**November 7, 2024**

**Village of Sparland**

**123 Center Street**

**Sparland, IL 61565**

**Meeting Minutes**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** 6:00

* Pledge of Allegiance

**ROLL CALL:** PRESIDENT PRO TEM SAM ALLEN: **PRESENT**

TRUSTEE JIM MANNON: **PRESENT**

TRUSTEE CHAELA DENTINGER: **PRESENT**

TRUSTEE SHELLY URNIKIS: **PRESENT**

ATTORNEY JOSHUA HERMAN: **PRESENT**

Attorney Herman introduced Attorney Timm Higus of Miller, Hall & Triggs, LLC, who was present to take the minutes of the meeting in the absence of the Village Clerk

**APPOINTMENT OF DAVE MURPHY AS NEW VILLAGE CLERK:**

MOTION TO APPOINT MADE BY TRUSTEE MANNON; SECOND BY TRUSTEE DENTINGER.

ROLL CALL: TRUSTEE MANNON – AYE

TRUSTEE DENTINGER – AYE

TRUSTEE URNIKIS – AYE

PRESIDENT PRO TEM ALLEN – AYE

**MOTION CARRIED**

**APPOINTMENT OF TINA KRUS AS VILLAGE TRUSTEE:**

MOTION TO APPOINT MADE BY TRUSTEE DENTINGER; SECOND BY TRUSTEE MANNON

ROLL CALL: TRUSTEE MANNON – AYE

TRUSTEE DENTINGER – AYE

TRUSTEE URNIKIS – AYE

PRESIDENT PRO TEM ALLEN – AYE

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES:** Tabled as minutes were not available for Board consideration.

**MOTION TO APPROVE BILLS:**

MOTION TO APPROVE MADE BY TRUSTEE DENTINGER; SECOND BY TRUSTEE MANNON

**AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION TO APPROVE TREASURER’S REPORT**:

MOTION TO APPROVE MADE BY TRUSTEE MANNON; SECOND BY TRUSTEE URNIKIS

**AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 MOTION CARRIED**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Shelly Hranka**: Ms. Hranka introduced herself and discussed her recent FOIA request relating to the Village’s financial records, expressing interest in the financial health of the Village. She offered copies of the Village’s FOIA response to the Village. She concluded by offering to assist Trustees with budgeting and financial review, should it be requested.

**Ronny Squires**: Mr. Squires commented on communications between his bank and Village representatives, including the Village’s response to a question regarding the probability of continued employment. Mr. Squires also discussed the vacancy of a property he owns and disputes his water bill. Mr. Squires did not contact anyone to shut-off water because he was restricted from contacting Shawn.

**Margaret Tuny:** Ms. Tuny introduced herself as former Village treasurer and offered to serve, should it be requested.

**Brian Dentinger:** Mr. Dentinger commented on Village transparency and Trustee review of action items at least 48 hours before they are asked to vote on an item. Trustee Mannon inquired about a truck repair update and Mr. Dentinger responded that the Village needs to use its own personnel resources to repair the truck.

**Ronny Squires stated that he will provide quotes for truck repair.**

**Water Report:**

Stan reported that Midland Middle School has not given a definitive answer regarding whether it will proceed with the plan to meter its water usage. Midland received a quote for plumbing for approximately $14,000 to prepare for meter. Village will pay for the meter and vendor will hold price until the end of the year. Attorney Herman discussed brief history of agreement and that Midland Middle School is paying a flat fee that is likely in excess of their actual use and hoped to meter the water. School District delay is working in Village’s favor.

**MOTION TO APPROVE BID FOR PURCHASE OF METER AT MIDLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL**: **TABLED**

MOTION TO TABLE MADE BY TRUSTEE DENTINGER; SECOND BY TRUSTEE MANNON

**AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 MOTION TO TABLE CARRIED**

Stan discussed contract with PACE labs, which will be submitted for approval at the next Village Board Meeting. Stan also discussed the issue of culvert repair. Stan will submit quotes for televised scoping to determine extent of repair needed.

**MOTION TO APPROVE LOW BID FOR WATER TOWER COATING $495k**:

Discussion and presentation by Chamlin & Associates, which recommends accepting Neumann Co. to recoat for $429,900. Chamlin representative noted that work must be completed by or before August of 2025 and that Village must also accept bid within 90 days of receiving bid.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE BID CONTINGENT UPON RECIEVEING LOAN FINANCING THROUGH BANK MADE BY TRUSTEE DENTINGER; SECOND BY TRUSTEE MANNON

ROLL CALL: TRUSTEE MANNON – NO

TRUSTEE DENTINGER – AYE

TRUSTEE URNIKIS – AYE

TRUSTEE KRUS - AYE

PRESIDENT PRO TEM ALLEN – AYE

**MOTION CARRIED**

The Village Board recognized Barb Rummerfield to make a Public Comment. Ms. Rummerfield commented that she did not fire Margaret Tuny and that Ms. Tuny was an excellent treasurer.

**MOTION TO CONSIDER FENCING IN VILLAGE DUMPSTER AND APPROVING BID DUE TO INCREASED ACTIVITY: TABLED**

MOTION TO TABLE MADE BY TRUSTEE DENTINGER; SECOND BY TRUSTEE KRUS

ROLL CALL: TRUSTEE MANNON – NO

TRUSTEE DENTINGER – AYE

TRUSTEE URNIKIS – AYE

TRUSTEE KRUS - AYE

PRESIDENT PRO TEM ALLEN – AYE

**MOTION TO TABLE CARRIED**

**MOTION TO DISCUSS POINTS OF COMMUNICATION WITHIN VILLAGE:** Discussion of need to update website and remove Trustee’s cell phone number. Discussion that website should include Village Hall number and individual trustee’s emails.

**MOTION TO APPROVE/DISCUSS FOIA CHARGES DUE TO INCREASED ACTIVITY:**

MOTION TO CHARGE $0.15 PER PAGE AFTER FIRST 50 PAGES OF RESPONSE MADE BY TRUSTEE MANNON; SECOND BY TRUSTEE DENTINGER

ROLL CALL: TRUSTEE MANNON – AYE

TRUSTEE DENTINGER – AYE

TRUSTEE URNIKIS – AYE

TRUSTEE KRUS - AYE

PRESIDENT PRO TEM ALLEN – AYE

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ADDRESS DELINQUENT WATER ACCOUNTS:**

MOTION TO REDUCE RONNIE SQUIRERS’S BILL TO THAT OF AN UNOCCUPIED ADDRESS BY TRUSTEE URNIKIS; SECOND BY TRUSTEE MANNON

ROLL CALL: TRUSTEE MANNON – AYE

TRUSTEE DENTINGER – AYE

TRUSTEE URNIKIS – AYE

TRUSTEE KRUS - AYE

PRESIDENT PRO TEM ALLEN – AYE

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Discussion of 512 Highway Complaint:** There is no water service to the property; other issues (throwing debris on the property) is a neighbor dispute and not a Village concern. President pro tem Allen to research whether owner is being billed for sewer.

**Discussion of 308 Second Street Complaint:** Village spoke to Mr. Holler about cleaning up the property. Village will rely on report from complainant to determine if issues persist.

**Discussion of Employee Policy:** Village has no employee policy beyond Ordinance and sexual harassment policy. Trustee Dentinger to draft one and will be added to subsequent meeting agendas.

Jessica Roth resigned her position as Village Clerk and must be removed as authorized signer at Village’s financial institution(s).

Katie Bloomgren resigned her position as Village Treasurer and must be removed as authorized signer at Village’s financial institution(s).

**MOTION TO ADD DAVE MURPHY AS AUTHORIZED SIGNER TO VILLAGE FINANCIAL ACCOUNT(S) BY TRUSTEE URNIKIS; SECOND BY TRUSTEE MANNON**

ROLL CALL: TRUSTEE MANNON – AYE

TRUSTEE DENTINGER – AYE

TRUSTEE URNIKIS – AYE

TRUSTEE KRUS - AYE

PRESIDENT PRO TEM ALLEN – AYE

**MOTION CARRIED**

**DISCUSS UNIFORM COMPLAINT POLICY:**

MOTION TO ADOPT UNIFORM COMPLAINT FORM AS AMENDED BY TRUSTEE DENTINGER; SECOND BY TRUSTEE KRUS

ROLL CALL: TRUSTEE MANNON – NO

TRUSTEE DENTINGER – AYE

TRUSTEE URNIKIS – AYE

TRUSTEE KRUS - AYE

PRESIDENT PRO TEM ALLEN – AYE

**MOTION CARRIED**

MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS 1) THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION, DISCIPLINE, PERFORMANCE, OR DISMISSAL OF SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)) AND 2) THE SELECTION OF A PERSON TO FILL A PUBLIC OFFICE (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3)) MADE BY TRUSTEE KRUS; SECOND BY TRUSTEE MANNON

**AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION TO ADD CHAELA DENTINGER AS AUTHORIZED SIGNER TO VILLAGE FINANCIAL ACCOUNT(S) BY TRUSTEE URNIKIS; SECOND BY TRUSTEE MANNON**

ROLL CALL: TRUSTEE MANNON – AYE

TRUSTEE DENTINGER – AYE

TRUSTEE URNIKIS – AYE

TRUSTEE KRUS - AYE

PRESIDENT PRO TEM ALLEN – AYE

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION TO ADJOURN MADE BY TRUSTEE MANNON; SECOND BY TRUSTEE URNIKIS;

**AYES: 5 NAYS: 0 MOTION CARRIED**