

VILLAGE OF HEBRON
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 23, 2021

President Shelton called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Trustees Shepherd, Mogan, Drevalas, Stevens, Peterson, and Lange answered aye to roll call.

Motion to Approve the Minutes of July 26, 2021, Village Board Meeting

Trustee Mogan made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 26, 2021, Village Board meeting. Trustee Drevalas seconded the motion. Trustees Mogan, Drevalas, Shepherd, Stevens, Peterson, and Lange approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried.

Motion to Approve the July/August 2021 Accounts Payable

Trustee Shepherd said that there were no add-ons per the treasurer and made a motion to approve the July/August 2021 accounts payable as presented. He reported that there was \$29,639.72 due in accounts payable for General Fund and \$143,311.90 due in the Water/Sewer Fund accounts payable. The total due for accounts payable was \$172,951.62. Trustee Stevens seconded the motion. Trustee Shepherd stated that the Water/Sewer was higher than normal as there was a loan payment to IEPA, which is paid twice a year.

Trustee Shepherd, Stevens, Mogan, Lange, Drevalas, and Peterson approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried by all.

President's Report

President Shelton welcomed everyone to the meeting. He reported that the Sleep in Heavenly Peace build-a-bed event went very well with excellent participation. He also reported that the Village Garage Sale Day was a success. He said that he was in a meeting recently with employees from Comcast and presidents from the Villages of Spring Grove, Ringwood, and Richmond regarding the need for better service and fiber optics in the area. He added that there will be additional meetings to follow. He reported that lines have been marked on Hebron and Bigelow Roads with resurfacing to begin, hopefully, next week. Lastly, he reported that a golf cart ordinance is being considered and he mentioned that they are allowed on state highways with speed limits of 35 miles per hour or less. The Village would need approval from IDOT, and all golf carts would have to meet specific requirements.

Public Comments

Karen Lalor, 12718 O'Brien Road, thanked everyone for a great turnout for the Sleep in Heavenly Peace event. She announced that raffle tickets are available for various items, including a handmade doll house, to benefit the local food pantry. She said she is in favor of keeping the K-9 officer.

Brian Ahrens, 12110 Price Road, said that the Village Board is elected to represent the Village residents. He asked how the Village agendas were set. Regarding the K-9 officer, he asked if the donations would be returned if the program is canceled. He said he was for keeping Odin, the K-9 officer.

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Tammy Lillie, 9613 Woods Lane, has heard no complaints regarding the K-9 officer of the Facebook page that she manages. She added that all the comments have been positive. She asked the Village Board to vote to keep the K-9.

There were no other public comments.

Motion to Ratify Approval of the Hebron Community Park Rental on August 12, 2021, by Alden-Hebron School District 19

Trustee Peterson made a motion to ratify approval for the use of the Hebron Community Park by Alden-Hebron School District 19 with fees waived. Trustee Mogan seconded the motion. Trustee Peterson, Mogan, Shepherd, Lange, Stevens, and Drevalas approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried by all.

Motion to Approve the Girl Scout Bronze Project Friendship Bench for Hebron Community Park

Trustee Lange made a motion to approve the Girl Scout Bronze Friendship Bench to be installed in the Hebron Community Park. Trustee Shepherd seconded the motion. Girl Scout, Gabby Steel, reported that the bench will house various equipment to use in the park. People can use these items and, when finished, replace them back in the bench. She also mentioned that it will be a good place for people to sit and chat. The bench will be good for all ages. Trustee Shepherd asked where the bench will be installed, and President Shelton stated that it will be near the basketball court in the grass.

Trustee Lange, Shepherd, Peterson, Mogan, Stevens, and Drevalas approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried by all.

Motion to Approve Ordinance Amending Section 6B-5-23, Small Wireless Facilities Deployment Regulations

Trustee Mogan made a motion to approve the ordinance amending Section 6B-5-23, Small Wireless Facilities Deployment Regulations. Trustee Lange seconded the motion. President Shelton reported that this amendment to the Small Wireless Ordinance will give the Village more control over the placement of 5G boxes in the Village on utility poles, etc. He continued to say that this ordinance requires amplification equipment to be approved by the Village Board prior to installation and the Village can charge a minimal fee.

Attorney Smoron explained that this ordinance would protect the Village owned right of ways regarding State of Illinois regulations. Federal regulations also ask for additional requirements. He said that these amplifiers are roughly the size of a pizza box and are often attached to utility poles. This ordinance gives the Village Board a chance to have an application come to the Board for approval.

Trustee Drevalas added that she felt that this should be put in place in case the Village needs it in the future. Attorney Smoron explained that this is not a revenue maker, but he would recommend adopting this ordinance. Trustee Stevens asked if this was meant for any provider rolling out 5G technology and Attorney Smoron confirmed this stating that fees are set by law and are reasonable. He added that this could still be reviewed and advised by the Village Building Inspector. It cannot be rejected by aesthetics

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alone; specific specifications are required. There is no franchise agreement as this is controlled by the State and Federal government.

Trustees Mogan, Lange, Peterson, Stevens, Shepherd, and Drevalas approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried.

Motion to Discontinue Police Department K-9 Unit

Trustee Shepherd made a motion to discontinue the Police Department K-9 Unit. Trustee Mogan seconded the motion.

Trustee Shepherd reported that a \$10,000 budget was set for this program. He added that \$9,300 is due to Tops for training, \$12,172.80 was Lieutenant Gohmann's pay during training and the total for both came to \$21,472.80. The total in donations received by the Village to date was \$2,471.25. President Shelton said that apparently there are funds in a "Go Fund Me" account, but the Village has not yet received these funds. He added that the Village has made two payments to Tops in the amounts of \$1,500 and \$500.

Trustee Peterson said that although there was no vote taken on the K-9, other than approval in accounts payable, she felt that this dog would be an asset to the Village as was a previous K-9 to the Village in the past. She said that this K-9, Odin, graduated in the top of his class. Trustee Peterson stated that there were also donations from K9s4u, K9's of Valor, and Tops who donated two years of K-9 maintenance training. She mentioned that Lieutenant Gohmann donated his time and the care of Odin in off hours. She gave the total of \$26,313.10 of donations toward the K-9 Program costs per the report given to the Board by Sergeant Gohmann.

Sergeant Gohmann stated that he donated 132 hours of his time.

Trustee Peterson feels that there is no need to discontinue the K-9 program as there are no dues or salary needed for Odin. Trustee Mogan reported that there is no proof that these donations have been paid to the Village to date.

Trustee Stevens said that he has talked to quite a few people regarding this issue and has received many different answers. He is unsure whether the K-9's training has been paid for or not. He asked Lieutenant Gohmann if the Village gets paid when the K-9 is used by other communities such as recovery of a suicidal subject and Lieutenant Gohmann responded that the Village does not get paid for these instances. He added that they would get payment on drug busts. Discussion ensued regarding the accurate figure that has been collected in donations to date. Lieutenant Gohmann reported that the total donations went up to \$7,100 as of today. President Shelton stated that the Village has only recorded \$2,471.25 in donations. Trustee Lange mentioned that he thought that the additional funds were being held by the police department. Trustee Drevalas believed that there are funds in a "Go Fund Me" account. Trustee Peterson said she feels that if the community wants to keep the K-9, then, the Village Board should make that happen. Trustee Drevalas added that payments are made to Tops Training when available and that Tops is willing to wait for payment for as long as it takes.

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President Shelton said that there are other costs needed in the future concerning the K-9. And, when the dog is in the squad car, they cannot carry a passenger in an arrest. They would have to call additional staff to assist. In addition, he mentioned that the squad car would still have to be outfitted for the K-9. He does not see a need for this program so far.

Discussion ensued regarding the additional training that the K-9 would require. Lieutenant Gohmann said that there are plenty of other ways to raise funds for this program after Trustee Shepherd asked if anything was being done besides the "Go Fund Me" page. Trustee Drevalas asked what other equipment would be needed for the car and Lieutenant Gohmann stated a heat sensor would be needed and it has already been donated. Trustee Lange added that the Village would still need to pay for Odin's training even if the program was discontinued. Trustee Stevens cautioned that if Lieutenant Gohmann was to leave the Village Police Department, he would take the dog with him and he questioned whether the Village needed a K-9. Trustee Lange said that he discussed the K-9 program with the Fire Chief and he said that they could use the dog for search and recovery.

Trustee Mogan said that this program is currently unfunded, and the money was not in place before accruing bills. He feels that the planning has been sloppy, and he would like to see the program suspended until the funds are there to pay for it. They could look at it again in the future. He continued to say the facts and figures have been confusing. The Lieutenant could leave at any point and the Village would have nothing to show for the money spent. Trustee Stevens agreed with suspending the program.

President Shelton asked what the Village Board wishes; Lieutenant Gohmann stated that the program could be suspended and revisited once all the bills associated are paid. Trustee Peterson said that the K-9 program decision could be tabled instead of suspended. Discussion ensued regarding the donations collected and what would happen to them if the program was canceled. Trustee Mogan felt that the donations were given to make payments to a bill that was outstanding. Trustee Shepherd added that the Village Board committed to pay the \$9,300 as it was voted on in the accounts payable portion of a previous meeting.

Trustee Mogan made a motion to amend the previous motion to table the discussion and suspend the program until the next Village Board meeting on Monday, September 27. Trustee Shepherd seconded the amended motion.

Lieutenant Gohmann reiterated that this program has over-whelming support from the community, and he questioned why no one came to him for clarification regarding funds.

Trustees Mogan, Shepherd, Stevens, Drevalas, Peterson, and Lange approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried.

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Department Head Reports

Superintendent Nelson reported that Public Works has been replacing water main valves on Maple Avenue. He mentioned that the Eagle Scout project was moving forward at the Hebron Community Park. They also have continued to pick up storm debris from the most recent storm and have been working on culvert replacements.

Chief Donlea reported 160 total calls this month including car accidents, thefts, and unwanted subject calls among other incidents. He mentioned that Trustee Mogan will put alerts on the Village Facebook page. He said that, currently, department shifts were from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and then 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.

There were no other reports.

Attorney Report

He reported that there has not been any word from the appellate court regarding current litigation.

Board Comments

Trustee Drevalas said that the 16 sugar maple trees that she is growing for the Village are doing well. She asked the Trustees to submit a list to her of what they would like to see for future community events. She announced that the food truck business will not be able to attend Hebron Fall Fest and that she is working to find a substitute.

Trustee Stevens said that it is good to see the community taking part in the Village meetings.

Trustee Peterson reported on the recent school board meeting. She said that the first day of school was a success and there were no issues with attendees wearing masks. In addition, there will be no virtual-learning unless a student tests positive for Covid and must quarantine at home. She mentioned that she met the new principal, and the Corn Roast was a success.

Trustee Drevalas has received some interesting responses from residents about what type of events they would like to see in the Village. President Shelton asked her to investigate improving the small garden area by the Village Hall's front door.

Trustee Lange attended the township meeting which was a light agenda and amounted to them approving their bills payable.

President Shelton reported that the Village Board meeting on September 13th will have been canceled, and the next Village Board meeting will be on Monday, September 27 at 6:00 p.m.

Adjournment

Trustee Lange made a motion to adjourn at 7:36 p.m. Trustee Stevens seconded the motion. Motion carried by all.

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Jean Attermeier,
Village Clerk



Robert W. Shelton
Village President