

**Village of Rossville  
Regular Board Meeting  
January 15, 2024**

Mayor Queen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the Rossville Municipal Building located at 120 East Attica Street in Rossville, Illinois.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll call was taken. A quorum was established with Mayor Queen and Trustees Black, Jones and Gammon physically present.

Absent – Trustees Richison, Daniel and Cornell

Guests present were Clerk White, Kenneth Gammon, representatives from Invenergy Greg Vasilion, Andrew Byars and Jim Clark.

Minutes of the regular board meeting held December 18, 2023, were presented. Motion was made by Black, seconded by Jones to dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve them as presented. Vote: Black, yes; Jones, yes; Gammon, yes.

Minutes of the special board meeting held on December 20, 2023, were presented. Motion was made by Gammon, seconded by Jones to dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve them as presented. Vote: Gammon, yes; Black, yes; Jones, yes.

Treasurer Ault's report for December 2023 was presented. The treasurer's report was reviewed in the Finance & Purchasing Committee meeting held earlier. Motion was made by Black, seconded by Jones to accept the Treasurer's report for December 2023 as presented. Vote: Jones, yes; Black, yes; Gammon, yes.

Current bills – Current bills were reviewed in the Finance & Purchasing Committee meeting earlier. The committee agreed to release the checks to RadarSigns and Southwestern Illinois College (M. Smitley's PTI Training from 2020) that were held last month. Motion was made by Black, seconded by Jones to approve and pay the bills as presented. Vote: Gammon, yes; Jones, yes; Black, yes.

Superintendent Lusk's report – Superintendent Lusk's report was presented. Trustee Black asked if it was determined what the camera was purchased last month for. Clerk White stated the camera was for something at the water treatment plant.

Sewer Operator Price's report – There were no comments on Sewer Operator Matt Price's written report.

Police report – Trustee Black noted the classes Chief Greene would like all officers attend, since they are mandated. Trustee Black suggested Chief Greene prepare a list of classes the officers need to attend prior to the budget being established so fees, schedules and funds can be allocated correctly. Trustee Gammon suggested splitting the officers to allow 2 to go to one and 2 to go to another class. Trustee Black said that would work depending on the frequencies the classes are offered. Trustee Gammon wants a text from Chief Greene advising when the next class is to be held. Trustee Gammon saw a technician attempting to repair the FLOCK cameras. Since the FLOCK cameras were just installed last year and they needed repaired already, the company is granting the Village of Rossville a \$3,000 credit on the account.

Trustee Gammon and Trustee Black had concerns regarding offering police officers comp time instead of scrambling to rearrange schedules due to classes or holidays. Comp time, classes, extending Officer Soderstrom's training and add violations to the PNT ordinances will be discussed at the next Police, Health & Safety Committee meeting to be held on Wednesday, January 24, 2024, at 5 p.m. at the village office.

Accounts Receivable - Collector White reported the utility accounts receivable total as \$73,812.40. There were miscellaneous invoices totaling \$12,473.00, making the total accounts receivable \$86,285.40. There were no shutoffs this past month.

Deputy Clerk/Collector Kathy Rife called the State inquiring about the reimbursement for Officer Ryan Soderstrom's training. The office has received the reimbursement request but information regarding when the request will be granted was not given.

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Clerk White explained some of the miscellaneous invoices and their dollar amounts to board members.

Approve/Authorize Mayor to Sign Engineering Service Agreement with Donohue & Associates for the Water Tower Project – Donohue & Associates prepared an engineering agreement for services totaling \$14,800 for the water tower project. Trustee Black assumed Superintendent Lusk would be the Village of Rossville’s representative on site. Motion was made by Black, seconded by Jones to approve the engineering services agreement with Donohue & Associates in the amount of \$14,800 for the water tower project and authorize Mayor Queen to sign the agreement. Vote: Jones, yes; Black, yes; Gammon, yes; Queen, yes.

Paid Leave Act Ordinance Amendment to Allow Unused Vacation Time to Rollover – An ordinance amending Village of Rossville Municipal Code, Chapter 2.52.060 was presented. The proposed ordinance would allow employees to rollover or bank unused vacation time, up to forty (40) hours, into the next calendar year but the rolled over time must be used no later than April 30<sup>th</sup>. Motion was made by Gammon, seconded by Black to adopt the ordinance amending Chapter 2.52.060 of the Village of Rossville Municipal Code, to allow unused vacation time, up to forty (40) hours, to be rolled over or banked into the next calendar year but the rolled over time must be used no later than April 30<sup>th</sup>. Vote: Gammon, yes; Black, yes; Jones, yes; Queen, yes. Ordinance 2024-01 passed.

Invenergy representatives discuss siting agreement, map and economic impact analysis for Musketeer Wind Project – Greg Vasilion, from Invenergy, reviewed last month’s discussion regarding wanting to establish a wind farm project in the northwest part of Vermilion County and go to Vermilion County Board for permits. Approximately 36,000 acres have been secured from people wanting to participate in this project. Invenergy tries to find the best wind resource and set away from places like wetlands. Towns get 1.5 miles zoning jurisdiction. The way the laws read, towns get an extra 1.5 miles zoning jurisdiction for wind projects. Since the country club was annexed into the Village of Rossville’s zoning, there are a few that are within the 3-mile zoning area. Mr. Vasilion stated there are 4 turbines within 3 miles of the country club. Mr. Vasilion did not believe there are any turbines within 1.5 miles of the country club. The siting agreement asks the Village of Rossville to defer to the County for permits. Invenergy has selected specific sites they want the wind turbines to be built but the siting agreement authorizes, if a problem arises, the turbines can be moved within 500 feet of the desired location. Language needed to be added stating how close the turbines could be built to the corporate limits. An updated map was given to board members. A map will be given to Vermilion County when applying for permits for the entire Vermilion County project of approximately 65-75 wind turbines. Trustee Black stated that the Village of Rossville has an ordinance regarding wind turbines. Trustee Black also stated, as discussed previously, that the Village would send a notice to the residents or property owners in the area of the proposed wind project to make them aware of the proposed wind project so they can attend a meeting and voice their concerns. The letters have not been mailed.

Trustee Black requested some language cleared up or added:

- 1) Define “other ancillary project improvements” in the siting agreement on page 1
- 2) Final decision on location of wind turbines must be the Village of Rossville Board of Trustees’ decision
- 3) Letters need to go to area residents informing them of the proposed wind turbine project
- 4) Soften language and cleanup in #10 of siting agreement regarding breach of agreement, Village to repay
- 5) Include language to cover transfer of survivorship, decommission of project (who is responsible), insolvency, bankruptcies, mergers, breach on the side of Invenergy, damages-who covers damages and maintenance on the wind turbines
- 6) On page 1, 2a, should read 1.5 mile instead of within 1 mile of the corporate limits
- 7) Specific GPS coordinates of each turbine
- 8) On page 2, under 2b-...additional consent from the Village “Board of Trustees” instead of just Village.

Once Invenergy makes the corrections/additions to the siting agreement, a revised copy will be sent to the Village email and distributed to the council for review and/or corrections.

Update on 206 Thompson, 308 Maple, 404 E. Attica Properties –

- 1) Mayor Queen reported that Village attorney Andy Mudd sent a registered letter to the owner of 206 Thompson regarding the denial of extension for repairs. The owner said he will contact his attorney regarding the matter then get back to the Village. Trustee Gammon asked if we can find out if a return receipt has been received for the letter mailed. Superintendent Lusk asked the owner to sign the property over to the Village.
- 2) Mayor Queen reported Superintendent Lusk, as Building Inspector, has condemned 308 Maple as of 1/4/24

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3) A notice was sent to the owner of 404 E. Attica regarding the property under the dangerous building ordinances

Finance & Purchasing – Trustee Gammon had nothing to report at this time.

Streets & Alleys – The 2024 MFT Stockpile Resolution in the amount of \$130,000 was presented. The streets and alleys seal coat resolution will be presented in March. A motion was made by Black, seconded by Jones to approve the 2024 MFT Stockpile Resolution. Vote: Gammon, yes; Jones, yes; Black, yes; Queen, yes. Resolution 2024-01 passed.

Police, Health & Safety Committee – Trustee Gammon suggested investing in an evidence vault for the police room. Some of the drugs that are confiscated smell very strong in the village office and gives people headaches when entering the building. The matter will be placed on the next Police, Health & Safety Committee meeting agenda.

Water & Sewer – Trustee Gammon had nothing further to report.

Gas Committee- There were no comments regarding the gas committee.

Public Improvements – Trustee Gammon has been working on grants for the pond area. The grant application was due today but since the ad for bids could not be published soon enough for this quarter, the grant will be applied for in the next quarter. An ad for bids will run on January 23, 2024, accept bids until Friday, February 16, 2024, and bids open at regular board meeting to be held on February 19, 2024, at 7 p.m. Trustee Gammon needs 5 letters of support for the grant and is waiting on 1 more letter to come in. After the bids are received and the remaining letter, Trustee Gammon will put everything together to apply for the grant for the pond. Trustee Gammon stated if she doesn't get the grant for the pond, the funds will come from Beautification.

Trustee Gammon reported as soon as the car cameras arrive, she will get the serial numbers for all of the car cameras and turn them in for the grant in February or March.

Trustee Black is working on a grant for FREE WIFI in the downtown area and at the pond.

Trustee Black suggested that he revise the spreadsheet/grid for old business before the next meeting.

Trustee Gammon asked if the attorney has looked at anything regarding the ordinance for B-1 Building styles or changing the ordinance allowing single family residences in a B-1 zoned area. Trustee Black will look at his email to see where it was left.

Trustee Gammon will be gone for a few months and would like the minutes ahead of time so she can send someone questions or comments to ask/say on her behalf. Clerk White will get the minutes done as soon as possible.

Trustee Black proposed adding a new committee, an Economic Development Committee, that would actively pursue businesses and economic development for B-1 Zone.

Motion was made by Black, seconded by Jones to adjourn the meeting. Vote: Black, no; Jones, yes; Gammon, yes; Queen, yes. The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris White  
Village Clerk

Board approved 2/19/2024