda McDonald and Brandon Curry.
3. Approval of the Agenda for August 27, 2019 – On a motion by Jane Cress, seconded by Sheila Switzer, the agenda was amended to move up discussion with Village Attorney Steve Miller regarding the stormwater drainage project. The motion passed by acclamation.
4. Stormwater Drainage Project:
 - a. Attorney Steve Miller provided the Board with copies of the Illinois Statute regarding special service area (SSA) tax law. Attorney Miller discussed the purpose and implementation of the SSA due to the flooding problems within the Village. A list has been obtained of all parcel owners in the Village who will receive a notice regarding the SSA during the implementation process. Attorney Miller reviewed with the Board the proposed Ordinance Creating a Stormwater Special Service Area. It must be decided how much money the Village wants to levy and over what length of time. The SSA will only apply to those who pay real estate taxes. The Board wishes to have a hybrid source of funding to collect a stormwater drainage fee from those entities who do not pay real estate taxes. The utility fee, different from the SSA, will assess a fee to not-for-profits based upon runoff rate. If we were to tax the real estate in the village which has an EAV of roughly \$4 million at the rate of \$0.25 for every \$100 of assessed valuation, it produces roughly \$11,000 per year of revenue. Last year's EAV was \$4,321,000 which generated \$11,000 - \$12,000 annual income. If we levy another \$0.25, we would double the tax that the taxpayers are paying to the Village. There is no rate limit in the statute which means the Village can levy whatever amount they want to. \$88,000 is needed annually to pay the loan that was previously considered with Co-Bank. If 51% of the owners of the property within the Village file a written objection, then the effort to create a SSA will cease. If there is an objection, the matter cannot be brought back up for two years. Attorney Miller anticipates having a hearing in November and if everything goes well, the levy would be adopted in December and

the County Treasurer would collect the fee on tax bills next summer. The Stormwater Utility Fee would be billed to everyone within the Village. The SSA would bill taxpayers through their annual real estate tax bill. And then the hybrid agreement would bill non-taxpayers. It is unknown if the amount of money raised by the SSA will be enough debt service to satisfy Co-Bank. The typical taxpayer is probably currently paying \$9 - \$10 per \$100 so the increase would be approximately 20%. The drainage problem in Bismarck is significant and it's pertinent that enough money is collected to fund the project to remedy the problem. \$1.75 per \$100 would give us \$77,000/year of revenue from the SSA. The maximum number of years intended to be levied also needs to be decided. Approximately \$1,000,000 would fund one of three phases of the project over a 20 year loan. Each phase is estimated to cost \$1,000,000. Attorney Miller suggested a meeting take place before the next regular meeting between himself, Mike Brown, Sam Cole and Tracey Fullen.

- b. Jane Cress made a motion to adopt an "Ordinance Creating a Stormwater Special Service Area" with a second by Terry Light.

Jane Cress - Yea Terry Light - Yea Kris Kizer - Yea
 Mary Potter - Yea Karel Volpert - Yea Sheila Switzer - Yea
 The motion carried.

- c. Jane Cress made a motion to adopt an "Ordinance Amending the Stormwater Utility Ordinance" to increase the utility fee to \$35/month, with a second by Karel Volpert.

Jane Cress - Yea Terry Light - Yea Kris Kizer - Yea
 Mary Potter - Yea Karel Volpert - Yea Sheila Switzer - Yea
 The motion carried.

5. Public Comments/Questions

- a. Phillip McDonald and Amanda McDonald thanked the board for their efforts to remove raccoons inhabiting the house next door.

6. President Brown had no comments to share.

7. On a motion made by Mary Potter with a second by Terry Light, the motion passed by acclamation to approve the minutes of the special meeting held on July 7, 2019.

8. On a motion made by Terry Light with a second by Karel Volpert, the motion passed by acclamation to approve the minutes from the regular meeting held July 16, 2019 and the special meeting held July 25, 2019.

9. Valerie gave the Treasurer's Report and presented the bills for payment. Terry Light made a motion, with a second by Kris Kizer, to approve the Treasurer's Report and pay the bills as presented. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jane Cress -	Yea	Terry Light -	Yea	Kris Kizer -	Yea
Mary Potter -	Yea	Karel Volpert -	Yea	Sheila Switzer -	Yea

10. Reports of committees and assignments:

a. Public Works

i. General discussion took place regarding hourly wage of maintenance personnel. The topic was tabled to be consistent with the State of Illinois minimum wage requirements.

b. Budget and Finance - none

c. Health and Safety

i. Ordinance Violation Updates

1. 300 Maiden Lane (Pundt) – current updates were reviewed by the Board. The Board feels the progress made is satisfactory. Jane Cress made a motion to release the landowner from providing monthly updates to the Board, with a second by Terry Light. The motion passed by acclamation.
2. 525 S. Chicago Avenue (Moss) – due to the home currently for sale and in the closing process with a new owner, enforcement of ordinance violations are being put on hold.
3. 12 Myers (Huls/Hodshire) – The Board discussed that it appears very little progress has been made to clean up the property and eliminate tall grass and weeds. The Board agrees that the landowner and resident are required to report to the Board monthly with progress updates or night court procedures will be enforced.
4. 206 W. Holloway (Lyday/Pickett-Kumar) – The Board discussed the continued nuisance of raccoons in and around the residence and request that a letter be sent to the landowner and resident requiring repairs be made to the home to keep raccoons out.

ii. New Ordinance Violations - none

- d. Keep Bismarck Beautiful (KBB) – Karel reported that she attended the Keep Vermilion County Beautiful meeting and announced that a recycling event is coming up on October 19th for all types of electronics, allowing up to seven items per person to be recycled. Valerie will post the information on the Village website along with a listing of the items that Bryant’s and Mervis accepts. There is a county wide tire collection event coming up on October 4th with more details to come. Bottle cap and lid collection will be complete by the end of September. The items collected will be recycled and made into a park bench.

- e. Tax Increment Financing (TIF)
 - i. Valerie relayed email correspondence from accountant Ed Ryan who is wrapping things up with the TIF audit.

- f. Municipal Projects (Roads, Drainage, other improvements)
 - i. Sam Cole is no longer employed by Donoue. Our new engineer is Tracey Fullen.
 - ii. President Brown has followed through with the GATA audit.
 - iii. President Brown reported about a leak on Crystal Lane by the Coon residence
 - iv. President Brown reported about a leak near the intersection of Holloway and Crystal Lane.
 - v. Discussion took place regarding the culvert at the Marxman residence on Prairie Drive. Water runs high into their driveway. Sam Claypool suggested routing the water across to the basin near the Farnsworth residence.

- g. President Brown reported that he provided permits to:
 - i. 17103 E 2750 North Road, Bismarck (property just west of Andi Mae’s Ice Cream Shoppe) – new structure being built. No contact has been made.
 - ii. Larry Messmore who intends to build a shed on a concrete slab at 106 Illinois Street. Discussion took place regarding the project and concerns about the size of the structure compared to the lot size. Terry Light made a motion to approve the building permit with a second by Karel Volpert. Due to voiced opposition a roll call vote was taken.

Jane Cress -	Nay	Terry Light -	Yea	Kris Kizer -	Nay
Mary Potter -	Nay	Karel Volpert -	Yea	Sheila Switzer -	Yea
Mike Brown -	Yea				

The motion carried.

The zoning ordinance was heavily reviewed with concerns that there are multiple editions of the ordinance at hand and uncertainty remains which ordinance is correct. The Board then agreed to rescind the vote, agreeing that clarification regarding the zoning ordinance is necessary as well as review by the Village Attorney. Terry Light made a motion to rescind the vote which previously approved the building permit submitted by Larry Messmore. Karel Volpert seconded the motion. The motion carried by roll call vote.

Jane Cress -	Yea	Terry Light -	Yea	Kris Kizer -	Yea
Mary Potter -	Yea	Karel Volpert -	Yea	Sheila Switzer -	Yea
Mike Brown -	Yea				

The motion carried.

11. Old Business – none.

12. New Business

- a. Valerie shared that she is resigning from the Clerk position effective October 1, 2019 due to lack of time to complete the necessary monthly duties. She informed the Board that Brandye Kizer, wife of Trustee Kris Kizer, has expressed interest in the position and would be good in the position. President Brown requested the position to be advertised and he will follow up with interviews of all interested persons. Guest Brandon Curry announced to the Board that he is interested in the position as well.
- b. Kris reported to the Board that Village resident Kayla Pickett-Kumar has a daughter that just joined the Army and expressed his thanks for her service to our Country.
- c. Kris and Mary reported that they attended the meeting of Bismarck First Church of Christ to discuss their upcoming community event, a community picnic, to be held Saturday, September 21st from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. at the church located at 100 Maiden Lane.

13. **Date and Time of Next Meeting** – The next regular meeting of the Bismarck Village Board will be held at the Village Office in Bismarck, Illinois, at 6:30 p.m. on September 17, 2019.

14. **Adjournment** – With no further business to come before the Board at this time, upon motion by Terry Light, with a second by Karel Volpert, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m. The motion passed by acclamation.

Respectfully Submitted,
Valerie Moss, Clerk

APPROVED SEPTEMBER 17, 2019