

May 20, 2013

Meeting called to order by Mayor McCormick.

Roll Call: Present: Blackstock, Evans, Skelton, Albers, Thomas, Nolan Absent: None

Opening Prayer given by: Mayor McCormick

Motion made by Thomas and seconded by Skelton to approve the minutes from the April 15, 2013 board meeting as issued in print. Vote: 6-0 Motion Carried

Motion made by Blackstock and seconded by Nolan to approve the Treasurer's report, subject to audit. Vote: 6-0 Motion Carried

Finance: Break to review bills

Blackstock motioned to pay the outstanding bills with second from Skelton. Vote: 6-0 Motion Carried

-Resignation: Mayor McCormick read a letter of resignation from Police Chief Hodgson effective May 17, 2013 (letter to be placed on file). Mayor McCormick polled board opinion on allowing Hodgson to retain possession of the badge that he wore to which no opposition was heard.

-Final Address to board: Mayor McCormick wished all incoming and outgoing board members his best regard.

Village Clerk Coon swore George Skelton into the seat of Village Mayor.

Village Clerk Coon swore Roland Tibbs into the seat of Village Trustee.

Village Clerk Coon swore Ralph Coon into the seat of Village Trustee.

Village Clerk Coon swore Vince Smith into the seat of Village Trustee.

All incoming elected officials took their appropriate seats for continuation of the meeting.

Appointment of board seat:

Mayor Skelton recommended Russell Hancock for the appointment of Village Trustee to fulfill the term left open by Skelton until the 2015 elections. Discussion was heard from R. Coon and Smith pertaining to the decision made to not continue with past precedence set in regards to appointing the person with the next number of votes received on the most recent election ballot and reasons for choosing Hancock for the appointment. Blackstock made a motion with second from Nolan to accept the appointment of Russell Hancock to Village Trustee to fulfill the seat left vacant by G. Skelton until the 2015 elections. Vote: 5-1 (Nay: R. Coon) Motion Carried

Village Clerk Coon swore Russell Hancock into the seat of Village Trustee

Skelton addressed the new board reminding them that they are "by the people and for the people of the town". Skelton also asked for more board member discussion on any issues brought in front of them.

Citizen Concerns:

-Chickens: Resident Dustin Otey asked the board to consider an ordinance change that would allow chickens to be housed inside the village limits. Mr. Otey had ordinances from other cities in Illinois for reference. Blackstock explained that the board would have to review the current ordinance in effect and get back with him on their findings. Subject was sent to a health committee meeting to be scheduled to which Mr. Otey will be notified for attendance if he so chooses.

-Farmers Market/Townwide clean up: The board reviewed information that was in their folders which was brought to Clerk Coon by Citizen Josh Skelton prior to the meeting. The hand out pertained to the starting of a Community market to be held "on the village's empty lot uptown" beginning July 27th and continuing on Saturday mornings for an unstated length of time. The hand out also stated that Josh Skelton was willing to volunteer to set up a town wide clean-up and asked the board consider supporting such an effort for no more than \$1500.00. Both matters were tabled for further discussion until the June 2013 board meeting.

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Maintenance Personnel Reports:

-Bug Spraying: Conrad reported that the sprayer is ready to go. A motion was made by Nolan and seconded by Hancock that the bug spraying be done on Wednesday and Sunday of each week beginning May 22, 2013 or as soon as Mr. Reiners can begin. Vote: 6-0 Motion Carried

-Citizen D. Skelton was recognized and asked for mosquito larvae prevention "pucks" to be placed in a drainage area on his property to help control the mosquito population. Citizen J. McCormick suggested that D. Skelton seek these pucks from Logan County as Mr. Skelton is not a resident of the village. Blackstock questioned why these should be supplied to Mr. Skelton to which she was informed that the standing water is a result of the village backwashing procedure and that the pucks are free to the village through Logan County.

-Tree removal: Nolan explained that the tree in the alley between Arch and Race streets was leaning and in danger of falling onto surrounding buildings. Nolan presented a bid from Randy's tree service for \$1400.00 for removal of tree down to a stump but did not include the cost to remove the stump. There was discussion about the exact location of the tree and the concern of it falling. A motion was made by Smith with second from Tibbs to allow Randy's tree service to remove the tree in the alley between Race and Arch streets. Vote: 6-0 Motion Carried

Mayor:

-Appointments: Skelton stated that all currently appointed positions would remain the same.

-Committee Chairman Assignments: Skelton handed out the standing committee assignments for review. Nolan raised concerns of conflict with Blackstock being assigned Water & Sewer Chairman and R. Coon being on the Water & Sewer committee due to Clerk S. Coon being direct relation with both and in charge of the water billing for the village. There was also discussion about the need for a police chairman that was available during daytime hours and having board experience. There was concern regarding the number of assignments given to R. Hancock, R. Tibbs and R. Coon. Skelton will reconsider appointments and return them to the board upon completion.

-New bulletin board: Skelton informed the board members that the bulletin board that is hanging on the north facing wall directly outside of the village hall entrance door belongs to him. Skelton stated that to avoid any conflict he was going to remove said bulletin board and the purchase of a new one should be discussed. Citizen McCormick was recognized and stated that his remembrance was that Skelton had donated said board. Skelton replied that the bulletin board was never donated but in fact loaned to the village. Smith asked Skelton if the village could purchase the bulletin board but Skelton did not feel this was a good solution. Skelton agreed to leave bulletin board until June meeting when a decision could be reached about the purchase of a new one.

Clerk:

-Ordinance #476: Motor Vehicle Parking: Clerk Coon and Burris explained the need for passing of Ordinance #476 per IDOT in regards to parking along the North side of Route 136 between 1st Street and 6th Street in San Jose and that the fine limits and effective date also needed to be inserted into said ordinance. Nolan made a motion to accept Ordinance #476: Motor Vehicle Parking also setting the fine limits of minimum \$100 and maximum \$500 to be in effect 30 days after publishing with second from Blackstock. Vote: 6-0 Motion Carried

-Mileage increase: Clerk Coon explained to the incoming board members the reason for issue to be on the agenda. R. Coon made a motion to increase mileage paid by the village to 56.5¢/mile with second from Hancock. Vote: 6-0 Motion Carried

-Village Hall Hours: There was general discussion about the office staying with the current hours but adding an afternoon timeframe of 1:00-5:00 on Wednesdays. Nolan made a motion to leave the current office hours of 8:00am-noon Monday through Friday with the addition of 1:00-5:00 timeframe on Wednesdays to be reviewed in no more than six (6) months for need and use of continuing with second from Smith. Vote: 6-0 Motion Carried Clerk Coon was instructed to make the public aware of change through use of water bills in June with new hours taking effect in June.

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-Codification update: Clerk Coon explained the process and costs attached to the codification of the village code book (Ordinance book). Coon quoted the two quotes received from Municode and Sterling Codifiers. Discussion was had about the need for such a service to be conducted. Blackstock made motion to get codification done on the existing ordinance book through Sterling Codifiers with the cost to be divided up between two budgeted fiscal years upon Sterling Codifiers accepting such an arrangement with second by R. Coon. Vote: 6-0 Motion Carried

-Newly Elected Officials Training: Clerk Coon referenced materials already in board members possession in regards to newly elected officials training being held through the Illinois Municipal League for all new members of the board to attend being held June 26, 2013 in Springfield at a cost of \$50.00 per registrant. Nolan made a motion that the Village pay for any board member wishing to attend with notification being given to Clerk Coon no later than the June 17th board meeting so registration can be secured in advance with understanding that if the registration fee is paid for an individual that subsequently does not attend then that individual will be responsible for reimbursing the town for the registration fee. Motion was seconded by Blackstock. Vote: 6-0 Motion Carried

Mayor Skelton handed out changes made to the standing committee appointments. There was no further discussion about the changes to standing committee appointments. Skelton announced he was appointing Jerry Melton to position of part-time police chief. Clerk Coon made Skelton aware of 65ILCS 5/3.1-30-5 (b) which outlines the proper way to devolve the full-time police chief position. Skelton appointed Jerry Melton to the position of temporary full-time chief. Nolan explained to Melton that all ordinance violations should be issued fairly and to anyone deserving of one. Melton agreed with this statement. There was a discussion about the hours in which Melton would work which ended with Melton given permission to work his normal hours temporarily. Blackstock stated that board members should only question the ordinance officer, when an ordinance is not written, to find out any extenuating circumstances that may pertain. Blackstock went on to explain that questions about ordinance violations being written, should never be taken to citizens and if a board member receives a complaint from a citizen, pertaining to any issue, then the citizen should be encouraged to bring all complaints to the board meetings for the village board to address. Blackstock pointed out that it was her opinion that Hodgson had resigned partly due to board members and citizens second guessing his decisions and always wanting to "b-word" at him. Nolan made a motion to appoint Jerry Melton as temporary police chief until a committee meeting could be held to discuss a permanent appointment with second from Hancock. Vote: 6-0 Motion Carried

Engineer:

-Burriss encouraged the board to review the codified ordinances thoroughly prior to approval to catch any possible mistakes or changes that may need changed.

-Drainage issue 100 E. Race: The board reviewed a proposal remitted by CMT regarding the drainage issue at 100 E. Race with survey and easement estimate of \$3850.00. Burriss explained that maintenance personnel would be able to complete some of the work so \$1080.00 could be taken off of the proposal showing \$2770.00 as the new proposed amount. It was pointed out that this proposal did not include the cost of fixing the problem, just surveying and easement. Nolan asked for issue to be tabled until a Streets & Alleys committee meeting could meet to make recommendations for said issue. Issue so tabled.

-Aerators & Lagoon Issues: Burriss explained to the new board members that two of the aerators at the lagoon are no longer working and one of the remaining aerators is in "bad shape". Burriss also explained a new system being offered by Hydro-Kinetics that would possibly be cheaper to run and maintain. Burriss also suggested the possibility of aeration being in one cell only and not all three which is the current practice.

-Water System Project: Burriss explained that the USDA is looking into funding Phase 2 of the Water replacement project.

-5th & Main Street Drainage: Burriss handed out a proposal for the board to review. Issue was tabled to the Streets & Alleys committee meeting.

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Buildings & Grounds:

-105 W. Walnut: The board reviewed a proposal remitted by CMT regarding the structural evaluation of 105 W. Walnut Street. The proposal for \$2850.00 includes a site visit for structural evaluation, a prepared inspection report and professional testimony, if needed, to prove the structures on property to be in need of condemning. Nolan explained a possible second option for this matter would be to investigate with Mason County the possibility of purchasing said property for taxes owed and then looking at possibility of demolition after purchase is complete. Nolan asked for said issue to be tabled to gather further information and for issue to be placed on the Building & Grounds Committee meeting agenda. Issue so tabled.

-Committee Reports-

Water & Sewer:

-The board review reports from Albers and Clerk Coon. Nolan asked of any possibilities with affording citizens that own swimming pools to be given a reduced rate for filling of their pools that would not include a sewage charge. There was discussion about different ways to accomplish this. K. Albers explained that using a fire hydrant to fill a swimming pool could cause a contamination issue into the Village's water system due to backflow which is prohibited by the EPA.

-Ordinance 458A: Water User Updated Schedule: Clerk Coon explained that the water user schedule being used by the new water billing program needs to be approved by the board. Blackstock made a motion to accept Ordinance 458A: Water User Updated Schedule with second by Smith. Vote: 6-0 Motion Carried

Finance:

-Ordinance #153A: Franchise Agreement with Ameren: Blackstock explained that said Ordinance was an agreement for compensation from Ameren for easement rights. This Ordinance would allow Ameren permission to compensate the Village monetarily in lieu of services rendered and discounted in the past years. One correction was noted in the Ordinance that the county involved referenced as "MACON" be changed to "MASON". Blackstock made a motion to accept Ordinance #153A with noted correction being made with second from Nolan. Vote: 6-0 Motion Carried.

-Budget: Blackstock reported that there is a working budget in progress. Blackstock asked Burris to review working budget for possible input prior to a finalized vote being taken. The board agreed to a finance committee meeting which was set for Monday, June 10th beginning at 6:30pm. Issue tabled until finance committee meeting.

IL Treasurer Association Training: Clerk Coon explained to the board that there was training offered on June 24-25 through the Illinois Treasurer's Association that Treasurer Shelley would like to attend. The informational flyer that had been received by mail was reviewed by the board members. Nolan made a motion to send Treasurer Shelley to said training at the expense of the village with second from Smith. Vote: 6-0 Motion Carried

Economic Development:

-Beautification Project: Blackstock reported that the bench and cigarette urn have been delivered and are currently being housed in the maintenance garage until the picnic table arrives then all pieces will be placed in the empty lot just south of the police station (corner of 2nd and Vine). Blackstock requested the board to consider allotting more money for the completion of the beautification project due to unexpected shipping expenses. Hancock made a motion to allow Blackstock to purchase whatever was still needed to complete the original project that was approved (ref.: Feb. 18, 2013 board meeting minutes) with second from Nolan. Vote: 6-0 Motion Carried

-Skelton suggested looking into possibly purchasing solar powered street lamps for installation along 2nd street.

Police:

-Due to the change in Chief, there was no report to be reviewed.

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Buildings & Grounds:

-International Property Maintenance Code: Nolan explained what the International Property Maintenance Code was and handed out examples of ordinances in place in the City of Havana that could be “mirrored” and potentially implemented in San Jose code books. Skelton stated that this could potentially wait until the code book is codified and Nolan pointed out that something needed to be done now due to the codification process potentially taking upwards of two years for completion. The issue was tabled until June, however, the board was asked to review said examples for further discussion at the June board meeting.

Streets & Alleys: No issues brought

Health: No issues brought

Old Business: No issues brought

New Business: Nolan reported that a possibility exists that there is raw sewage being collected into tanks and moved from the premises at the old high school building. Burris suggested that the Public Health Department be contacted. Blackstock to follow up with said issue.

Clerk Coon explained of a pending issue dealing with an ongoing litigation that need be discussed in a closed session per 5ILCS 120/2 (c) (1). Smith made motion to enter into closed session per 5ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) with second from Blackstock. Vote: 6-0 Motion carried Entered into closed session at 9:45pm

Returned from closed session at 10:00pm by motion from Smith and second from R. Coon Vote: 6-0 Motion Carried

Blackstock made a motion to accept the recommendation made during closed session which was, for Village Attorney Lindner to send the case to Attorney Bates at Woods & Bates for further pursuit, pending his acceptance of the case with second from Hancock. Vote: 6-0 motion carried

Skelton adjourned the meeting at 10:03pm.

Recorded by:
Stacy Coon
Village Clerk

