

Village of Makanda
P.O Box 99
Makanda, Illinois 62958

Board Minutes

November 2, 2021

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER: Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Tina Shingleton.

ROLL CALL: President advised Board that Mr. Pitcher was unable to attend meeting to be sworn in and will need to reschedule for the December meeting. Clerk called the roll of the Village Board: Hilliard, Allen, Ross, Dalton, and Wolff were present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: President asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Trustee Wolff made a motion to accept the minutes. It was seconded by Trustee Dalton. Voice vote. All members present at roll call voted yes. Motion carried.

CITIZEN'S HEARING: Jamie Hagy-Folyer and Eric Wagner to observe.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

President noticed the 911 signs that had been taken along Makanda Road had been replaced, as well as the Population sign. She spoke with Calvin Beckmann, Site Superintendent at Giant City State Park, to ask if he knew who had replaced the signs since in earlier conversations no one seemed to want to take responsibility. He advised that he had replaced the road signs noting Makanda Road, park entrance road, and Springer Ridge Rd. State must have replaced population sign. President advised Mr. Beckmann that should signs need to be replaced in the future to contact the Village for possible assistance for cost of replacement.

President received an email from Vice President of Canadian National, Sean Finn, advising that Jean-Jacques Ruest, President and Chief Financial Officer, will retire

effective the end of January 2022, or such later time as a successor has been appointed.

Communication was received from the Secretary of State certifying there are 547 inhabitants in the Village of Makanda as shown by the 2020 Decennial Census taken April 1, 2020, filed in their office.

CLERK:

TRUSTEES: Trustee Hilliard reported that the roads scheduled to be done this year, were oiled and chipped October 20th. He had gone out with the job foreman to show him what needed to be done before the work was started. Trustee Hilliard inspected the roads when the job was done. Several days later, we had a big rain which caused some damage to approximately 400 feet of road on Misty Meadows. Trustee Hilliard received several phone calls regarding the problem. Trustee Hilliard called Illini and they agreed to fix the problem. Several days after the road was repaired, Dan called Trustee Hilliard to report that it was like a washboard on Misty Meadows. Trustee Hilliard went out to see the problem and will call Illini to determine what can be done. Trustee Hilliard reported that the tar was cold, and the rock was spread too thin. Trustee Hilliard recommended doing road work earlier in the year when the weather is warmer. Trustee Wolff noted that there was no mention on the agenda about purchasing a new Dodge Ram 4500 truck, which had been discussed at the last meeting. Trustee Wolff made a motion that the rules be suspended and to add to the agenda action on the purchase of the Dodge Ram 4500 truck. Trustee Allen seconded the motion. All Trustees agreed. Motion carried and will be discussed under Old Business. President stated that a roll call vote was not necessary. Trustee Ross reported that Trunk or Treat was successful.

FISCAL MATTERS:

A. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer presented the Treasurer's Report

B. Bills Payable: Treasurer presented the Bills Payable

President asked for a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and pay the bills. Trustee Allen made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and pay the bills. It was seconded by Trustee Ross. Voice vote. All present at roll call voted yes. Motion carried.

President stated that the first check installment of the American Recue Plan Act Relief Dollars in the amount of \$36,022.22 has been received and is a separate line item on the Treasurer's Report.

Treasurer reported that the interest on the Village CDs has been dropped down to .14%, while the interest on the Village checking account is .2%. Treasure stated that the Village needs to keep a year's budget and the American Rescue Plan funds in the checking account. Board discussed current interest rates at several area banks and how they vary depending on how long the money is kept in the account. Trustee Wolff made a motion that the Treasurer be directed to transfer \$75,000 of Village funds to an account where it will get the best interest rate. It was seconded by Trustee Hilliard. Voice vote. All present at roll call voted yes. Motion carried.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

A. Finance Committee

B. Ordinance Committee:

C. Street & Road Committee:

Regarding the old portion of Crackers Neck bridge, President checked with the bridge inspector, Gary Hieser. Mr. Hieser contacted Jay Kranz, Local Roads & Streets Engineer at IDOT, who feels the bridge is on the historic registry of bridges. Jay stated the bridge above old bridge is keeping the load off. Even if the old bridge collapses the bridge above will be okay. It was recommended Village check with legal counsel regarding signage and some type of barricade for safety and to help limit liability. President spoke with legal counsel, and he also recommends posting signage and a barricade. We will need to decide on wording of signage to post. After discussion, it was decided to post signs on both sides of bridge stating, "Danger Falling Rock and "Do Not Enter". President has also spoken with Dave Dardis, and he is willing to work with the Village to keep visitors touring the garden safe. If Board feels we need to do something about the old structure, we will need to speak with Jay at IDOT. Board felt at this time it is not necessary to remove old bridge. Trustee Hilliard stated he does not think bridge has been listed as a historic site and thinks the historic site sign on Baptist Hill may be the site of the Mike Bost monument. It was suggested we measure the distance listed on the sign to verify.

President received a phone call from Larry Hill who lives at the beginning of Rowan Road. There is a dead tree past his driveway on the road bank and right-of-way. He was concerned about the tree falling to block Rowan Road or on his garage. Dan Walker spoke with Mr. Hill. The tree is scheduled to be removed tomorrow, November 3. Residents living on Rowan Road and the Post Office have been advised the road will be closed from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Cut tree will be placed off right-of-way and Mr. Hill will dispose of.

In the October Village meeting a question came up regarding under “Trustees” regarding requests for installation of culverts from property owners. President found the Village does have an Ordinance for “Entrance to Roadway” which includes a permit. This Ordinance was approved in December 1985 and should probably be updated. President recommended the Street and Road Committee schedule a meeting to review and update. It was decided the Ordinance Committee will schedule a meeting some time in Spring 2022 to review Ordinances.

Trustee Ross inquired if the new Billy Goat would be used for cleaning the ditches. Trustee Allen said that they probably will. Trustee Ross stated that going up Baptist Hill, the road is chipping off in places. It would be a good idea for the Village to think about having the entire road redone.

D. Subdivision Committee:

E. Insurance Committee:

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

A. Emergency Disaster Committee:

B. Special Events Committee:

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS: Clerk presented the annual Resolution appropriating \$2,000 for snow removal from IDOT motor Fuel Funds to be used from January 1, 2022, to December 31, 2022. Trustee Ross made a motion to approve the Resolution. It was seconded by Trustee Dalton. Voice vote. All present at roll call voted yes. Motion carried. President will take it to IDOT to be approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

UNFINISHED/OLD BUSINESS:

President met with Village legal counsel to discuss Board's conversation at the October meeting regarding Stone Creek Subdivision Roads. Mr. Smith called Beck Simonds to advise him of the Board's decision. Mr. Beck asked for the minutes from the October board meeting discussion. President sent to him noting this was a transcription of the minutes pending approval of the Village Board. Mr. Beck responded: *It is unfortunate that the Village Board is not open to any common ground on this topic. Most likely the village is not legally obligated to provide roadway upgrades to any specific section; yet one might think that over 20 years of matching the revenue for the entire rest of the village that some consideration into the future might have been discussed. They will be exploring the de-annexation option and moving forward and will stay in touch. Did not feel there was a reason to attend tonight's meeting.*

Trustee Ross asked if Keller's Crossing liquor license fee replacement had been taken care of. President advised she has had several conversations with owner but it has not yet been paid.

Trustee Allen presented pricing and purchasing information regarding purchase of new Village truck to replace F450 and a bed for the truck that was discussed at the October meeting. Trustee Allen and Dan had gone to several area dealerships to check on the different options available for purchasing a new truck. Cheryl at Absher-Arnold Motors in Marion is very knowledgeable about purchasing a new truck and where to get a new bed to put on it. Trustee Allen gave the Trustees sheets with all the specifications for the truck and bed. It will take 24 to 26 weeks to get the truck. The price for a 2022 Dodge Ram 4500 is \$55,214.23 with the fleet discount. Absher Motors requires a \$1,000 deposit. A wholesaler from Ridgeway Motors in West Frankfort will give the Village \$10,000 for trading in the old F450, if the Villages sells it to them right now. Woody's has the best price for the type of truck bed needed for the new Dodge 4500. The price for the bed is \$24,466.75. Trustee Allen has talked to Dan, who thinks the Village can do with one truck, until Spring. Trustee Hilliard inquired if the Village snowplow would be compatible with the new truck. Trustee Allen will look into that. Trustee Wolff made a motion that the Village move ahead with buying the new Dodge 4500. It was seconded by Trustee Dalton. Voice vote. All present at roll call voted yes. Motion carried. Board will wait to approve a motion for purchasing the truck bed at a later date. Trustee Wolff made a motion to approve Surplus Property Resolution 2021-4, to get rid of the old F450. It was seconded by Trustee Ross. Voice Vote. All present at roll call voted yes. Motion carried. President will sign a check for \$1,000

deposit on new vehicle to Absher-Arnold Motor, Trustee Allen will deliver it on Thursday. Final payment of vehicle purchase will come from Village CD.

Trustee Ross would like for the Village Board to push ahead with the abandoned property issue. Another tree has fallen on one of the abandoned homes . The Village attorney is aware that the situation is at a standstill. President stated that if no progress is made, she will talk to Jackson County Board to see how they might be able to help.

At the October Board meeting the Trustee had asked the Clerk and President to draft a statement limiting the amount of time an individual could speak during then Guest portion of the agenda and to limit the total time allowed for that portion of the agenda. A draft of that wording was included on the November agenda. Clerk asked for a motion to accept the wording. Trustee Ross made a motion to accept the wording. It was seconded by Trustee Dalton. Voice vote. All present at roll call voted yes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Village Clerk is having problems with the Village laptop. Since Best Buy has closed in Carbondale the closest store is in Cape Girardeau. President asked if Board would be open to paying an individual to help fix the problems. Upon discussion, a motion was made by Trustee Wolff to either hire an individual to look at Village laptop to fix problems or buy a new laptop if necessary. Motion was seconded by Trustee Ross. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

ADJOURNMENT: President asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was made by Trustee Ross and seconded by Trustee Hilliard. Voice vote. All present at roll call voted yes. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Leslie Yambert, Village Clerk

Tina Shingleton, President