

**Village of Rossville
Regular Board Meeting
February 19, 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, Richison, Daniel and Cornell physically present.

Trustees electronically present – Trustee Gammon

Guests present were Clerk White, Jason Miles, Gene Roach, Lance Raver and Trevor Sebben.

Minutes of the regular board meeting held January 15, 2024, were presented. Motion was made by Black, seconded by Cornell to dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve them as presented. Vote: Cornell, yes; Daniel, yes; Richison, yes; Jones, yes; Black, yes.

Treasurer Ault's revised report for January 2024, 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 revised Treasurer's report for January 2024, as presented. Vote: Black, yes; Jones, yes; Richison, yes; Daniel, yes; Cornell, 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 for payment as presented. Vote: Richison, yes; Daniel, 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 – There were no comments on Sewer Operator Matt Price's written report.

Police report – Chief Greene's report was presented. Mayor Queen announced a judgement had been entered into court for fines for the residents at 214 E. Attica. If the fines are not paid prior to March 6, 2024, the Village will put a lien on the property.

Accounts Receivable - Collector White reported the utility accounts receivable total as \$63,809.86. There were miscellaneous invoices totaling \$12,671.41, making the total accounts receivable \$76,481.27. There were no shutoffs this past month. Since the 19th is on a holiday this month, penalties will be added on the 21st. The reimbursement request for Misti Smitley's training was denied since it was for the transition course, of which the State does not reimburse.

Zoning Board Appointments – Mayor Queen appointed Gene Roach, Rex Hackett, Eric Thomas and Renae Ward to the Zoning Board to fill four vacancies. Motion was made by Black, seconded by Richison to concur with Mayor Queen's appointments to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Vote: Daniel, yes; Cornell, yes; Black, yes; Jones, yes; Richison, yes.

Ordinance to Amend Section 5.08 Alcoholic Liquors of the Village Code Book – An ordinance was presented to amend Section 5.08 Alcoholic Liquors to allow brewery licenses in the Village of Rossville. Motion was made by Black, seconded by Richison to adopt the ordinance amending Section 5.08 Alcoholic Liquors to include breweries and licenses for breweries. Vote: Cornell, yes; Black, yes; Jones, yes; Richison, yes; Daniel, yes. Ordinance 2024-02 passed.

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

- 1) Mayor Queen reported the Village attorney said the Village will go to court to obtain permission to tear down the house at 206 Thompson.
- 2) Superintendent Lusk has been talking with the owners of 308 Maple and 404 E. Attica to see what their plans are for the properties. Mayor Queen suggested leaving the property at 308 Maple alone because someone else

Village of Rossville
Regular Board Meeting
February 19, 2024

has expressed interest in purchasing the property. Mayor Queen stated Superintendent Lusk has not been in the property at 404 E. Attica in a long time. Superintendent Lusk was not sure of the condition of the house in case the Village would like to obtain the property and sell it to someone who would sign a redevelopment agreement to repair the property to livable condition.

New Economic Development Committee – Trustee Black suggested adding an Economic Development Committee that would search for new businesses to come to town and see what incentives can be offered to entice new businesses to come to Rossville if everyone is in favor of the idea. Trustee Black suggested rolling the Streets & Alleys Committee into another committee to prevent needing an additional committee and committee chairperson. Trustee Black will look into forming the committee.

Finance & Purchasing – Trustee Gammon asked what day the budget needs to be posted in April. Clerk White said the board meeting is on the 15th of April so the budget needs to be posted at least 10 days prior, so by April 4th. Board members may review the proposed budget and present any changes or corrections at the board meeting. If any changes are made, a new proposed copy will be displayed at the village office then voted on at a special board meeting to be held on April 30, 2024. Clerk White attached a copy of the budget worksheet to the agenda in the Shared Drive on board members' iPad plus a paper copy was placed in board members' mailboxes in the board room. Trustee Black asked for a copy to be sent to him electronically in Excel format. Clerk White will email Trustee Black a copy of the worksheet.

Police, Health & Safety - Trustee Gammon is still working on the grant for the car cameras. Trustee Gammon is waiting on the grant to be released and some numbers from Chief Greene so she can complete the grant application. The grant is expected to be released for the 2nd quarter of 2024.

Prices for containers to be used in the evidence vault are being researched.

Trustee Black is working on the WIFI grant that will also be released for the 2nd quarter of 2024.

Trustee Black reached out to Andy Byars, from Invenergy, requesting something in writing stating they are pulling out the 4 wind turbines that would have been placed in the Rossville zoning district. Mr. Byars stated Greg Vasilion usually handles those notices but he is on vacation. Mr. Byars will ask Mr. Vasilion to issue a written notice when he returns from vacation.

Lance Raver works for Edward Jones in Hoopeston. Mr. Raver is looking for property to purchase in Rossville, due to some demolition issues with his building in Hoopeston. Mr. Raver is interested in a downtown building, but it needs quite a bit of work. Mr. Raver brought a contractor to the building to get an estimate of repairs needed. Mr. Raver stated the outside east wall needs to be tuckpointed, the roof needs to be torn off and a new roof installed and the front wall needs restructured. Mr. Raver would like to gut the inside of the building and restructure the building for his purposes. Mr. Raver would also be interested in purchasing the Village owned lot located at 106 E. Attica for parking. Mr. Raver would like to receive \$25,000 annually for 4 years. Trustee Black stated a redevelopment agreement would be required along with an estimate documenting the repairs that are to be made with requested funds. Clerk White reminded board members to review the procedures to sell a Village-owned property and to consult with the TIF attorney to verify if all or part of the request can be fulfilled with TIF funds. Board members are very interested in discussing the possibility of a new business coming to town.

Water & Sewer – There was nothing to report from the Water & Sewer Committee.

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

Public Improvements – Trustee Gammon would like to meet with Mayor Queen and Superintendent Lusk to discuss the requirements for the pond improvements before opening any bids. Motion was made by Black, seconded by Jones to table the opening of the bids for the pond improvements until the next regular board meeting. Vote: Cornell, yes; Daniel, yes; Richison, yes; Jones, yes; Black, yes.

Clerk White asked if any discussion needs to be held on the old business that has been listed on a chart on the agenda and not discussed for a while, for instance, the old Presbyterian Church demolition. Trustee Black noted the Danners

Village of Rossville
Regular Board Meeting
February 19, 2024

were given up to 2 years to complete the task, which needs to be updated on the chart. Trustee Black asked Clerk White to remind him to update the chart.

Trustee Richison asked if the radar sign by the school is working properly because the sign flashes “Slow Down” when you are not going the speed limit at times when school is not in session. Trustee Gammon will speak to School Superintendent Crystal Maden to make the sure sign is programmed correctly when she meets with the Radarsign representative.

Trustee Richison stated some of the curbs were damaged when Route 1 was resurfaced. Trustee Richison asked if the company who did the project could repair the curbs. Mayor Queen will speak to Superintendent Lusk regarding the curbs and possible repairs.

Motion was made by Black, seconded by Richison to adjourn the meeting to executive session to discuss a pay increase for an employee under 5 ILCS 120/2 C1. Vote: Cornell, yes; Daniel, yes; Richison, yes; Jones, yes; Black, yes. The meeting adjourned to executive session at 7:50 p.m.

Motion was made by Black, seconded by Richison to return to regular session. Vote: Daniel, yes; Cornell, yes; Black, yes; Jones, yes; Richison, yes. The meeting returned to regular session at 7:57 p.m.

Motion was made by Black, seconded by Jones to approve increasing Matt Price’s pay \$1.73 per hour retroactive to May 1, 2023. Vote: Black, yes; Jones, yes; Richison, yes Daniel, yes; Cornell, yes.

Motion was made by Black, seconded by Jones to adjourn the meeting. Vote: Richison, yes; Daniel, yes; Cornell, yes; Black, no; Jones, yes. The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris White
Village Clerk

Board approved 3-18-24