

Village of Rossville
Regular Board Meeting
November 18, 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 Cornell, Black, Jones, and Gammon physically present.

Trustees absent – Trustee Richison and Trustee Daniel.

Guests present were Clerk White, Treasurer Ault, Kenneth Gammon, Callan Masterson and Renae Ward.

Minutes of the regular board meeting held October 21, 2024 were presented. Motion was made by Black, seconded by Gammon to dispense with the reading of the regular board meeting minutes dated October 21, 2024 and approve the minutes as presented. Vote: Black, yes; Jones, yes; Gammon, yes; Cornell, yes.

Treasurer Ault's report for October 2024, was presented. The October Treasurer's report was reviewed in the Finance & Purchasing Committee meeting held earlier. Motion was made by Jones, seconded by Black to accept the Treasurer's report for October. Vote: Jones, yes; Gammon, yes; Cornell, yes; Black, yes.

Current bills – Current bills were reviewed in the Finance & Purchasing Committee meeting earlier. Motion was made by Black, seconded by Jones to approve the bills as presented. Vote: Gammon, yes; Cornell, yes; Black, yes; Jones, yes.

Superintendent Lusk's report – There were no comments on Superintendent Lusk's report.

Sewer Operator Price's report – Trustee Black asked if the flow meter at the sewer plant was removed and waiting on a new one, what are they doing in the meantime? Operator Price will be asked.

Police report – Trustee Black read Chief Greene's police report.

Accounts Receivable – Collector White did not present a report since there was an out of balance condition. When the problem is solved, a new report will be given to board members.

Resignation of Trustee Richison – Mayor Queen reported Trustee Richison moved therefore, he submitted his resignation. Motion was made by Gammon, seconded by Jones to accept Trustee Richison's resignation from the Board of Trustees. Vote: Cornell, yes; Gammon, yes; Jones, yes; Black, yes. Mayor Queen has 30 days to name a replacement.

Discuss Holidays for Calendar Year 2025 – Clerk White supplied board members a 2025 calendar with holidays listed so board members could select holidays for 2025 to place on the resolution to be prepared for the next regular board meeting. Mayor Queen requested a copy of the holidays selected for calendar year 2024. Clerk White copied the resolution listing the 2024 holidays. Board members selected 13 dates to place on the holiday resolution for calendar year 2025.

Keep Vermilion County Beautiful Dues for 2025 – Motion was made by Gammon, seconded by Jones to approve renewing membership to Keep Vermilion County Beautiful for \$150 for 2025. Vote: Gammon, yes; Jones, yes; Black, yes; Cornell, yes.

Discuss Solar Farm Ordinance/Proposed Solar Project – Trustee Black has questions for the village attorney that he will email for clarification. Currently, the Village has 2 companies wanting to install commercial solar farms within the Village 1.5 mile Zoning District, which is not allowed per Village ordinance. Trustee Jones asked if the Village could amend the Zoning District to 3 miles from the Village limits. Trustee Black will ask the village attorney that question as well and bring the results of those questions to the next board meeting.

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Discuss Ordinance to Make Owners/Occupants Joint & Severally Liable – Board members received a copy of Georgetown’s ordinance regarding utilities. The City of Georgetown only has water and sewer whereas Westville has gas, water and sewer. Board members will review the ordinance and table the matter until next month.

Discuss Animal Control and Citations – Clerk White did not review the contract with Vermilion County Animal Control to review the services the Village pays for. The matter was tabled until the December meeting.

Discuss/Approve Intergovernmental Agreement between the IOC (II. Office of the Comptroller) and the Village of Rossville for the Local Debt Recovery Program – Board members received a copy of the proposed Intergovernmental Agreement between the IOC and the Village of Rossville for the Local Debt Recovery Program. The Local Debt Recovery Program would authorize the Office of the Comptroller to reduce a debtor’s State issued check (income tax refund check, payroll check, lottery winning check, etc.) up to 25% until the uncollected debt is paid in full for uncollected debt due to the Village of Rossville. Uncollected debt can be fines or utility charges that are less than 7 years old. Mayor Queen, Clerk White, Deputy Clerk Rife and Trustee Gammon attended the online webinar that described the Local Debt Recovery Program. Motion was made by Black, seconded by Gammon to approve the intergovernmental agreement between the IOC and Village of Rossville and authorize Mayor Queen to sign the document. Vote: Jones, yes; Black, yes; Cornell, yes; Gammon, yes.

Update on 217 Perry – Mayor Queen reported the owner of 217 Perry, Marie Leland, signed the quitclaim deed over to the Village of Rossville. The Village intends to auction the property, therefore, an appraisal is required. An appraisal was done but the official report has not been received. The minimum bid for the property must be 80% of the appraisal amount. Once the appraisal is received, the Village will declare the property as surplus property as an ordinance then proceed with procedures to auction the property. Once the auction is completed with a successful bid, the Village expenses will be deducted from the proceeds and the remaining balance will be forwarded to Ms. Leland as agreed. The village attorney will be asked about a redevelopment agreement with the new owner with dates the improvements need to be completed by.

Ordinance declaring a 2019 Ford F250 pickup and Western 8’ snowplow as surplus property and advertise the pickup and snowplow for sale - Trustee Gammon had the pickup appraised at Hoopston Ford for \$27,000. Trustee Gammon also looked up a value for the snowplow, which was \$1,800. Trustee Gammon suggested obtaining separate bids for the pickup and snowplow. Other board members suggested advertising for the pickup and snowplow together. Clerk White asked for clarification on the minimum bid for the truck at \$27,000 plus the snowplow at \$1,800, making a total of \$28,800 as a minimum bid. Trustee Gammon amended the amount for the snowplow to \$1,600. Therefore, making the total minimum bid at \$28,600 for both pieces of equipment. Motion was made by Gammon, seconded by Jones to declare the 2019 pickup and 8’ snowplow as surplus and advertise the pickup and snowplow for sale with a minimum bid of \$28,600. Vote: Cornell, yes; Black, yes; Jones, yes; Gammon, yes. Ordinance 2024-10 passed. Trustee Black suggested if the Village does not receive bids for the minimum bid, then remove the snowplow and sell the truck to Hoopston Ford then sell the plow separately.

Notice for bids for 106 E. Attica were/will be published 11/12/24, 11/19/24 and 11/26/24 and bids accepted/awarded on December 16, 2024 – Mayor Queen read the dates the notice for bids for 106 E. Attica will be published and the bids will be accepted/awarded at the regular board meeting held on December 16, 2024. The motion to declare the property as surplus and advertise the property for sale was made at last month’s regular board meeting. A resolution was prepared by the village attorney based on that motion.

Finance & Purchasing – Trustee Gammon asked if the numbers on the tax levy ordinance came from the County Clerk’s office. Clerk White stated the numbers were received from the County Clerk website and the estimated tax levy amount was presented at last month’s meeting. The dollar figures were divided amongst the general fund departments as usual. Motion was made by Black, seconded by Cornell to adopt the tax levy ordinance for FY2025 for \$19,403.96, which is below 5% over last year. Vote: Gammon, yes; Cornell, yes; Jones, yes; Black, yes. Ordinance 2024-11 passed.

Streets & Alleys - Trustee Cornell had nothing to report at this time.

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Police, Health & Safety – Trustee Black had nothing further to report at this time.

Water & Sewer – Trustee Jones had nothing further to report at this time.

Gas Committee- No report.

Public Improvement – Trustee Daniel was absent.

Old Business – Trustee Gammon reported Superintendent Lusk prepared a bid sheet for demolitions that will be given to persons interested in a demolition proposal.

Motion was made by Black, seconded by Gammon to adjourn the meeting. Vote: Cornell, yes; Black, yes; Jones, yes; Gammon, yes. The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris White
Village Clerk
Board approved 12/16/2024