

VILLAGE OF HEBRON
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 27, 2023

President Shelton called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Trustees Shepherd, Correll, Milarski, Stevens, Knaack, and Mogan answered aye to roll call.

Attorney Smoron was in attendance.

Motion to Approve the Minutes of October 23, 2023, Village Board Meeting

Trustee Milarski made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 23, 2023, Village Board meeting. Trustee Knaack seconded the motion. Trustee Milarski, Knaack, Mogan, Stevens, Correll, and Shepherd approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried.

Motion to Approve the October/November 2023 Accounts Payable Balance

Trustee Shepherd made a motion to approve the October/November 2023 accounts payable balance. Trustee Correll seconded the motion. Trustee Shepherd pointed out that there were several large bills including A&A Underground for repairs and locating on Prairie Avenue, CDC Enterprises for work on the water tower work, Ferguson Waterworks for water meters, GW & Associates for the Village audit which gets split between water, sewer, and general fund, Hawkins for chemicals for the water/sewer plant, Midwest Aggregates for cold patch, P.F. Pettibone for police supplies, Sabel Mechanical for a starter for the lift station, and the Village of Spring Grove for the purchase of a 2008 Ford Crown Victoria. Trustee Shepherd reported that there was \$38,283.06 due in accounts payable for the General Fund and \$34,466.01 due in the Water/Sewer Fund accounts payable. The total due for accounts payable was \$72,749.07. Trustee Shepherd reported that there were no add-ons this month. Trustee Shepherd, Correll, Mogan, Knaack, Stevens, and Milarski approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried.

President's Report

President Shelton reported the Prairie Street water main project has started and the work order was revised to be closer in line with the grant amount. Frank Cuda from Schefflow Engineers will speak about the project tonight and the Board will vote on spending the revised amount. President Shelton asked all to join in celebrating the holiday season as the Village lights the gazebo at the Hebron Community Park on Friday, December 1, at 6:00 p.m. He added that there will be free hot chocolate and a special guest will attend. President Shelton reported that there will be photos with Santa and Cocoa with a Cop hosted by the Hebron Police Department at the Village Hall on Saturday, December 16 from 9:00 a.m. until 12 p.m. He asked those that plan to attend bring their Christmas list to share with Santa. Lastly, President Shelton thanked the Hebron Police Department for taking care of decorating the Village Hall for the holidays.

Public Comments

Karen Lalor, PO Box 388, wanted to thank the Board for allowing the Church to hold their raffle and she stated she had raffle tickets available for sale tonight. She added that she thought that the turnout for all the recent events has been fantastic. She also reminded residents that if they have any extra food in their homes that the local food pantry is accepting donations.

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Grace Eskridge, 9710 Johnson, was in attendance to answer any questions regarding the Alden-Hebron Elementary School PTO fundraiser with the funds raised to expand and re-asphalt the playground area.

Jenna Lasurdo, Ridge Drive, stated that she was in attendance to ask the Board to not waive the impact fees that Lennar is looking to have waived. She mentioned that the school's HVAC is not working currently and the children had to wear their coats recently in the building and added that there are also leaky ceilings. She feels that these impact fees would greatly help the schools.

Rebecca Klein, 14419 Nichols Road, stated that they are newer to the community and have been in Hebron for about three years. She added that they love the community and the schools. They have three children in the school system and believe that they are receiving a stellar education. She said that although she looks forward to Lennar bringing in more children to the schools, the increase of children would continue to burden Alden-Hebron taxpayers to support the schools. She asked the Board not to waive the impact fees.

Jerimiah Townsend, 1145 Muir Trail, would like more information on what the impact fee amounts are and what amount will be waived. He would also like to be informed as to why the Village would waive those fees. He stated that he feels that Lennar will make quite a bit from this development. He would also like to know who from the Village met with Lennar to discuss the waiving of fees and again questioned the reason for waiving the fees.

President Shelton thanked all for the public comments. He also explained that Frank Cuda has time constraints tonight and he stated that the motion to approve the additional cost above the grant amount for the Prairie Avenue water system will be moved to the next item on the agenda.

Motion to Approve Prairie Avenue Water System Additional Cost Above Grant Award

Frank Cuda explained that when the project was put out for bid it would go about 1,800 feet from Main Street to Union Street. The bids came in higher than expected and the Village awarded the contract to the lowest bidder, which was Mauro Sewer Construction. He added that a pre-construction meeting was held to negotiate how the Village could get to a point where the contractor would still be willing to do the work while reducing the cost of the project down to something that the Village could afford. After the meeting, the contractor reworked his numbers and suggested 1,200 feet instead of 1,800 feet to taking the project to 1108 Prairie Avenue. President Shelton stated that this would not be quite to Union Street, but it is beyond St. Albans Street. Frank Cuda explained that they officially prepared a change order to keep the paperwork correct and passed it on to the CDBG grant personnel. He added that the change order was properly signed and that is where the Village is currently with this project. Frank Cuda said that he is in continual contact with CDBG and everything is in good order. He added that Mauro is hoping to get the water main line in within the next three weeks. President Shelton explained that it took so long for the grant to come through and with COVID and inflation the costs increased substantially which made for a tricky situation to still make use of the grant as it came in lower than today's costs. Frank Cuda stated that much of this is not a-typical of other grant recipients. Treasurer Andrus is working on an additional CDBG grant to cover the cost of

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finishing the project and she feels that the additional funds needed to complete the current phase is workable. Frank Cuda stated that receiving funds from a second grant is of course not promised. He added that Mauro has been very cooperative and ready to work to complete the project and he stated that the paving will be completed in the spring. Trustee Shepherd made a motion to approve the Prairie Avenue Water System Additional Cost Above Grant Award. Trustee Stevens seconded the motion. Trustee Shepherd, Stevens, Correll, Milarski, Knaack, and Mogan approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried.

Motion to Approve the 2023/2024 Tax Levy

Trustee Shepherd made a motion to approve the 2023/2024 Tax Levy. Trustee Correll seconded the motion. Treasurer Andrus stated that the Village will levy 4.99 percent which keeps the Village under the 5 percent black box. She explained that Illinois came out with the CPI at 6.8 percent so the Village cannot even levy the amount of inflation. She said that the Village tax levy reflects the 4 percent increase over last year which brings the total that the Village is asking for to \$226,000. Trustee Knaack asked Treasurer Andrus to explain the details behind these numbers. Treasurer Andrus stated that this is the Village's appropriation ordinance that is the Village legal spending limit which is approved at the beginning of the fiscal year. She added that the second line shows the amount of taxes the Village will raise which just shows that the Village is not raising taxes more than the Village is appropriating. Attorney Smoron explained the distinction between the appropriation versus the levy. He said that in the first quarter of the Village's fiscal year, the Village Board is expected to set a ceiling on the amount they can spend which is the appropriation. His office encourages the Village to be conservative and shoot high because there is no way of knowing what the costs will be in the coming year. Attorney Smoron stated given that it is difficult to modify the appropriation ordinance. He stated that this must be filed with the McHenry County Clerk no later than December and it provides for the actual collection of revenue. He stated that the Village would not receive these funds until almost a year later than when the process was started. Trustee Knaack asked if this was increasing any of the Village budget and Attorney Smoron stated it was not. President Shelton stated that the working budget is a lean budget. He added that with the appropriation the Village does not have the leeway to go over the appropriation ordinance. Attorney Smoron suggested that the Village might consider a budget process in the future which provides for more flexibility, but it does require a precise determination at the outset of the year on what the Village can spend. Trustee Shepherd, Correll, Milarski, Mogan, Knaack, and Stevens approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried.

Motion to Approve Open Air Wireless License Lease Agreement

President Shelton explained that Open Air Wireless leases space from the Village for an antenna up on the Hebron water tower. He said that they originally had a five-year agreement signed prior to him being elected and he said they currently pay \$500 per month to the Village. President Shelton worked with Treasurer Andrus to produce an offer to ask them for an increase of 20 percent (\$100 per month) and they agreed including a three-year agreement with a 5 percent increase yearly and with no compounding interest. President Shelton concluded that they would pay \$600 per month to the Village. Trustee Milarski stated that the tower is not in great condition and Superintendent Nelson stated that the tower is in good shape but it needs to be

cleaned on the outside. Trustee Correll made a motion to approve the Open Air Wireless License Lease Agreement. Trustee Knaack seconded the motion. Trustee Correll, Knaack, Mogan, Steven, Milarski, and Shepherd approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried.

Motion to Approve the Purchase of a 2008 Crown Victoria for the Hebron Police Department

Trustee Mogan moved to approve the motion as presented and Trustee Shepherd seconded the motion. Trustee Mogan asked Superintendent Dan Nelson if he looked at the car. Dan said that he and Seargent Biancalana looked at it and test drove it. He said that it was originally a California car so it is rust free. He said it had 64,000 miles on it and it is all equipped with everything the police department needs except for a computer and a radio which Sergeant Biancalana says they already have. Dan said that it is a nice car. Trustee Milarski asked if this vehicle has already been purchased by the Village of Hebron. President Shelton stated that it has not yet been purchased. He said that there is a check cut and ready for approval to purchase. Trustee Mogan stated that there are aging cars in the police department's fleet. He said that this car would be a temporary fix, but much needed. Dan has no issues with the car mechanically and Sergeant Biancalana is knowledgeable about cars and he agrees. Trustee Mogan feels that this would be a good buy.

Trustee Shepherd asked if one of the other cars would be retired with the purchase of this 2008 Crown Victoria. Sergeant Biancalana stated that they would like to switch the use of cars that the CSO officer uses. Trustee Milarski asked if all the cars are needed. Both Chief Gumble and Sergeant Biancalana stated that all the cars are needed as there have been times when they have had to use their personal vehicles when one of the fleet cars is in for repairs for example. Trustee Knaack said that the Village needs a plan in place to replace vehicles in the fleet. President Shelton has held discussions with the police department and Trustee Mogan and they feel that this figure of \$8,000 is feasible currently. President Shelton agreed that the fleet is aging and he added that Chief Gumble has put together a maintenance schedule for each vehicle. President Shelton stated that a lease agreement could be considered in the future if the final cost is agreeable. Sergeant Biancalana gave a verbal summary of lease agreements and stated that most municipalities lease with a \$1 buyout and with any purchase it must be taken into account roughly \$8,000 to \$10,000 to outfit the vehicles for police use. Trustee Shepherd stated that there is \$15,000 in the budget currently to purchase a vehicle for the police department and this car in question is within that budget. Trustee Knaack asked what the cost of decals for the car were. Seargent Biancalana said they would be \$600 at most. He reiterated that this Crown Victoria also needs a docking station and a radio. Trustee Shepherd stated that there is \$16,000 in the current budget for equipment. He feels the police department needs a vehicle as soon as possible and this car would be a good buy until the Board can revisit the purchase of vehicles for the police department in the next budget year. Chief Gumble stated that the police cars are in a constant state of revolving repairs which sometimes ends in officers using their personal vehicles. Trustee Stevens stated that he is glad the Board had this needed discussion. Trustee Mogan, Shepherd, Knaack, Stevens, Milarski, and Correll approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried.

Motion to Approve the Sale of the Village 1997 Chevy Pickup as Surplus

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Trustee Milarski moved to approve the motion as presented and Trustee Knaack seconded the motion. President Shelton explained that the 1997 Chevy pickup has been used for cold patch and it has ruined the truck so Superintendent Nelson suggested selling this vehicle as surplus and use the money to purchase another vehicle for Frank Michalczyk. Frank's current truck could then be used for cold patching. President Shelton added that the police department knows of a governmental entity that may have very reasonable surplus equipment and Chief Gumble will speak of this later in her department head report. Trustee Milarski, Knaack, Shepherd, Correll, Stevens, and Mogan approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried.

Motion to Approve the Sale of the Village 1993 International Dump Truck as Surplus

Trustee Knaack moved to approve the motion as presented and Trustee Milarski seconded the motion. Superintendent Dan Nelson stated that this truck was replaced by a newer truck last year. He stated that they do not have to sell it, but it has not been used in a couple of years. Dan said that it has low miles, but it is very rusty. If it were sold as surplus, insurance coverage for it could be dropped. President Shelton said that if it were sold at auction as surplus the money could be used for vehicle replacements. Trustee Knaack, Milarski, Stevens, Mogan, Correll, and Shepherd approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried.

Motion to Ratify Approval of the St. John's Lutheran Church Charitable Raffle License

Trustee Stevens moved to approve the motion as presented and Trustee Milarski seconded the motion. Trustee Stevens said that he thought they were doing a wonderful job with this raffle and he said Ted Drevalas, who made the doll house to be raffled, has done an outstanding job. Trustee Shepherd confirmed that the Village will waive the raffle license fee of \$25. Trustee Shepherd stated that the Churches are always giving back to the community and he is pleased that the Village is doing what they can to help them. Trustee Stevens, Milarski, Shepherd, Correll, Knaack, and Mogan approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried.

Motion to Approve a Charitable Raffle License for the Alden-Hebron Elementary PTO

Trustee Stevens moved to approve the motion as presented and Trustee Knaack seconded the motion. Trustee Stevens thanked Grace Eskridge for the work she continues to do for the school even in retirement. Trustee Shepherd stated that it is good for the community when the schools do fund raisers as it saves tax dollars. He said it will be held at Hoop's on December 9th. Ms. Eskridge said there will be a meat raffle as well as other raffle items. The Village Board waived the raffle license fee of \$25. Trustee Stevens, Knaack, Mogan, Milarski, Correll, and Shepherd approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried.

Motion to Approve holding the Christmas Light Contest 2023

Trustee Knaack moved to approve the motion as presented and Trustee Stevens seconded the motion. Trustee Knaack asked how the awards will be categorizing the contestants this year and she also commented that it is difficult to see addresses while driving around in the dark. She requested that the people participating in the contest sign up with their name and address as well as confirming if they rent or own the home. She would like to see better organization concerning this contest. President Shelton stated that in the past the Board had a week to view the lights and it was meant to be an uncomplicated fun event. He reported that statements have been made that

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the contest was rigged and he finds this disappointing as this was not the case. President Shelton would like to see one of the trustees take this on instead of the Village Clerk. He asked Trustee Knaack and Trustee Milarski to spearhead this contest. Trustee Knaack declined as she stated that she had a full-time job that would allow her time and she suggested holding categories such as classic, Griswold, etc. After discussion it was concluded that the categories will be Griswold, Classic, and Modern with a \$75 prize for each category. President Shelton stated that the judging would be done prior to January 1st and the winners will be announced at the January Village Board meeting. Trustee Mogan asked to meet with Trustee Milarski to put together a flyer. Trustee Knaack, Stevens, Mogan, Shepherd, Correll, and Milarski approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried.

Motion to Approve the Village Board Meeting Schedule 2024

Trustee Correll moved to approve the motion as presented and Trustee Knaack seconded the motion. President Shelton stated that May 27 is Memorial Day so he suggested moving the date of that meeting to May 20th. Trustee Correll, Knaack, Mogan, Shepherd, Stevens, and Milarski approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried.

Department Head Reports

Chief Gumble, Police Chief, reported that the police department dealt with COVID recently and they did a thorough cleaning of the police department office, the cars, and the equipment. She added that ventilation in homes and businesses really help tremendously to deter COVID. Chief Gumble also reported that on December 16th the residents can have their picture taken with Santa and Trustee Milarski created a flyer for this event. She added that on December 3rd Shop with a Cop will be held and Hebron Police officers will be picking up children within McHenry County to take them shopping. There will be at least four to five children from Hebron involved in this activity. The Chief explained a few more details of what this program does for the children. Chief Gumble reported that there were 256 calls by the Hebron Police Department from October 19, 2023, to November 16, 2023. She stated for the last three to four months the department has answered over two hundred calls per month. She said that she put information in the trustees' mailboxes regarding the surplus program that President Shelton was discussing earlier. She said that it is a State and Federal program that gives free equipment and services to municipalities. She said that the Chief of Police, Village President, and four Trustee need to sign a resolution to participate in the program. Attorney Smoron asked all Board members for a consensus vote to approve the signing of this document for the police department and all agreed. Chief Gumble stated that the schools are also eligible under this program and she agreed to meet with the school to discuss.

Dan Nelson reported for Frank Michalczyk, Water and Sewer Department, stated that the twelve-inch water main is being installed on Prairie Avenue currently. Also, in the beginning of November, a lead/copper survey was mailed out by the Village to residents living on Maple Avenue, Prairie Avenue, and St. Albans. Frank would like residents to fill them out and return them to the Village Hall. He reported that this is an IEPA requirement. Franks report also stated that on the sewer side, he has been performing his daily monitoring.

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Dan Nelson, Superintendent of Public Works, reported that they completed leaf pickup, they are looking for additional help in his department, they put the holiday decorations up, and plowed snow.

President Shelton announced that James Mueller is no longer employed by the Village. He discussed this with Dan Nelson who stated he was not in a hurry to fill the position and he may consider this position as a part-time employee. President Shelton stated that Frank Michalczyk is looking into bringing in an operator from Twin Lakes to help occasionally with water testing on weekends.

Katherine Andrus, Treasurer reported that she has been monitoring the budget and the Village is maintaining a good fund balance. She stated that the budget process will be starting again soon.

There were no other reports.

Attorney Report

There was no report.

Board Comments

Trustee Shepherd stated that he hoped everyone had a nice Thanksgiving and that he is looking forward to the Christmas lights going up.

Trustee Knaack thanked the Chief and the officers for decorating the Village Hall and thanked Dan Nelson for decorating the Village gazebo and Main Street.

Trustee Stevens reported that he recently dealt with Officer Muehl covering an incident at the library and Trustee Stevens said that he did a great job and was wonderful to work with. He also thanked CSO Darrick and Sergeant Biancalana for their help with the school's turkey trot event. He reported that the library will be hosting an art show on December 2nd and on December 17 the library, Laura Leedle, and the church are putting on the Twelve Joys of Christmas so he invited all to attend. He also thanked those that came out for this Board meeting.

President Shelton asked Chief Gumble to report on the new officers to the Board. Chief Gumble said they have a new female officer named Sunset, but she goes by Sunny and Wayman Vela who is a Hebron resident and works full-time for Round Lake Beach. She added that Sunny also works for Wonder Lake and Wayman is a truck enforcement officer. She said they are losing one officer as he has become an FBI Air Marshall.

Trustee Milarski reported that the Village finished the Mayor Monarch Pledge. She will complete the paperwork required and be ready for next year. The reason the Village participated in this program was to engage the municipality regarding pollinators and their importance to the environment. She added that the Environmental Defenders of McHenry County gave the Village a nice certificate of appreciation for taking part in the program.

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Trustee Correll said that she was happy to see all in attendance at the meeting. She reported that the lighting of the gazebo will be on December 1st. She asked all to attend and join in with singing Christmas carols and she mentioned that the Grinch would be there. She wished all a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

Trustee Mogan thanked the police department for decorating the Village Hall and Dan Nelson for decorating the light poles. He encouraged everyone to attend the Gazebo lighting.

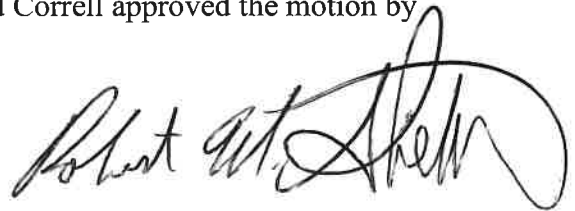
President Shelton reported that the December 11th Village Board meeting is cancelled and the next Village Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 20th at 6:00 p.m. in the Village Hall. Trustee Knaack asked that the December meeting date on the website be changed to December 20th date as currently it states December 25th.

Adjournment

Trustee Milarski made a motion to adjourn at 7:49 p.m. Trustee Knaack seconded the motion. Trustee Milarski, Knaack, Shepherd, Stevens, Mogan, and Correll approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried by all.



Jean Attermeier,
Village Clerk



Robert W. Shelton
Village President