

**VILLAGE HALL OF HARRISTOWN**  
**February 22, 2021**

The Village of Harristown Board of Trustees held their monthly meeting on February 22, 2021 at 185 N. Kembark, Harristown, IL. Trustees Les Jenkins, Larry Ditty, Kevin Vessels, Teresa Acree, Becky Nave, Kourt Mooney, Treasurer Rose, Budget Officer Laskowski, Attorney Weatherford, Clerk Allen and Mayor Deverell were present. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

***Water and Sewer Committee***

*RCAP Sewer Rate study*-Brock from Teicmiller distributed a sewer analysis. He helps communities with studies on water and sewer usage/rates. He discussed the hand outs. The sewer rate for the village has not changed since 2014. He is suggesting to raise it 3-5% every year.

***Visitors***

No visitors wished to address the board

***Consent agenda/minutes***

Motion by Trustee Kevin Vessels to adopt the consent agenda. Trustee Larry Ditty 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 6-0.

***Approve 1-25-2021 meeting minutes***

Page -1- under Dec 21 meeting minutes, spelling should be "Tertocha" Page -2-, Public Works, should read EJ, not LJ; read "this is" and Mayor "will" not till. Also, after Trustee Kourt Mooney was sworn in, all motions should read 6 total instead of 5. Motion by Trustee Les Jenkins to approve minutes with above corrections. Trustee Teresa Acree 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 6-0.

***Mayor Updates***

*Veterans/First Responders Memorial*-would like to build one south of the Village hall Village money will not be used. A spaghetti dinner is planned for March 27; all money will go into this fund. Tickets \$8.00/person. Mayor Deverell requested board members to sale tickets.

*Capital Improvement Plan*-the last one done was 2008-2013

*Tax Audit Detail*-work that was done in 1999, still shows as assets, not depreciated. Several items need to be removed

*Committee Duties*-Committee list was distributed. Mayor would like for Board members to think about what committees they would like to be on.

*Corporate Map*-this was published in the Senteniel.

*Thank you Card*-Clerk Allen read a thank you card received from Pop's Place

*Street Lights*-if anyone notices a street light out, let Mayor Deverell know.

*Stimulus Covid bill*-this bill will hopefully offer some relief for local villages. We loss gaming revenue and we did not charge any late fees. Hope to recoop some of this money.

***Treasurers Report-Authorize Paying of Bills.***

*Chastain IEPA Water system* \$ 5243.96; easement negotiations \$ 2158.51. *Ameren* 3 phase overhead transformer & installation; Decatur interconnect pump station \$ 2557.00. Ron Legner said the total cost estimated for the new transformer/pole etc is \$9041.88;

**Page-2-**  
**Village Hall of Harristown**  
**February 22, 2021**

\$2557.90 up front, balance on agreement, over 7 year period. Minimum invoice \$ 77.19 / month. So if the usage is less, will never see this; only operate when purchasing water. *McGuire* professional advisory service \$1895. Total bills \$ 11855.37.

Mayor requested the Treasurer to have account breakdown charge. Trustee Les Jenkins worked for Chastain, 2/8 thur 2/15. Motion by Trustee Larry Ditty to approve the Chastain bills \$7402.47. Kevin Vessels 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 5-1 (abstained Trustee Jenkins) Motion by Trustee Les Jenkins to approve the Ameren bill of \$2557.90. Trustee Teresa Acree 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 5-1 (abstained Trustee Mooney). Motion by Trustee Kevin Vessels to approve the *McGuire* bill \$1895. Trustee Les Jenkins 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 6-0.

Ron Legner discussed easements. \$3,000 per easement. Two trips needed to Wisconsin to talk to someone; asked village to vacate Gouge Road. This was not included in the upfront estimate. So for \$6841 to date. Treasurer Rose questioned if she should continue to pay negotiations or stop at some point? Attorney Weatherford asked if other than Gouge Road, are they asking for anything else? Mr. Legner said crop damage, proposed around \$4800, for portion of water main and Gouge road vacation; agreement sent to them. Approximately \$ 11,600 for easement so far. Costs of 2 administrative assistants, land surveyors, legal descriptions/documents and correspondence for hearings; this should be the biggest chunk of the cost because of Gouge Road. Right now everything is at a stand still until they sign the papers. Trustee Kourt Mooney suggested holding the Gouge road vacation until we receive paperwork back; not vacate until we have the signed paperwork from the owner.

There was no video gaming this month. TIF owes General Fund \$39,649 (from 2015). Motion by Trustee Kevin Vessels to approve the financial report. Trustee Larry Ditty 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 6-0.

#### ***Budget Officers Report***

BO Rick Laskowski discussed. Motion by Trustee Kevin Vessels to approve the budget report. Trustee Les Jenkins 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 6-0. Budget Study session will be held on March 26, 2021 at 4:30 pm

#### ***Engineer Report***

*Project 6899 water improvements/tower/IEPA Loan-Burdick* has submitted payment request #2 for \$11,340 for Division A work. 10% down payment prefabricated booster pump station minus retainage. Motion by Trustee Kevin Vessels to pay \$11,340 and submit to IEPA for reimbursement Trustee Teresa Acree 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 6-0. Chastain continuing to process shop drawings from both contractors. Foundation work complete. Water tower erection is expected to begin in May; with final completion by end of November.

*MFT*-focus efforts on redoing ditches and culverts in Fieldcrest, Jeanair Subdivision. Will have proposal at next meeting for engineering work. Culverts @ Burks and Camp-upsize culverts

**Public Works**

Report distributed. A lot of overtime for snow removal. Also for the water tower, several nights tower was calling for water, not refilling it

Mayor Deverell would like the Board members to take the report from EJ Water and look at it. EPA will be having more strict regulations and our sewer plant may not pass.

Lagoons have never been dredged and the aeration needs repaired. There will be a new EPA regulation for monitoring nitrate levels; not sure when this will go in effect but it will be expensive to upgrade. Decatur Sanitary District currently handles various villages. This could be an option; we could become part of their district; would be expensive. Need to discuss the sewer rates in the budget study session

**Zoning**

Nothing to report

**Old Business**

*Site lease with A.C.T.S for water tower antenna-* Do not have to pay taxes on this income. Tabled

*Ordinance 20-3 revised-* Motion by Trustee Les Jenkins to approve as ordinance 21-02 Cannibas zoning. Trustee Kourt Mooney 2<sup>nd</sup>. Roll call: Trustee Les Jenkins, yes; Trustee Kourt Mooney, yes; Trustee Becky Nave, yes, Trustee Kevin Vessels, yes, Trustee Teresa Acree, yes; Trustee Larry Ditty, yes. Approved 6-0.

Ordinance 21-01 3 sets of minutes need removed -- revised

**New Business**

*Meet the Candidates Night-*no one interested in having this

*Fireworks-*can wait until after budget

*Capitalization Policy revision-*BO Laskowski said we need to describe the assets. Motion by Trustee Kevin Vessels to approve the capitalization policy. Trustee Larry Ditty 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 6-0.

*Warranty for office generator-*Tabled. Mayor Evelyn Deverell will get more details on this.

*Vacate Gouge Road-*Board decided not to vote on this vacation until signed paperwork from landowner is received. Tabled.

**Personnel Committee-**

Personnel manual

Warning notice will be added to the policy.

Suggested the following changes

Clarifying office employee hours-will be established office hours for village

Employees on call- change to public works employees; previously stated only the superintendent of Public Works

Moonlighting- said previously only the superintendent of Public Works. Change to say shall not conflict with any public works employee duties and must have consent of Board of Trustees.

Page -4-  
Village Hall of Harristown  
February 22, 2021

. Paid time off-paid sick leave-Village will follow FMLA rules-remove all previous descriptions

Paid sick days – public work employees 8 hours, office workers 6 hours

Employees who work days that consist of more than 7 ½ hours, will get an half hour lunch break.

Revisions tabled pending another personnel committee meeting.

*Streets and Alleys*-Nothing to report

*Finance Committee* Nothing to report

*Ordinance Committee*- Nothing to report

*Economic Development*- nothing to report

*Attorney* –nothing to report

Motion by Trustee Kevin Vessels to enter closed session to discuss ordinance violations. Trustee Teresa Acree 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 6-0.

Entered closed session at 9:21 pm

Trustee Nave resigned at 9:26 pm

Back to regular session at 9:35 pm

Motion by Trustee Larry Ditty to adjourn. Trustee Kevin Vessels 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved 5-0

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm

  
Penny J. Allen, Clerk