

Village of Towanda
Board Meeting Minutes 12/04/2023

Acting Mayor: Don Williams

Trustees: Debbie Kinsella
Tammy Pate
Gary Smith
Don Williams
Scott Flack
Amy Woodrum

Village Clerk: Lula F Zimmermann

Treasurer: Bonnie Smith

Supt. of Public Works: Steve Evans

Acting Mayor Don Williams called the meeting to order at 7 pm. The Pledge was recited, and attendance was taken. Debbie Kinsella was absent.

Guests Present: 1 Delegates/Guests were present.

Minutes

The minutes from the November 6th, 2023 board meeting were presented. Tammy Pate made a motion to approve and Scott Flack seconded the motion. A roll call vote carried with all ayes with one board member being absent.

Bills

The bills for the board meeting were presented for approval. Tammy Pate made a motion to approve to pay the bills and Amy Woodrum seconded the motion. A roll call vote carried all ayes with one board member being absent.

There was a couple of additional bills that came to the office on Monday and we added those to The payments for this month. One of the bills was for the New A.E.D. and Bonnie wanted to know which account the payment was coming out of.

Delegations

Diane Wilson with the Towanda Fire Department was here to show us how to use the New A.E.D. Device and tell us about the monthly checks on the equipment that we need To do every month.

Committee Reports

No committee reports.

Action

5.01 Tax Levy

Gary Smith made a motion to accept the Tax Levy for 2024 and Amy Woodrum seconded the Motion. Roll call vote was taken and passed with all ayes with one board member absent.

5.02 Set Committee Meeting Dates – Heather did not get back to me.

5.03 Paid Leave Act Ordinance

Scott Flack made a motion to accept the New Paid Leave Act Ordinance and Gary Smith Seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken and was passed with all ayes with one Board member being absent.

5.04 Approve Employee Bonuses

Scott Flack made a motion to approve the \$175.00 bonus and Gary Smith seconded the Motion. During the roll call vote Amy Woodrum said she had a question and said, “Why can’t We make it \$200.00.” Scott Flack had to rescind his motion and Amy Woodrum made a second motion to make the bonus \$200.00. Roll call vote was taken and passed with all ayes with one board member being absent.

5.05 Change of Internet Service Provider/Extension from Community Bldg. to the Maintenance Building.

A motion was made by Gary Smith to extend the wi-fi capabilities

To the Maintenance Building and Scott Flack seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken and Passed with all ayes, except for the one board member that was absent.

5.06 OSHA Compliance Trench Box

Gary made a motion to buy a Trench Box for when Steve and Sam are digging for safety purposes And no one else seconded. Motion was declined.

5.07 Purchase of New Neptune Equipment: IPAD and New Software

Amy Woodrum made a motion to purchase the New Equipment and Tammy Pate seconded The motion. A roll call vote was taken and passed with all ayes, except one board member Being absent. Scott let us know that this is necessary because the old system will not work after June 1st.

5.08 Join IPWMAN

Gary Smith gave us the information on joining this program. It is only \$100.00 a year and they would send people to help us in an emergency situation at no cost for one week of time if we needed The help. Tammy Pate made the motion to approve joining IPWMAN and Amy Woodrum

Seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and it passed with all ayes, except with the one Board member being absent.

Discussion

All of the discussion items were discussed and voted on in the Action Section of the Board Meeting.

Trustee/Employee/Mayor Reports

Debbie Kinsella

Absent

Scott Flack

Scott told us that we need to replace some of the equipment in the pump house, before we have a bigger problem on our hands. Scott also told us that we needed to decide on the program Upgrade to the Neptune 360 Equipment and Programming for the Water/Garbage billing services.

Gary Smith

Most of the information from Gary Smith was discussed in earlier parts of the meeting. He also told us that the Grants that he was given to look over doesn't really pertain to us.

Tammy Pate

Tammy reminded us that Hunt Henderson is going to retire at the end of this year, but he would finish anything that he had from us at the time. She talked to Mark McGrath and he will come to our meeting in February. She also said she talked to MCLEAN COUNTY POLICE and they would want a two week notice to begin service with them and they would want to know when we wanted them to provide the services and the minimum is 2 hours. The cost for the MC Police would be \$85.00 per hour. She also talked to the Lexington Police Department and there costs would be \$65.00 an hour and they could start whenever we needed them. With both departments telling us that if there was something going on that was more important, that would take precedence before coming to patrol Towanda.

Amy Woodrum

Amy provided us computer pictures of the flowers that would help soak up water at the pond to prevent flooding. She also said that tiling moves water fast but the flowers would help it stay clean as possible. We could use ARPA Money or try and get some Grant Money to help pay for this solution to flooding.

Don Williams

Don let us know that 401 S Madison is having his attorney to draw up a licensing agreement between the Village of Towanda and himself over the fence situation. He is going to pay to his attorney to do this, but Don still has some other work to do on this.

He said that there is a lot yet to do on the South Quincy Properties and we would have to get recommendations from the Zoning Board. He also stated that Kicks was going to wait a little longer on their new sign for right now.

Steve Evans

Steve talked about the Surprise Labor Department inspection and told us about the items that we needed to fix. Steve and Sam are already working on some of the items on the list.

Bonnie Smith

Bonnie told us that one of the Bank Accounts is in dormant status and that we need to make a transaction from it to make it active again.

Lula F Zimmermann

Lula told us that everything is going better this month. She also said she still needs to take Amy's picture so that we can get it hung up on the board in the hallway.

Acting Mayor: Don Williams

Don let us know that the Levy for Airport is not going in effect until 2025, because it did not get signed

Yet. He also said that we have listed on the Website and the Newsletter everyone's name and numbers To contact in case a response is needed right away. Don also told us that everyone has to take The OMA Training every year including Board Members. He also mentioned that he and the Hudson Mayor are going to be getting together with the Bloomington Mayor about the Water Rate Increases Of 33% for the next three years, because we only have a small portion of the Water system that gives Us our water. He will let us know what he finds out at the next meeting.

With nothing else to discuss the Don asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Scott Flack Made the motion and Gary Smith seconded at 10:42 pm

Don Williams, Acting Mayor

Lula F Zimmermann, Village Clerk