

# Village of Tonica

Board of Trustees Meeting

Village Hall

March 21, 2022

The regular meeting was called to order by President Kevin Sluder at 7:00 p.m. Monday March 21, 2022. Responding to roll call were, Bob Foly, Heather Sherman, Todd Anderson, Mark Zimmer, Mike Supan Jr. and Jessica Bonnell. Robert Steele, Dave Wiesbrock and Tom Goskusky were absent. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

## **GUESTS- Lowell Beenenga & Robert Hobneck Jr.- Tonica American Legion**

- Read and submitted a paper regarding the military history of Tonica, concern for how the Cannon Shelter is being cared for and displeasure of snow piling, ruts, rocks etc on the American Legion property.

**Sally Thomas & Lauren Lowers** – Discussed a disagreement between her family and the Public Works Dept. She also asked for reimbursement for rental equipment that was used to fix a water leak that turned out to be the Village's responsibility. The board will discuss the matter and address it accordingly.

**Dan Francisco-** Asked for a variance to build a garage on his property located at 109 N First St.

## **Village Clerk Report - Heather Sherman**

- Water bills are done.
- The minutes of February's meeting were presented and approved. A motion was made by Todd Anderson and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mark Zimmer.

## **Treasurer Report - Jessica Bonnell**

- Monthly bills were presented and approved. A motion was made by Mike Supan Jr. and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mark Zimmer.

## **Police Report – Rollen Copeland**

- The new computer system for the Police Dept. will cost \$1000 with an annual maintenance fee of \$540.
- Ashlyn Haage was hired as a new part time officer.

- Would like to get an AED to have on hand.

### **Water & Sewer/Streets & Alley Report – Jake Summers**

- New siren is working smoothly.
- Had a water main break on Oneca St.
- A new muffler was installed on the S-10.
- A sewer backup at a residence ended up being on the Village's end therefore the Village will reimburse the resident for their roto-rooter bill in the amount of \$300.

### **Engineer's Report - Jack Kusek**

- Talked to someone involved in the new tennis courts at Washington Park in Peru about the cost of the project. The bid was extremely high.
- Blower went out at the sewer treatment plant.

### **Attorney's Report - Robert Steele**

- N/A

### **Trustee Comments/Complaints**

- Tina Lund & Mary Kay Keutzer will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt at the Tonica Park on April 9<sup>th</sup>.
- The Village made a Proclamation for Realtor Fair Housing
- The Village also made a Proclamation for Lookout for Motorcycles

A motion was made by Mark Zimmer and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Todd Anderson to adjourn meeting at 9:10 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Sherman  
Village Clerk

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14 March 2022

Comments directed to the Tonica Town Board Meeting

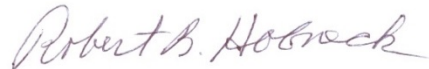
It is said that a country is judged by the manner in which it remembers its history and preserves its heritage. Also, men can not select the time in which they must live, but only react and do the best that they can during their lives. There have been generations of Tonicans that answered the call to participate in two of the greatest wars this nation has fought, the American Civil War and World War II. They were not allowed to pick the times in which they lived, but took a sacred oath (all veterans still do this when they enlist). These men and women went forth from this small place and preserved our Constitution and ended slavery. The names of then unknown American towns and places became commonplace -such places as Forts Donelson and Henry, Shiloh and Stones River. Civil War soldiers from Tonica bled and died in these places. In 1941 another group of Tonicans served in the most devastating world war that human history has ever seen. They served in North Africa, the European Continent and the far reaches of the Pacific Ocean. American logistics and might defeated the Nazis and Japanese Militarists that threatened our very survival and representative democracy. It must be noted that these men and woman left Tonica from the little depot that became our Cannon Shelter and most returned to make a life for themselves and allowed Tonica to prosper. Sadly, all the men who fought in the Civil War are gone to the ages. We only have one World War Two Veteran left from a large body of men and women who made this town a great place to live. We at the Tonica Legion have helped bury many of these veterans. When they were still alive, they were everything to their children and the people of the town.

Our Cannon Shelter Memorial, an extensive historical preservation project undertaken by private citizens and community organizations such as the 20<sup>th</sup> Century Club and the Tonica Commercial Men, was intended to protect an invaluable Village resource, an American Civil War Cannon. The Memorial was created to remember not only the numerous Tonicans who served in the American Civil War, but all our veterans. It should be preserved, not neglected. The views of the shelter and the green area adjacent should be preserved, not misused by anyone for simple expediency. That small rectangle of green is the last part of the ICRR Green Diamond legacy to the village. When we do our Memorial Day Celebration, it is so green and so inviting to veterans and the attendees to that service. We ask that this board consider the value of this gratefully undeveloped piece of Tonica and cooperate with our Legion Post to keep it attractive.

As a last note, I believe that the cannon in the shelter is a Ten Pound Parrott Rifle. I researched this cannon and it was stated that of the thousands made and used in the Civil War, only 308 remain. This cannon is a valuable and fragile historical item. It is not complete as many of the tools the cannon crews used are themselves antiques. I would like to contact the Rock Island Weapons Museum to look it over and assess value, condition, and future preservation.

I request that this document be part of the Village Board minutes from this meeting.

Thank you for your attention.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hobneck".

Robert B Hobneck