

VILLAGE OF HEBRON
MCHENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Monthly Meeting Minutes of the
VILLAGE OF HEBRON BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Monday, August 26, 2024

Village President Robert Shelton called the meeting of the Village Board to order at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Trustees Present: Roll call: Shepherd, Correll, Stevens, and Mogan answered aye to roll call. Trustee Milarski was absent.

Also Present: Attorney Smoron, Clerk Johnson, Sergeant Biancalana, and approximately 30 Visitors were in attendance.

Motion to Approve the Minutes of July 22, 2024, of the Village Board Meeting.

Trustee Correll made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 22, 2024, Village Board meeting.

Trustee Stevens seconded the motion. Trustee Mogan questioned the adjournment time, and the time was changed to 9:16 p.m.

Trustee Shepherd, Correll, Stevens, and Mogan approved the motion with the corrected time by answering aye. Motion carried.

Motion to Approve the July/August 2024 Accounts Payable Balance.

Trustee Shepherd made a motion to approve the July/August 2024 accounts payable balance. Trustee Mogan seconded the motion. Trustee Shepard reported that there are outstanding bills from Fred Herrera in the amount of \$8,300.00 patching Prairie Street, comes out of the Water Department through a grant. Hawkins, Inc., in the amount of \$3840.59 for chemicals for the Water Department. IEPA annual fee in the amount of \$7500.75 for dues, Lois Tire Shop in the amount of \$5,727.02 for tires and a service call out of the streets and general fund, McHenry County Sheriff's Office for dispatch in the amount of \$15,809.78 for General Fund Police, and Sabel Mechanical in the amount of \$19,378.91 for pump number 1 rebuild out of Water/Sewer, Zukowski, Rogers, Flood & McArdle for FOIA requests in the amount of \$5,993.75 costs of FOIA requests. General Fund total of \$53,810.30 and Water/Sewer Fund of \$63,767.81 and Grand Total of \$117,578.11. Trustee Shepherd reported that there were no add-ons this month. Trustee Stevens questioned the Zukowski, Rogers, Flood & McArdle bill in the amount of \$10,325.00 Trustee Shepherd only mentioned \$5993.75 in FOIA requests and why we are outsourcing them. President Shelton state that we aren't and that the clerk was working and felt uncomfortable in the type of requests that we had to get and maintain to make sure that was put through the legal department to make sure they were taken care of properly. Especially with the requesting and the large requests that came through. Clerk Johnson stated she had not yet taken the training on FOIA's. It was not that she was uncomfortable, she needed to finish the training to complete the FOIA's. She stated that she has now completed the training and has been handling the FOIA's since completion of the training. President Shelton stated one of the requests was a very large request that unfortunately when the request was just about done the resident that requested the large FOIA backed out and no longer wanted the information. He stated that was a wonderful waste of time and money. Trustee Stevens asked if that was normal policy to not talk to the board about spending money like that. President Shelton explained that when FOIA's come through they must be taken care of. Trustee Stevens stated that it seems like a large sum of money for a Village that is concerned about their budget and for the Village to spend \$11,000.00 on FOIA's

seems a bit much. Attorney Smoron stated he agrees, and he also understands, he also explained that the law requires FOIA's to be answered within 5 business days unless there is an extension in which it is another 5 business days. With the understanding that this was not being accomplished within the Village Hall he did the FOIA's, and it has probably been a year since the Village has seen this number of FOIA requests. He also stated he is still dealing with some FOIA requests. Trustee Stevens asked if Clerk Johnson will be taking FOIA's over from this point on and Clerk Johnson stated that she received 3 or 4 on August 26, 2024, and she is filling those requests along with the FOIA's that were waiting on the Minutes to be approved from the July 22, 2024, meeting. Trustee Shepherd, Correll, Stevens, and Mogan approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried.

Presidents Report.

President Shelton reported that Bid Notices are out for Bid for Jacobson/Woods Street Project. August 30th at 10am bids will be open at Village Hall. Clerk Johnson will be here to collect those bids. Low Bidder will be awarded and approved September 9th at 6:00p.m. Work will then be scheduled and started. Hoping that the project can be completed by the end of November. Source Water Protection Plan-Engineering Enterprises, Inc (EEI) has begun and developed an internal preliminary schedule of completing the Water Protection Plan by the end of September. They have gone over Geologic information and are processing. Will be meeting with Dan Nelson, Dan Hughes, and myself end of this week or next week. Prairie Street Project – Phase III is ready to get started. Plans and Permits are being readied for work. Expecting work to begin by the end of October and completion by November. Hebron Fall Fest – will be Saturday September 21, 2024, from 10am – 4pm. There will be a live band providing music, along with vendors, food trucks and a car show. We look forward to all the fun and festivities.

Presentation from Brent Deppmeier of Hebron/Alden/Greenwood Fire Department on Incurred Village permit and 3rd Party fees for addition to Firehouse.

Brent Deppmeier stated that the Village is aware of the addition that is being put onto the current Fire Department building. Deppmeier states they are doing this for the public. In the process of getting this project started the Village levied fees for the project. In his 40 years of working with Municipalities he has never been in a project where one Municipality has levied fees for permits for another Municipality. He spoke with the Building Inspector about this, and the conversation went nowhere. His General Contractor was contacted by the building inspector and was told that if the permit fees were not paid, he was going to shut the job down. The General Contractor paid the permit fees in the amount of \$10,248.18 of Permit Fees to keep the job running. He is here asking for reimbursement of the fees in the amount of \$10,248.18.

Public Comments.

Penny Smith– Speaking as a resident of Hebron. She thanked Jonathan Mindham for wanting to be on the Board and hopes that he has been vetted as a one-year resident of Hebron. One of the FOIA's she asked for was all electronic communication including cellphone text messages sent and received by Trustees on the Village Board during the Village Board meeting of July 22, 2024, to also include the Village President during the entire open gavel to the adjournment. She was advised that pursuant to her request there is no responsive documents. When she in fact saw the one Village Trustee that is no longer with the Village Board texting during the meeting, she felt Candace Knaack did not comply with that FOIA request. She thanked Sergeant Bruce Biancalana for being at the meeting and she hopes that the Village is giving him a stipend and/or more money. According to her sources he is getting paid \$23.00 an hour. The house cleaner is getting \$28.00 an hour, along with the water/sewer billing department getting \$28.00 an hour and at times there are 2 employees working in the water/sewer billing department at the rate of \$28.00 per person per hour. President Shelton stated that every one of those figures is incorrect. She also stated that the June Minutes are not on the website yet. She is also concerned that the Village is paying a McHenry County Officer \$70.00 an hour to be at our Village Board meetings.

Sandy Drevalas- Did not want to speak as Penny answered her comments.

Lynette Lange – Stated that it has been over a month since the erroneous termination of Chief Gumble. While Sergeant Biancalana is doing his best alone down to himself and our CSO officer, there is a lot of concern amongst Village residents about safety. Residents voiced their concern at last Tuesday’s meeting which over 40 people were in attendance, and it was held at the township building. There are cars racing on Village streets. President Shelton has instructed Sergeant Biancalana on what hours he can and cannot work with no weekend coverage. The community knows this Village has pretty much no Police presence. It is just a matter of time before something major happens in this community. Another month and no mention of hiring a Chief of Police or new officers. What is the plan? President Shelton left the community with no protection. Thanked McHenry County Sheriff for being at the meeting. Would like to know who is paying their bill for President Shelton’s protection? The general fund, police budget or President Shelton’s wallet? The citizens deserve answers and to feel safe in their community. Concerned that there were 3 applications for Trustee and only 1 is before the board and the application needs to have a couple other questions on it; Are you a felon? and do you live in the Village of Hebron, seeing how that is why the Trustee seat is vacant.

Joann Lange – Stated she is very upset with President Shelton for charging the Fire Rescue Department for building permits and sending the inspector out there and charging an exuberant amount in fees. They are here for a service to this community, and she is so very thankful they are in our Village.

Gayle Mansfield - Very thankful for the meeting on Tuesday night and happy that they received answers and encouraged the community to continue to be involved and embarrassed this Village is in the newspaper. Very upset that Chief Gumble is not here, and she is looking forward to the April election for a new President.

Department Head Reports-

Dan Nelson – Absent

Sergeant Biancalana – 72 calls were handled in the last month. Took squad car 340 to get an estimate on repairs and it came out to about \$10,000.00 he feels it is not worth putting that amount of money into this squad due to age and condition. Found 2019 Explorer Police Interceptor with approximately 38,000 miles on it. He drove it and took it to be looked at by Bull Valley Ford and it passed with a good report. Cost on this vehicle is \$14,400.00. Also received an estimate from Gencomm to get estimate to get this vehicle equipped in the amount of \$7,000.00. Has had a couple applicants and ran backgrounds and they will not be offered a position. Nate Muehl would still like to come back to the Village of Hebron Police department. The benefit of rehiring Officer Muehl is that there is NO additional cost to rehire him. He is ready to go and can take some of the workload off the Sergeant and can be on the streets immediately. He stated that Darrick Tomlin is set up in a reserve spot at the Illinois State Police Academy on September 29, 2024, for \$5,691.55. He would also like a raise for all the extra work he has taken on including but not limited to all officer duties, administrative tasks, chief duties, responding to call from home and working long hours.

Motion to Approve a One Day Liquor License Application for the Hebron-Alden-Greenwood Fire Department on September 14, 2024, from 4:00 P.M. to Midnight and waive the Permit Fee.

Trustee Mogan made a Motion to Approve a One Day Liquor License Application for the Hebron-Alden-Greenwood Fire Department on September 14, 2024, from 4:00 P.M. to Midnight and change the name from Hebron-Alden-Greenwood Fire Department to Hebron-Alden-Greenwood Fire Rescue Association and waive the Permit fee. Trustee Stevens seconded the Motion.

Trustee Shepherd, Correll, Stevens, and Mogan approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried.

Motion to Approve Appointment of Jonathan Mindham as Trustee.

Trustee Mogan made a Motion to Approve Appointment of Jonathon Mindham as Trustee and Trustee Shepherd seconded the motion. President Shelton stated that Jonathan Mindham has been a resident of the Village of Hebron for quite some time and is part of Hazels Diner and is familiar with business dealings, budgeting, shipping, and handling all facets of the business. He has an interest in the

Village. Jonathan stated he has lived in the Village since April 2019. Trustee Mogan asked Jonathan if he is aware of the requirements to hold this position and if he is qualified. Johnathan answered yes to both questions. Trustee Stevens asked Jonathan why he wanted to be on the Board of Trustees. Jonathan stated he saw an opportunity more now than ever that people in this community need to step up and get involved. He graduated from Hebron High School. Would like to see this community respect the board. Safety is a huge concern, and he would like to see the expansion of the Police force and he would like to be a part of the Old Kennedy Homes project and make sure we expand out community and add homes. He feels the time is right for him and he hasn't yet decided if he will be running in the 2025 election. He is proud to step up and take a role in his community. Trustee Stevens thanked Jonathan. Trustee Shepherd, Correll, Stevens, and Mogan approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried.

Attorney Smoron swore in Jonathan Mindham. Jonathan joined the Trustees.

Motion to Approve Purchase of New used squad car for Police Department and Salvage the 2013 Ford Explorer.

Trustee Shepherd made a motion to Approve Purchase of New used squad car for Police Department and Salvage the 2013 Ford Explorer. Trustee Correll seconded the Motion. President Shelton advised the 2013 Ford Explorer has been at Bull Valley Ford for awhile and it is not worth fixing at this time. He thanked Sergeant Biancalana for finding the 2019 Police Interceptor Explorer. Sergeant Biancalana stated he drove this vehicle and had Bull Valley Ford check it over and has a good report. He is trying to sell the Mercury. Trustee Shepherd thanked Bruce for finding this vehicle and staying within the budget. Trustee Shepherd, Correll, Stevens, Mindham, and Mogan approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried.

Motion to Approve JETCO, LTD proposal to clean and wash the Hebron Water Tower.

Trustee Mogan made a motion to Approve JETCO, LTD proposal to clean and wash the Hebron Water Tower and Trustee Correll seconded the motion. President Shelton explained that proposal is for \$2,750.00 and that it is one day's worth of work and was the least expensive estimate we received. Trustee Mindham asked when the last time was it was cleaned, and President Shelton stated it has never been cleaned. Trustee Mindham asked when it was painted last and was told 6 years ago. Trustee Shepherd, Correll, Stevens, Mindham, and Mogan approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried.

Motion to Approve Refunding Incurred Village Permit and 3rd Party Fees back to Hebron/Alden/Greenwood Fire Department on the Addition to Firehouse.

Trustee Stevens made a Motion to Approve Refunding Incurred Village Permit and 3rd Party Fees back to Hebron/Alden/Greenwood Fire Department on the Addition to Firehouse and Trustee Mogan seconded. President Shelton stated that this project was started in November of 2023. Dan Streit explained that all correspondence and submittals came from Zach Enderly from 1990 Architects, and Dan Tonyan from Tonyan Brothers construction and no other correspondence from anyone else or any request for waiver of any fees. He stated he did in fact ask "people" at the Village if they had received any requests for waiver of fees, so he applied the fees as he was directed to by President Shelton. President Shelton asked Dan Streit when he went over the items if he could explain how the drawings had to go back and forth also with the storm water permitting. Items were missing and had to go back twice and submitted again to engineering. Hebron is a certified Community which means it does not go to the county for review it stays in house with the engineering firm, so the review went to the HLR team for review and was kicked back for additional information. The fee of \$500.00 is for the Storm Water Management fee. He did reach out to other Communities and did not hear back from several. However, Harvard did return his call, and they stated they would waive permit fees but not 3rd party fees. Trustee Stevens feels that we should never have charged these fees as we need the Fire Department. Trustee Mogan asked Attorney Smoron if he has seen any other Municipalities where they waive these fees and Attorney Smoron stated no he does

not have an example of that. Trustee Mogan stated that there are two ways to look at this and one is refunding the fees, and the residents of the Village absorb that hit in their small tight budget that people complain about, or it stays the way it is and it is absorbed through the Fire Department budget and all of its residents. Trustee Mogan asked if the Fire Department did not budget for the inspection fees. Brent Deppmeier advised they have never been charged permit fees or inspection fees in the past. Trustee Mogan stated he would be in favor of waiving the permit fees in the amount of \$3,657.50 but not the 3rd party fees. Trustee Stevens believes we should waive all fees, and it doesn't matter what other towns do as we can see that by the way we run other parts of our Village. We are basically in the Wild Wild West where we make our own rules, and we don't have to follow what other towns are doing. His point is the Fire Department does a lot for our community and protects everyone that is in our community, and we should not be charging them \$10,000.00 to assist our community. Trustee Shepherd asked if we could amend the Motion. Trustee Stevens stated it is the Villages problem that we have the 3rd party fees, not the Fire Departments problem. President Shelton stated the Board talked about this a year back that all 3rd party fees will be charged back so that the Village is not absorbing these fees.

Trustee Stevens and Mindham approved the motion by answering aye. Shepherd, Correll, and Mogan answered nay. Motion does not carry.

Trustee Shepherd made a Motion to approve refunding the Village permit and stormwater management fees in the amount of \$3,657.50 and Trustee Mindham seconded the motion.

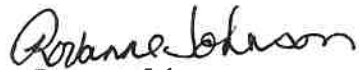
Trustee Shepherd, Correll, Stevens, Mindham, and Mogan approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried.

Attorney Report – Trustee Stevens asked how items get added to the agenda. Attorney Smoron stated there is no statue it is typically the Village working together to make the agenda. President Shelton stated that all items typically go through him.

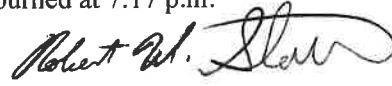
Board Comments – Trustee Stevens thanked everyone that came out to the street dance. Thanked Trustee Milarski for coming out. He also stated he hopes everyone that has children in school had a great start to the new school year. He also wanted to recognize that the library lost Kelly Riggs as she was a member of the Fire Department and a member of the library. He also thanked Sergeant Biancalana for all his hard work. Trustee Mindham wanted to thank the board for the appointment, and he has yet to decide if he will run in the future. He also thanked everyone for coming out and a special thanks to Sergeant Biancalana for working very hard to keep things going. Trustee Mogan wanted to welcome Jonathan and thanked him for his interest in getting involved in the community. Thanked Bruce for his research on the new squad car. Stated to Brent Deppmeier that he is always pleased with the services he receives from the Fire Department and glad to see they are expanding. Thank Tracy VonBergen, our County Representative for this part of the County and all the work she has done on the Prairie Street Project. Happy Labor Day and hopes to see everyone at the Pig Roast. He states he will not engage on social media but is happy to talk to anyone. Sergeant Biancalana wanted to thank Wileen Peterson for all her hard work, she is a huge asset to the department. Thanked COS officer Tomlin for all his hard work and for stepping up. Also, thanked Clerk Johnson for all her help and hard work.

Adjournment

After a roll call vote which all approved, the meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.



Roxanne Johnson
Village Clerk



Robert W. Shelton
Village President

Minutes prepared by: Roxanne Johnson, Village Clerk

Note: These minutes are subject to further editing. Once approved by the Village Board, the official minutes will be kept on file at the Village Hall.

APPROVED: September 23, 2024