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Village of Strasburg
August 17, 2020 Village Board of Trustees Meeting

The Strasburg Village Board of Trustees met on Monday, August 17, 2020 at the Strasburg Community Center. Village President Cinda Held called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with all reciting the "Pledge of Allegiance".

In attendance were Village President Cinda Held, Trustees Robert Anderson, Jack Clark, Jim Connell, MaRanda McClain, Chuck Wade, Village Clerk Linda Oakley, Fiscal Clerk Lisa Rincker, Attorney Dustin Probst, and Tom Newell. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, members were spaced at least 6 foot apart to comply with requirements.

Tom Newell reported on the sludge judge bacteria that he has put in the lagoon. The water is still holding the material in suspension, which means it is working. He noted that the numbers for the lagoon were high. The amount of water going into the lagoon is extremely high which caused the outbound numbers to be high. There is a lot of water infiltration into the sewer. He noted that the Village could rent a machine that would check the flow from the north side of town where the water table is high. He noted that the weeds needed to be removed on the south lagoon. He asked that Bill Riley makes sure to clean the steps prior to EJ coming to take samples. He presented a 3 Phase Proposal for adding aeration to the lagoon. Phase one would involve the west rock filter. He would place 2 pumps to be run by a generator scheduled to run 2 hours in the morning and 2 hours in the evening. Then after a week a sample would be taken and results compared with the east rock filter to see if it tests better or more time needed. The cost would be \$1250 for the parts needed and \$500 labor, plus the price of the samples. **Motion** by Trustee Anderson to proceed with Phase 1 was seconded by Trustee Wade at the cost of \$1750. Motion voted on and carried. Anderson – yea; Clark – yea; Connell – yea; McClain – yea; Wade – yea – 5 yea – 0 nay

Motion by Trustee McClain to approve the Routine Business (approval of 7-20-20 minutes, financial reports, expenditures, general journal entries/transfer of funds) as seconded by Trustee Clark. Motion voted on and carried by voice vote.

Attorney Probst had no report.

A letter had been received from Trustee Anita Renshaw resigning as a Village Trustee as of August 1. Resignation was accepted. President Held noted that she had approached some individuals about the possibility of filling the vacancy. If any of the board members had suggestions, they are to contact President Held.

Motion by Trustee Wade to proceed to place a lien on the Karn property, Shook property and R. Stremming property for overdue sewer bills was seconded by Trustee Connell. Motion voted on and carried. Anderson – yea; Clark – yea; Connell – yea; McClain – yea; Wade – yea – 5 yea – 0 nay

Discussion was held regarding the possible condemnation of several properties in the Village. President Held will be contacting the Shelby County Health Department asking them to inspect the Veach house, Karn house and Shook house to verify whether they are inhabitable or uninhabitable. **Motion** by Trustee Connell to proceed with the condemnation process of the Veach residence was seconded by Trustee McClain. Motion voted on and carried. Anderson – yea; Clark – yea; Connell – yea; McClain – yea; Wade – yea – 5 yea – 0 nay

It had been brought to President Held's attention that portions of Cobra Creek, the big drainage ditch, west of 32 Below had been sprayed with Roundup. As there is now no grass or weed cover, the sides of the ditch are eroding. Tim Weeden has been placing concrete pieces along his side of the ditch to help with the erosion. The Village will need to do address the north side of the ditch

Discussion was held regarding Cobra Creek, otherwise known as the drainage ditch. Individuals who own property along Cobra Creek are responsible to keep the ditch clean. A letter will be sent to all individuals who live along Cobra Creek explaining that it is their responsibility to keep their part of Cobra Creek clean. If they cannot clean it, they can contact the Village and the Village will clean it and charge the landowner for the cleanup.

President Held noted that parking in front of the post office is to be angle parking coming from the west (Route 32.)

Discussion was held regarding the Miller Oil property north of the park. Village was approached to see if we were interested in the property. At the advice of Attorney Probst, prior to the Village accepting/purchasing the property, a letter from the EPA verifying that the property is clear of any contamination should be received. Trustee Connell will contact Roy Miller with questions regarding the property.

Fiscal Clerk Rincker noted that Kelsey Swing, the Village's auditor, held an exit conference with President Held, Clerk Oakley and herself the end of July. Journal entries have been cleared up, adjustments made and the village accounts are now in balance with the QuickBooks program. She noted that Ms. Swing has been extremely helpful and insightful on how various entries need to be made. Ms. Swing hopes to present the audit to the board at the September meeting.

President Held reported that the York Acres committee had met on August 12. She has talked with EJ Water Cooperative and Ameren regarding expanding York Acres to the north. Both EJ and Ameren stated that it may not cost the Village much money upfront depending on what we set up with them. President Held will be setting up a meeting with Lee Beckman regarding the expansion plus the water management for the entire York Acres.

The 2020 Trick or Treat night date will hopefully be set at the September board meeting. Due to COVID, the board did not want to set a date at this time.

At the current time only 15 households are needed to sign up for the fiber optic. A list of village residences was divided up amongst board members. Board members will be contacting individuals in the Village to encourage the sign-up.

No further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Linda D. Oakley
Village Clerk