

**VILLAGE OF HONOR**  
Regular Council Meeting Minutes  
August 14, 2023

Meeting Called to Order by President Ward at 6:00pm.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Recited.

**Roll Call:** Council- Denoyer, Theobald, Smith, Sternburgh, Ward; present.  
Staff- Goodman, Reed, Sessions, Leone; present.

**Comments on Agenda:** None.

**Approval of Agenda:** President Ward added 2 items under New Business; item d, Pro-Tem and item e, truck sale. Motion by Sternburgh/Theobald to approve amended agenda; all ayes, motion passed.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Sternburgh/Smith to approve July 10, 2023 Regular Council Meeting minutes as presented; all ayes; motion passed.

**Public Input:** None

**Guests/Presentations:**

Kris Kohler of K&K Digital, LLC gave a presentation showing how the Village could utilize his company for its website and e-mail needs. He believes his service would be a good base system to start the Village becoming more tech-friendly. Their websites are designed to be fast on a variety of platforms, and easily editable. They have many additional features available for enhanced technical uses. Estimate for initial creation is \$700, and then \$75 per month. Village e-mails would be \$10 each per month for five e-mail accounts.

Julie Bensinger gave the Council a presentation regarding the Farmers Market. She asked the Village for support and asked if they could verify their liability coverage would extend to a farmer's market. She explained to the board she plans to have liability waiver forms for vendors. Any charges would be a suggested donation and she would use those funds for advertising and other miscellaneous costs incurred. At the end of the season, any left-over monies will be donated to a local non-profit. The council was in support of this endeavor and Clerk Deb Reed will be her village liaison.

**Zoning Administrator:** Rosemary Naulty gave a verbal report, True North is planning to start in two weeks, assuming they have the current water issue resolved. They have made some very minor changes to the plans. Naulty extended their SLUP until 4/24. ZBA hearing from last month was an approved variance on backyard setbacks for a garage.

**Planning Commission:** Rosemary Naulty gave a verbal report. They are still in researching and drafting mode for a Village Short-Term Rental Ordinance. Naulty briefly explained the reasoning behind needing a STR ordinance to a resident. She believes the Master Plan is complete, but she is waiting on the consultant.

**County Commissioner/Fire Chief:** Tim Markey gave verbal report. County Commissioners will be holding a public hearing on the 2024 budget at their August 22 meeting at 9:00am. Construction has begun for County Dispatch facilities. Smith asked about County opioid funds and Market stated they are requesting RFPs for allotment of these funds and that the State has put restrictions on its use. Thanked our maintenance staff for painting the dry hydrants.

Left a fire department run log with Clerk.

**Treasurer's Report:** Motion by Denoyer/Sternburgh to accept financial reports as presented. Roll Call: Ayes; Theobald, Sternburgh, Ward, Denoyer, Smith. Nays; none. Motion passed.

Budget Amendments: Motion by Smith/Theobald to approve budget amendments in General Fund, Major Streets, and Sewer Fund as presented. Roll Call: Ayes; Ward, Denoyer, Sternburgh, Smith, Theobald. Nays; none. Motion passed.

**Submission of Bills/Checks:** Motion by Theobald/Denoyer to approve bills as presented. Roll Call: Ayes; Theobald, Sternburgh, Ward, Denoyer, Smith. Nays; none. Motion passed.

**Correspondence:**

Incoming: Letter from Harold Saffron relating his concerns regarding the process used to appoint a President at the July meeting was read aloud.

Local Community Stabilization Authority letter stating the underpaid the Village by \$1.53 and it will be paid out with 2024 allocation.

Consumers Energy franchise renewal was received. The 30-year franchise contract expires 2/17/24. Current franchise is under ordinance #39. Clerk will request a copy of their contract prior to a vote. Will be considered as New Business in September.

Outgoing: None.

**Old Business:**

- a. Lawyer response on MIDWEST/Sanitary Sewer extension. Our attorney advised we need additional information from MIDWEST (site plan, etc) before we can consider their request. They should also be responsible for any legal fees incurred by the Village in this matter.
- b. Thank you card will be sent to Lume for the large screen television. It has been installed in the meeting room and was already used for K&K Digital presentation earlier in this meeting.

**New Business:**

- a. No new draw documents received. We should have the final draw ready for the September meeting.
- b. Resolution #102-23 regarding pre-authorization for payment Consumers Energy utility bills. Motion by Sternburgh/Theobald to approve resolution. Roll Call: Ayes; Denoyer, Sternburgh, Smith, Ward, Theobald. Nays; none. Motion passed.
- c. Consumers Energy Franchise Renewal. Discussed under Correspondence, tabled until September.
- d. Pro-Tempore. Motion by Ward/Denoyer to appoint Dennis Sternburgh Village President Pro-Tempore. All ayes, motion passed.
- e. Truck Sale. Jake had some interest on the old maintenance truck, after some negotiation, an offer of \$2,500 is on the table. Motion by Ward/Sternburgh to authorize sale of truck. All ayes, motion passed.

**Reports:**

a. Maintenance Report – Durkee, written report submitted. Lagoon is in good shape, hoping to allocate 30 days to treat duckweed. Irrigation field is growing well and will have a second harvest soon. Still waiting on EGLE for official transfer of operator to Leone.

b. Street Administrator – Durkee, written report submitted. Will put up new signs soon. Will order gate for Stacey Alley. Bush hog work has been completed for the year.

c. Ordinance Officer – No report. We will be getting monthly reports on the extra road patrols we hired for the summer season. Some discussion regarding speed through the Village. Positive feedback on current steps being taken, possible increase in efforts next year.

d. Park Committee – Reed, verbal report given. Park looks great, no issues.

e. Sewer Committee – No report.

f. Budget Committee –No report.

**General Discussion:** Old Platte River school building cannot have a split use. BCRC will ask for an operating millage this year, and next year ask for additional building millage. At that point they may consider additional housing units at their current location.

**Public Input:** None.

**Announcements:** Platte River Park project is moving along, lots of improvements being made.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Smith/Denoyer to adjourn meeting at 7:52 pm. All ayes; motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Reed/Goodman

August 15, 2023