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Village of Strasburg  
April 20, 2020 Village Board of Trustees Meeting

The Strasburg Village Board of Trustees met on Monday, April 20, 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 Trustees Robert Anderson, Jack Clark, Jim Connell, MaRanda McClain, and Chuck Wade, Village Clerk Linda Oakley, Attorney Dustin Probst and Tom Newell. Absent was Trustee Anita Renshaw and Fiscal Clerk Lisa Rincker. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, members were spaced at least 6 foot apart to comply with requirements.

Mr. Newell presented two proposals regarding the sewer lagoon. In Proposal 1 (Sludge Judge) he would add the Sludge Reducing Bacteria to the primary cell hopefully by May 1<sup>st</sup> as water temperature needs to be 55 to 60 degrees to start. The SRB then to be applied weekly by village employee. Cost of SRB & equipment to disperse is \$2100. Mr. Newell's cost is \$1000.

Proposal #2 was a quote for aerating the rock filters and lagoon. Mr. Newell would begin with the west rock filter and add 2 pumps, with cases and tip, powered by 12/2 underground wire to be run with village generator. Village employee to run it 2 hours in morning and 2 hours in evening. Sample to be taken after a week and compare results between the west and east filters to see if more time is needed. Cost for pumps, cases, tips and underground wire is \$750 plus price of sample tests and \$300 Mr. Newell's labor of \$300. If west filter readings have improved, then use same procedure on east filter. Cost for pumps, cases, tips and underground wire is for the east filter is additional \$750, plus \$300 labor. Mr. Newell would then place a pump in #2 cell at inlet and a pump at the end of inlet of #1 cell on a pontoon to aerate the inbound water. Another generator would be needed to operate these 2 pumps for an approximate cost of \$500. Cost of generator plus pumps and parts would total approximately \$1500, with Mr. Newell's labor at \$600. At this point Mr. Newell proposed to auto start generators plus put a new one at rock filters to auto start. The village would purchase the pumps, wire, generator, pieces and part for this. To accomplish Proposal #2 the Village would need a permit from IEPA with application prepared by Mr. Lee Beckman, Engineer.

Mr. Newell left the meeting at 7:07 PM.

Motion by Trustee Anderson to approve the Routine Business which included the minutes of the March 16, 2020 regular meeting, the financial reports, expenditures, general journal entries and bills to be paid was seconded by Trustee McClain. Motion voted on and carried by voice vote.

Attorney Probst noted that the board would be working on the village's budget in May. Clerk Oakley and Fiscal Clerk Rincker will provide Mr. Probst with figures prior to the May village board meeting.

A discussion was held regarding placing a lien on homes for unpaid sewer bills.

Clerk Oakley noted that a copy for the trustees' information of the Motor Fuel Tax Compliance Review was in their packet.

President Held presented the information from EJ. She noted that as per the board's request samples were taken in two places. The location of the 1<sup>st</sup> sample where EJ had been taken samples was

lower than the allowable level where the 2<sup>nd</sup> sample was higher than the allowable level. Board members questioned if Bill Riley needs to clean the runway at the lagoon so that the levels would even out. President Held noted that EJ's Gene Sligar would like to work with Mr. Newell on the lagoon as far as what Mr. Newell will be doing. So that they have an idea as to what Mr. Newell is doing as EJ is the one that signs off on our sewer.

Trustee Anderson noted that Eric Emmerich EJ Water Cooperative, had mentioned to him about the school district's plan to send their sewer to the village's lagoon. The village will take no action until approach by the school district.

President Held noted that as per Mr. Emmerich the Village's Rural Bond loans should be paid off by the end of the week. That would allow the village to close the water accounts and transfer the monies into the General Fund.

Motion by Trustee Anderson to adopt Ordinance 2020-1 "Ordinance Closing the Water Fund" was seconded by Trustee Clark. Motion voted on and passed. Anderson – yea; Clark – yea, Connell – yea; McClain – yea; Renshaw – absent; Wade – yea. 5 yea – 0 nay 1 absent.

Motion by Trustee Clark to approve Tom Newell's Sludge Proposal with the village purchasing three (3) buckets of the Sludge Reducing Bacteria (\$1400) and the equipment to disperse the material (\$700) plus a \$1,000 fee to Mr. Newell was seconded by Trustee Connell. Motion voted on and passed. Anderson – yea; Clark – yea, Connell – yea; McClain – yea; Renshaw – absent; Wade – yea. 5 yea – 0 nay 1 absent.

Motion by Trustee Connell to contact Lee Beckman, Engineer, to apply for the IEPA Permit, according to Mr. Newell's specifications in Proposal #2, was seconded by Trustee McClain. Motion voted on and passed. Anderson – yea; Clark – yea, Connell – yea; McClain – yea; Renshaw – absent; Wade – yea. 5 yea – 0 nay 1 absent.

Action on Proposal #2 will be not be taken until the permit from IEPA is received.

No action was taken by the board on the establishment of a moratorium on late fees during the COVIDS-19 state of emergency.

Clerk Oakley was asked to again contact Matt Figgins for an estimate to install a motor trouble light about ground at the 1<sup>st</sup>/Spruce Lift Station.

Clerk Oakley presented information from Wabash Communications regarding cost of fiber optic. Board wants to know if the village can get a hot spot to run of our service. Clerk Oakley will check Mr. Greg Harvey the Business Sales Executive.

President Held noted that village employee Bill Riley will be working for the Corp of Engineers mowing on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays each week. He will be working for the village of Thursday, Friday and Saturday. The board noted that they did not him working on Sunday. President Held will check with Kurt Friese regarding mowing the ballpark.

President Held noted that during this year's Gnome Census a total of 1,343 gnomes were reported. No further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Linda D. Oakley  
Village Clerk