

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

Visitors present were Mike Trotter, with the County Journal, Village Attorney Terry Bruckert, Jerry Cross, John Dagner, Courtney Dagner, Building and Zoning Administrator Charlie Heyl, Village Administrator Chad Easton, Code Enforcement Officer Danny Nuernberger, Trish Baker, Matt Baker, Lindsey Perrine, Mike Delong, David Keim, and Larry Weekley.

Acting Mayor Embrich led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Bryan and seconded by Laura to accept the minutes as presented. Motion passed. 5-ayes, 0-nayes.

A motion was made by Chris and seconded by Laura to approve the summary of Village Financial report as presented. Motion passed. 5-ayes, 0-nayes.

The Village received a Thank you card from MVP Ruby Lehman thanking the board for making Marissa a better town.

Mayor report will be later about personnel.

Roy Dean reported that he spoke with Justin about maintaining ditches quarterly.

Bryan reported that the storm sirens are working as they should. He noted that a better plan needs to be put in for missing persons. We need to put a 2<sup>nd</sup> system in place.

Chris reported that Coal Festival Committee will be holding a trivia night on April 6, 2024, at the Community Center. Each organization will be donating a basket and he asked if the Village would donate one.

Laura reported that we will be starting the work from the park grant soon.

Building and Zoning had no permits issued but Charlie spoke about the 4 double wide trailers that have been moved into the South end trailer park. Rumors were going around that immigrants were moving in, and he wanted to let everyone know that the trailers are legal and will require a final inspection by him and an occupancy permit before they can be lived in. The manager of the trailer park is trying to clean it up and works with Charlie on any issues.

Chad reported that he had breakfast with the Fire Department, and they discussed the Solar project. MFD will not be signing off on any building permits with solar projects. They took a tour of the Sewer Plant and made plans for fire emergencies. Tyler Lewis let Chad know that the drop ceiling in the Ambulance shed fell. The Village workers will go clean up the mess and take down the drop ceiling that is remaining. Dr. Behn's Dentist office rents from the Village. Chad spoke with them about the fire extinguishers. The past 2 years they have had to be replaced because the pins had been pulled. One of their windows is rotted, moldy and leaking. The window needs to be replaced so we need to get contractor bids. Sewer Plant security cameras are in place, but the remote view is lagging. Dump truck is back and works great. It is \$52.00 over budget. It needs a trailer to pull the skidster and mini excavator. There is one pump down at the Sewer Plant. Cardinal Pumps will have one to us in about 4 weeks. The cost is \$6,200.00 and insurance should cover it. Lift station pump has been giving incorrect readings and is old. Cardinal Pumps cleared a clog to fix the issue and are getting specs and a price for a new one. Waste Management has an exhaust house that requires a charcoal filter, and they will be replacing it monthly. They are also going to fix the roof in the exhaust house and this should help control the smell. Letting has been submitted for the Grade School sidewalk project. Playground equipment will be ordered this month, mulch in March and concrete pad in May for the Park Grant. Budget is in process of being done so anything that you would like to see in the budget please get it in. Installation of the new water meters is almost finished we are waiting on some of the larger meters to be shipped. The updated billing system should be in use by May. Gate for train tracks will be done in May. Money will come from the MFT account and will be reimbursed. We need to know how to proceed with fixing the road by 1<sup>st</sup> meeting in April.

Courtney wanted to know if Jeremy had the Committee reports ready that she asked for. Jeremy needs to rearrange the layout and then he will get them to her. She asked if they had made any progress in transitioning the Village Administrator position to eliminate it. Jeremy told her that he is grateful for the position, and he leans on Chad a lot to help him. He has been working a lot and he was sick for a few days. Roy Dean also spoke and said he thinks that the position is good for the Village. Courtney wanted to know when we planned on hiring more Police. She stated that we currently have 1 full time, 1 part time and 1 in the academy. Courtney says she has spoken to a few of the Police that left and says they told her it is because of the Administration. Jeremy told her had had exit interviews with the Police who left and that is not the reason they left. Jeremy told her that we have placed ads in the paper, but the applications are not coming in. Attorney Terry Bruckert told her that represents several Communities, and they are all having problems getting Police Officers. He used Columbia as an example.

John asked what percentage of the Ordinance had been reviewed. Jeremy is 40% finished. It is a lot of information, and he wants to make sure he double checks and reviews everything. He asked if the empty position on the Board was going to be filled. He said that when Dustin left his position was filled quickly. Courtney has expressed interest and asked if she is not qualified. He asked Village Attorney Terry Bruckert about the past pay for meetings not held and Terry told him that it had already been discussed and he was not debating about pay.

A motion was made by Chris and seconded by Laura to approve the Solar project site control agreement. Motion passed. 5-ayes, 0-nayes.

A motion was made by Laura and seconded by Chris for approval of Engineering fees for 2022 IGD grant on Fulton St. sidewalk reconstruction over the contracted amount. Resolution 3.2023 was approved for \$15,000.00 and we are \$7,000.00 over budget. There is an \$11,000.00 bill that needs to be paid and we should pay it and no more. We have \$33,000.00 invested and if we stop the project, we could lose future IGD grants because they are based on a point system. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Roy Dean-yes, Bryan-yes, Chris-yes, Laura-yes, Jeremy-yes.

A motion was made by Bryan and seconded by Chris for approval of bid letting results for 2022 IGD grant on Fulton St. sidewalk reconstruction for Grade School sidewalk. The lowest bid is from KRB Excavating, Inc for \$79,916.25. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Roy Dean-yes, Bryan-yes, Chris-yes, Laura-yes, Jeremy-yes.

A motion was made by Jeremy and seconded by Laura to approve the \$350.00 proposed monthly service plan for Clearwave fiber at Village Hall. Motion passed. 5-ayes, 0-nayes.

A motion was made by Laura and seconded by Roy Dean to approve a Park reservation on May 18, 2024, for Chad and Jessica Easton a Graduation party with music from 3p.m to 10p.m. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Roy Dean-yes, Bryan-yes, Chris-yes, Laura-yes, Jeremy-yes.

A motion was made by Chris and seconded by Bryan to enter Executive Session at 7:55 p.m. for 2C11/Probable or imminent litigation. Motion passed. 5-ayes, 0-nayes.

A motion was made by Chris and seconded by Bryan to end Executive session at 8:26 pm. Motion passed. 5-ayes, 0-nayes.

A motion was made by Roy Dean and seconded by Jeremy to adjourn at 8:28. Motion passed. 5ayes, 0-nayes.