

VILLAGE OF HEBRON
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
MARCH 16, 2020

President Martinez called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Trustees Shepherd, Drevalas, Ritzert, Wagner, Lange and Peterson, answered aye to roll call.

Juanita Gumble was not in attendance, so she will be sworn in as a new part-time police officer at the next meeting.

Discussion and Vote to Approve minutes of February 17, 2020 Village Board Meeting

Trustee Peterson made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 17, 2020 Village Board meeting. Trustee Lange seconded the motion. Trustees Peterson, Lange, Ritzert, Shepherd, Drevalas, and Wagner approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried.

Discussion and Vote to Approve December 2019/January 2020 Accounts Payable

Trustee Shepherd reported that there was \$4,549.15 due in accounts payable for General Fund and \$10,465.60 due in the Water/Sewer Fund accounts payable. The total due for accounts payable was \$15,014.75. Trustee Shepherd made a motion to approve the December/January accounts payable as presented. Trustee Wagner seconded the motion. Trustee Shepherd, Wagner, Peterson, Drevalas, Ritzert, and Lange approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried by all.

Discussion and Vote to Approve February/March 2020 Accounts Payable

Trustee Shepherd reported that there was \$9,300.78 due in accounts payable for General Fund and \$7,887.32 due in the Water/Sewer Fund accounts payable. The total due for accounts payable was \$17,188.10. Trustee Shepherd made a motion to approve the February/March accounts payable as presented. Trustee Drevalas seconded the motion. Trustee Shepherd, Drevalas, Ritzert, Wagner, Peterson, and Lange approved the motion by answering aye. Motion carried by all.

President's Report

President Martinez stated that, as all are aware, the Coronavirus has been at the top of everyone's agenda and at the forefront of everyone's minds. The Village receives periodic updates from McHenry County Emergency Management and any changes and update will be posted on the Village Facebook page.

President Martinez also reported that every household in Hebron should have or will be receiving via the US Postal Service an invitation and instructions to respond to the 2020 Census online. Included residents will receive their household's personal ID. This will be confirmed in a second mailing. She asked that all residents go online as soon as possible to complete the Census which

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should only take approximately 10 minutes. A paper questionnaire will be mailed, if the online Census is not received and if the paper questionnaires are not received, a Census Bureau Interviewer will come to the resident's home to the questions may be collected in person. These answers are extremely important to our community. They determine how billions of dollars in federal funds will be directed to communities for schools, roads and other public services. It also determines the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives and our political representation at all levels of government. She urged all to participate as soon as possible!

The Village Snowman Building Contest will continue through March 31st. Entries can be sent to the Village Clerk via email. Winners will be announced at the April 20th Village Board meeting.

In addition, she encouraged everyone to vote tomorrow.

Public Comment

Anthony Aiello, 9611 Jean Drive, stated that the Village performed a sewer main jetting on Jean Drive on March 9. He added that he has been in the trades for 46 years. He said that he received a call saying that the Village was going to jet the lines to take care of an issue. He said that this caused the sewer to back up throughout the whole first floor of his home and that he was up all night dealing with it. He called a service to come do a cleaning. He said that he contracted E. coli from this and was quite sick. He asked that the operators be educated on how to do this procedure properly and he requested financial help from the Village to cover his costs. He also suggested that the Village send out notification to the residents to educate them on what can not go down the sewer.

Dan Nelson, Public Works Superintendent, explained that the Village hired Pat's Services, Inc. and they are a qualified operator. Mr. Aiello stated that this operator should be contacted by the Village to ask for monetary assistance for the damages his home incurred.

President Martinez told Mr. Aiello that someone from the Village will contact him. She also stated that it was posted on the Village Facebook page that Public Works was going to jet the sewer line and when it was completed, it was again posted.

Dan Nelson stated that his department's response time was within 10 minutes of the problem being discovered and Pat's Services was there within 45 minutes. Discussion ensued regarding this issue and Dan Nelson stated he would be in contact with Pat's Services.

Discussion, Review and Vote to Approve of Village Contribution to Employee Health Benefits

President Martinez mentioned that additional pricing from insurers was provided by Treasurer Fotland. She stated that currently the Village pays \$18,000 per year towards insurance benefits and that only three employees take advantage of it; all these employees are single. She added that as far as she is aware there are three other employees that cannot participate due to the cost of the Village coverage. She expressed her concern over this. She proposed to the Village Board that the Village pay 70 percent towards the cost of basic insurance coverage and the employees pay 30 percent for eligible employees. She continued to explain that the Village continues to pull from video gaming with an additional \$40,000 from the General Fund. She feels that employee benefits are an important part of employment and the Village needs to do their part to keep hard working staff. She gave the breakdown of costs with the 70/30 percent split for a family, employee plus one, and employee only.

Discussion ensued regarding Village contribution to employee health benefits. Trustee Shepherd stated he was skeptical at first, but after reviewing the numbers he feels that it is doable. He feels that the Village will lose good employees if it doesn't offer a decent insurance policy. Trustee Peterson asked why the Village couldn't offer a 50/50 plan. President Martinez stated that this wouldn't help the employees enough to want to take Village insurance. Discussion ensued regarding video gaming revenue being stable enough to support a 70/30 split. Trustee Drevalas was in favor of starting at a lower split and increasing it incrementally later, if possible. Discussion ensued as to what the Village should offer as a split.

Dan Nelson expressed concern that a single person, who may not pay anything at this time as the Village is paying \$500 per month for their insurance, would now have to pay. Discussion ensued regarding offering the employees a split of some amount or choosing the Village to pay up to \$500 per month for the employee's insurance.

After a break to move on to Budget discussion, each Trustee stated the percentage that they would recommend. Trustee Shepherd made a motion to approve a Village contribution to Employee Health Benefits of 60 percent with employees paying 40 percent or choosing the option to have the Village pay up to \$500 per month toward their insurance. Trustee Ritzert seconded the motion. Motion carried by all.

Review and Possible Vote to Approve FY 2020-2021 Budget

President Martinez stated that this is the fourth budget she has worked on for the Village and she mentioned that previously no budget was on file. She added that today we have maintenance plans, Capital Development savings and another balanced budget. She explained that the process began last October when budget sheets were submitted to Department Heads. She sat down with

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each of them in November to discuss and she then discussed with the Treasurer and followed up with another discussion with Department Heads in February. The final process was for the Treasurer, Mark Shepherd, Finance Chairperson, and President Martinez to meet and go over it line by line to develop the budget presented tonight.

Trustee Shepherd asked for Board questions or comments. Much discussion followed asking for clarification on several line items. Trustee Shepherd stated that the Department Heads watch their budgets carefully. He explained that this is the Village Budget and that the Appropriation Ordinance will be approved later. Trustee Shepherd made a motion to approve the FY 2020-2021 Budget as presented. Trustee Wagner seconded the motion. Motion carried by all.

Discussion and Vote to Approve Ordinance Amending Chapter 1, Emergency Services and Disaster Agency, of the Hebron Municipal Code Pertaining to a Local State of Emergency
There being no discussion, Trustee Peterson made a motion to approve the Ordinance Amending Chapter 1, Emergency Services and Disaster Agency, of the Hebron Municipal Code Pertaining to a Local State of Emergency. Trustee Lange seconded the motion. Motion carried by all.

Department Head Reports

Treasurer Fotland announced that she will be going to McHenry County on April 8th to present the Village application for the water and sewer grant. She mentioned that so many applied for this grant that the presentations will last two days instead of the normal one.

Dan Nelson reiterated that the Village hired a reputable company, Pat's Services, Inc., to take care of the recent sewer issue. He does not feel that the Village caused the issue involving Mr. Aiello's home and went on to say that the response time by Public Works was good.

Sergeant Gohmann reminded all to continue to wash hands and use hand sanitizer during this virus outbreak. He stated the Fire Department will respond to health calls in the community before the Police Department.

There were no other comments from the department heads.

Attorney Report

None

Board Comments

Trustee Peterson asked what the status was regarding Beaner's restaurant. She asked if they were open or would they be opening again in the future. President Martinez said that the video gaming machines had been removed and she has not had contact from the owners of the restaurant, so she is unsure.

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Trustee Peterson thanked all for their work on the budget. Trustee Lange wished everyone good health during the Coronavirus outbreak. Trustee Drevalas appreciated all the good information shared at the meeting and was happy they were able to pass a vote regarding insurance. Trustee Shepherd stated that Hoops will offer curbside service during the pandemic and that Subway may do the same. Trustee Lange added that Crandall's and Harts are doing the same. Discussion ensued regarding services being provided by other establishments.

President Martinez announced that the Village Board meeting on April 6th will be cancelled and the next meeting will be on Monday, April 20 at 7:00 p.m.

Trustee Shepherd made a motion to adjourn at 9:05 p.m. Trustee Lange seconded the motion. Motion carried by all voting aye.



Jean Attermeier,
Village Clerk



Kimmy Martinez,
Village President