

## **Village of Steward Board of Trustees Minutes**

**402 Main St, Steward IL 60553**

**May 13, 2024**

The meeting was called to order by President Hugh McKiski at 7:00 PM and the Pledge to the US Flag was recited.

Present were Zach Burkhart, Erik Maertz, Laura Salazar, James Tyler, and Rylee Bates. Chris Barber had an excused absence as he had to work. Matt Hayes was present. Guest was Karen Bonnell, who was taking the minutes for Chrissy Smardo, who was unable to be there.

The agenda was amended to include 8.A.3. 403 Main St water service. Also added was an explanation (Purpose: Looking into acquiring property) under 13 for Closed Session. Rylee moved to accept the agenda as amended. Zach seconded it. Motion carried.

Laura moved to accept the minutes as provided for the April 8, 2024 meeting. Zach seconded it. Motion carried.

Matt gave the treasurer's report. He pointed out that this was the final month of the fiscal year. Expenses were under budget and Income was over budget. (The Treasurer's report is attached.) Rylee moved to approve the treasurer's report. Laura seconded it. Motion passed.

Reviewing the bank accounts to move money into higher interest rates was tabled until next month pending the outcome of the Closed Session.

The Accounts Payable were presented. James moved to approve them as presented. Zach seconded it. Roll call vote: Zach, yes; Erik, yes; Laura, yes; James, yes; Rylee, yes.

Karen Bonnell was recognized as a visitor.

Committee Reports:

Water:

1. Still waiting to hear when Well #2 work will begin

2. Phase 1 water project has been started. Delays have been caused by delay in railroad personnel, parts and weather. The boring has been completed under the railroad.

3. In order to put in a water softener in the Post Office building for the apartments, the water needs to be turned off, but the valve could not be located. The asphalt will need to be dug up and replaced.

#### Park/Village Property

1. Report of Property Maintenance. There is a lock and key now for the depot. Laura is looking into getting new doors. They discussed getting doors similar to the ones that are original through David Hayes or a big box store. It will probably need to be special-ordered due to the size. We need a contractor to measure and install. Laura will also try to begin to clean the depot. For now the lumber will stay. A work day is needing to be schedule at the park during summer for pavilion repairs and playground equipment.

#### B. Park/Village Property

##### 1. Report of Property Maintenance

a. Depot Business- Repairs and Museum--a lock and key for depot have been obtained. A contractor needs to be found to get exact measurement of the doors and install them. They should be similar to the originals that are currently there. Asking David Hayes or ordering from a big box store were discussed.

b. Alleys--no action has been taken. It was mentioned that the alley behind the church is needing more gravel as it has standing water. The church has put new gravel down, but is asking that the Village put some down. Zach raised the idea of blacktopping it. Hugh recommended putting gravel down. It can always be picked up later if blacktopping is done. Laura also asked if the Village supplies gravel for easements for that section of driveways. Last ones were done about four years ago. People requesting help were Bratkos, Strohs, Waifflins, and Ramseys.

c. Video Cameras—Brady Johnson didn't return the call. Laura will check and see who can. Doug Broch's son might be interested in doing it.

2. Tree Report—Arbor Day Celebration was held April 26th honoring Dale & Bob Macklin. Trees were planted in their memory. A thank you note was received from the

Dale Macklin family for the tree. We received a large new Tree City USA flag commemorating 20 years and also a plaque, which is now posted on the bulletin board.

**3. Publicity / Items for Newsletter /Technology/Website/Facebook** CCR water report needs to be added to the newsletter. Lead & Copper survey paperwork has to be sent out with bills. This is the survey that asks what the water service line to each house is made of. We should include 8<sup>th</sup> graders who are graduating as well as high school seniors. Hydrant should be flushed mid June. Laura will send an article on the VIP program.

#### 9. Old Business

**A. Flea Market / Farmers Market** It is probably too late to get that going this year. We need to contact IML to see if our insurance requires that the vendors have insurance. A written waiver was mentioned. It is not known if that would meet IML's requirements.

**B. Celebration Garden**—Laura has weeded and mulched it. Maybe in the fall the raised bed can be put in, but it is contingent on getting irrigation installed. Then raised garden can be installed.

**C. Solicitation signs**—Hugh will do. Also discussed Village signs getting professionally done. Laura will try to get bids on signs for Steward, as well as signs for each side of the depot, perhaps through Fast Signs and Hub printing.

#### 10. New Business--

**A. RV Trailer at Fuller and Steward**—Article 3 62-81 Article 62-82 of the Ordinance code would apply. Topic was tabled until next month. A motor home in the 500 block of John Street is sitting on a newly made concrete pad with a driveway and power cord. Laura stated that the RV parked in the 500 block of John Street would be visiting at that location on and off throughout the year, but would be there up to a couple of months during the summer, between the owners trips.

**B. Letters** went out in regards to lawns that need to be mowed.

Next Meeting Date June 10, 2024 at 7:00pm

Zach moved to adjourn the meeting. Rylee seconded it. Motion carried. 1. Zach 2. Rylee Carried Meeting adjourned at 7:59 PM.

Vote to go to a closed meeting for the purpose of acquiring property. Zach moved to go into closed session. Laura seconded it. Motion carried. Karen was dismissed.