

Monday, March 18, 2024 Regular Meeting Village Hall 7:00 pm

The regular meeting of the Village Board opened with Assistant to the Mayor Laura McMahon presiding. Village Trustees present were as follows: Roy Dean Dickey, Natalie Krause, Bryan Bingel and Chris Klingeman. Jeremy Embrich was absent.

Visitors present were Charlie Heyl-Building and Zoning, John Dagner, Courtney Dagner, Jerry Cross, Dru Jackson, Danny Nuernberger-Code Enforcement, Chad Easton-Village Administrator, Kelli Jones, Terry Jenkins, Mike Delong, Mike Trotter-County Journal and Theresa Holloway.

Assistant to the Mayor Laura McMahon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Bryan and seconded by Chris to accept the previous minutes. Roy Dean made a note that where the previous minutes stated a committee meeting was held in his reports was a meeting between the Village manager and a past manager and himself. Motion passed. 5-ayes, 0-nayes, 1-absent (Jeremy).

A motion was made by Chris and seconded by Roy Dean to accept the Village Financial reports as presented. Motion passed. 5-ayes, 0-nayes, 1-absent (Jeremy).

No correspondence.

Assistant to the Mayor Laura reported that E-Recycling will be held June 1, 8-12. The roof at the Food Pantry is complete except for the metal trim fascia on the front of the building.

Roy Dean had no report.

Natalie had no report.

Bryan reported that the Storm sirens are working as they should.

Chris reported that Coal festival Trivia is coming up. Laura has the basket donation ready it just needs a few gift cards yet.

Laura had no report.

Charlie Heyl let the Board know that the skirting on the trailers that were just moved into the South Trailer Park will have skirting put on by April 3, 2024. Screening and background checks will be done before anyone can move in. There are 4 roof mount Solar Panels going in and the County will be doing the inspection.

Village Administrator Chad Easton reported that KWD approved to add Matt Baker to the utility Billing. The Pumps at the pump house are short cycling. The pumps were put in new in

2007. They are currently using 1/3 of water capacity and are calling for water too early. An Engineer was called in to check the pumps. Chad and he walked the plant and went to the water tower and adjusted by filling it 2 less ft and making the duration of asking for water longer. The hydrants were then tested, and they dropped PSI by 2 lbs. There have been no complaints about this change. Fixing this issue caused another problem. The pump no longer knows when to stop filling, so it is running causing issues for surrounding communities. A timer will need to be placed on the pump, so it doesn't run everyone dry. Chad is working on MFT to oil and chip the hot spots on roads. The overlay for Main St. will be done this year with a cost of \$260,000.00. Al at Warner Communications sent over all information he needs for the 10-year renewal of VHF frequency. LOCIS upgrade service contract and hourly training rate for upgrade needs to be approved. JF Electric and the State have been sent information for the Stop lights at 4-way for approval.

Jerry Cross asked Village Administrator Chad Easton about the approach at the Railroad Crossing on Lyons St. and the resurfacing of the road. The \$172,000.00 is a Federal Grant for the Railroad Crossing approach and will be reimbursed. Oil and chipping will be done on the needed spots this year and more oil and chipping can be done next year. Jerry asked where we are on the retention pond. Volkert has been contacted and engineering needs to be completed yet. Updates will be given. We did not get emergency fund grant this year.

John Dagner made a correction to the \$20,000.00 that he had previously stated was paid to American Legal Publishing. It is \$14,769.00 more than that. This has been going on for more than 2 years and feels it should be added to the agenda. He suggested a dial up number for those who cannot make the meetings. He reminded the board that when bids come in, they cannot suggest going back to a competing bidder and ask them to lower their bid. It is illegal. He suggested that the Board read up on Ordinances 1-1-3, 1-2-11, 1-2-26 and 1-1-20 on Open Meeting Act and FOIA requirements. He says we currently have conflicting Ordinances and Chad can't fulfill the position according to the Ordinances. He suggests the board understand amending Ordinances. He said he had heard a rumor that the Village Attorney was at a prior meeting to stop any bullying.

Courtney Dagner has been going through the 2023 Audit and pointed out to the Board that it was noted by Scheffel Boyle about a deficiency in the audit because the Village of Marissa does not have an accountant on payroll. Courtney says that the board should consider the benefits and cost of hiring an accounting staff. She also urged the board to check into the FDIC Insurance. She noticed in the audit that \$1,248,543 was uninsured. Courtney noted that the 2023 budget for Code Enforcement was under budget and suggested that the board consider making changes in the next budget. Courtney suggested that we look into incentives such as sign on bonus, retention bonus and higher pay for Police. She has only seen an ad in the paper a couple times for Marissa Police but has seen them in the paper for other towns more often.

Assistant to the Mayor Laura McMahan read a letter of resignation from Mayor Jeremy Embrich effective Monday, March 18, 2024 at 7:00 pm.

Village Clerk Jennifer Nuernberger asked for a motion to approve a temporary Meeting Chairman.

Bryan made a motion to appoint Laura temporary meeting Chairman and was seconded by Roy Dean. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Roy Dean-yes, Natalie-yes, Bryan-yes, Chris-yes, Laura-abstain due to conflict of interest.

Bryan made a motion and Roy Dean a second to appoint Laura McMahon Acting Mayor. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Roy Dean-yes, Natalie-yes, Bryan-yes, Chris-yes, Laura-abstain due to conflict of interest.

Village Clerk Jennifer Nuernberger Swore in Acting Mayor Laura McMahon.

Acting Mayor Laura McMahon appointed Bryan Bingel Assistant to the Mayor. A motion was made by Roy Dean and seconded by Natalie to accept Acting Mayor McMahon's appointment. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Roy Dean-yes, Natalie-yes, Bryan-abstain due to conflict of interest, Chris-yes, Laura-yes.

Acting Mayor McMahon read a letter of resignation from the Zoning Board from James Owen.

Emergency Radio License expires every 10 years. A motion was made by Bryan and seconded by Roy Dean to approve the Warner Communications FCC 10-year renewal for VHF frequency at \$125.00. Motion passed. 5-ayes, 0-nayes.

A motion was made by Chris and seconded by Natalie to approve the LOCIS upgrade service contract. Motion passed. 5-ayes, 0-nayes.

A motion was made by Bryan and seconded by Chris to approve the LOCIS hourly training rate for upgrade. Motion passed. 5-ayes, 0-nayes.

A motion was made by Chris and seconded by Natalie to enter Executive session for Personnel at 7:40 pm. Motion passed with roll call as follows. Roy Dean-yes, Natalie-yes, Bryan-yes, Chris-yes, Laura-yes.

A motion was made by Chris and seconded by Bryan to end Executive session at 7:55 pm and enter Regular session. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Roy Dean-yes, Natalie-yes, Bryan-yes, Chris-yes, Laura-yes.

A motion was made by Roy Dean and seconded by Chris to adjourn at 7:57 pm. Motion passed. 5-ayes, 0-nayes.