

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

Board Minutes

March 7, 2023

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ROLL CALL: Clerk called the roll of the Village Board: Trustees Hilliard, Allen, Dalton, Ross, Pitcher, 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 Ross. Voice vote. All members present the Village at roll call voted yes. Motion carried.

CITIZEN'S HEARING: Michelle and Victor Cardenaz, new Village residents, introduced themselves to the Board. Victor is an electrician. Both Michelle and Victor expressed an interest in the Village Board, Village government and in helping the Village. Russ Kramer was present and inquired if any progress had been made in getting Baptist Hill Road repaired and resurfaced. Trustee Wolff replied that he would give a full report, later in the meeting. Russ also inquired about plans to bring Broadband services to rural areas. President Shingleton explained that she has been talking with Jackson County about their plans to coordinate the use of available grant money to fund the project, it is a process. The Township has formed a Broadband Committee, and she plans to reach out to them.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS: Correspondence was received from Renee Rau of 160 Driving Academy in Centralia, IL regarding information about the availability of truck driver training if anyone would be interested in this type of career.

CLERK: The Board completed their Statements of Economic Interest. Clerk will take them to the Jackson County Courthouse to be filed.

TRUSTEES: Trustee Hilliard reported that the outside light at the Village Hall had been out, and he checked it to see what the problem was. The old timer needs to be replaced, and he took a picture of it and gathered the necessary information to give to Ed. Ed will order the part and replace it when it comes in. Trustee Ross reported that she had called Calvin at Giant City Park, about the problem with the Mexican Black Buzzards damaging the B.C. Ross Community Center. Calvin reached out to Kenneth Delahunt, who works in animal control for the Park District, waiting to hear back from Kenneth. Calvin did say that the Buzzards were creating a public health hazard, as well as damaging Village property. Trustee Ross also talked to Calvin about the old trees hanging over the road on Baptist Hill. Calvin reported that the Village is responsible for any trees or branches in the Village right of way. Trustee Ross has contacted Gurley and Sons, and they will try to figure something out to protect the line sets to the Community Center new air conditioning units, which the Buzzards have damaged. Trustee Ross suggested that the Village needs to purchase and post signs that say Stay Off the Rocks, at the Community Center. Both she and Trustee Dalton have seen the 4H kids climbing on the rocks and kids from a rental event also climbing on the rocks, even with adults present. Trustee Ross reported that the last two rentals, have not cleaned up after the event, as per the rental agreement. Trustee Ross has had to scrub Buzzard mess off the Community Center front door, before several events. President Shingleton advised that she had talked to Amanda about the kids not climbing on the rocks at the Community Center, Amanda said she would let the 4H kids know that they are to stay off the rocks. Trustee Ross talked to LaDonna, who works at a Church in Murphysboro regarding the high bills for electricity at their Church. LaDonna sent Trustee Ross information from Jeff Harmon about a business that helps Churches and businesses obtain lower electric rates. Trustee Ross has passed this information on to President Shingleton. Trustee Ross commented that the faucets in the Community Center rest rooms are still not turning off properly and need to be looked at. Trustee Ross reported that on the south end of the Community Center, the landscape timber is rotted, and the ditch needs to be cleaned. There is also a log and other flood debris in the field across from Danny Brewer's house that needs to be cleaned up. Trustee Dalton advised the Board that a portion of the cement pillar from the old railroad track is now completely in the creek.

FISCAL MATTERS:

A. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer presented the Treasurer's Report, to the Board.

B. Bills Payable: Treasurer presented the Bills Payable

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

Treasurer advised the Total on Hand at End of Month on page 1 of the January 2023 Treasurer's Report should be \$831,507.72.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

A. Finance Committee: Budget for FY 2023-2024 was presented for approval. President asked for a motion to approve budget for FY 2023-2024. Trustee Hilliard made a motion to approve. It was seconded by Trustee Ross. Voice vote. All present at roll call voted yes.

B. Ordinance Committee:

C. Street & Road Committee: Trustee Allen had been in touch with Hunter Ness from Samron. Hunter came to Makanda and met with Trustees Allen and Wolff to inspect the situation on Baptist Hill Road. Trustees Allen and Wolff agree with the following recommendations from Hunter. Baptist Hill from the Church to Baggett Lane is in good shape and only needs a two-inch layer of asphalt on top of it. Where the road is deteriorating, the biggest problem is that the ditch does not drain, and water seeps under the road. There may also be natural seepage from the hill side. The road at that spot should be cored to see what is underneath. Once the road has been cored then a decision can be made on how to proceed. The priority should be to clean the ditches and possibly add additional drainage as needed. Village Street and Road Crew will clean the ditches. Trustee Wolff advised the Board that Hunter would then come back out, take some measurements, and write up a proposal for the Board's approval. Hunter would also suggest an engineer to give the Village the necessary stamp. The Village could then put it in the paper. Trustees Allen and Wolff also had Hunter to look at the road at the curve at McGuire and Poplar Camp Road. Hunter advised that the problem there is that the last time it was blacktopped the wrong material was used and correct thickness of material was not applied. Hunter would take measurements and write a bid for the necessary repair. Trustees Allen and Wolff asked Hunter if he had ever tarred

and chipped over a blacktopped road. Hunter indicated that he had, and some had lasted for twenty years. Trustee Wolff advised that a heavy roller would be needed to roll the chip into the tar. Trustee Wolff has talked to Dale Fowler's assistant regarding financial assistance available to help the Village pay for the work that needs to be done on the roads. Trustee Wolff advised that after a follow up phone call, the assistant advised that there was nothing available at this time. President advised an email was received from Congressman Mike Bost's office providing information (12 attachments) on how to apply for funding in the Fiscal Year 2024 Community Project Funding season. Will need assistance to determine if we qualify for any of these programs. Forms must be completed and submitted by March 17.

Dan has indicated to Trustee Wolff that there is a piece of equipment used to fill in cracks on roads that have been tarred and chipped, that would be beneficial for the Village to have.

Trustee Allen reported that a culvert needs to be put in Lenny Pitcher's driveway, to help keep the water off the road. President Shingleton will review the Village Ordinance, to see if the Village can do that. Lenny has plans to make some modifications to his driveway.

Trustee Hilliard is preparing copies of the Annual Street and Road Report to give to each member of the Committee. Committee members will do a road inspection and complete the report forms and return them to Trustee Hilliard. He will compile the information and present it to the Committee at their meeting annual on April 8th, 9 a.m. at the Village Hall for review.

D. Subdivision Committee:

E. Insurance Committee:

F. Playground Committee:

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

A. Emergency Disaster Committee:

B. Special Events Committee:

ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS:

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

UNFINISHED/OLD BUSINESS: At the Finance Committee meeting it was discussed to increase hourly wage \$1 for Kenny Cowan. President asked for Board approval of hourly wage increase of \$1 for Kenny Cowan effective FY 2023-2024. Trustee Hilliard made a motion to approve a \$1 increase. It was seconded by Trustee Wolff. Voice vote. All present at roll call voted yes.

President presented updated proposal for two projects that were discussed last fall but had to be postponed until FY 2023-2024 budget.

- Reseal of Village Hall parking lot. This was discussed last fall but had to be postponed until FY 2023-2024 budget. Cost is \$1,936.70. An increase of \$103.
- Replacement of handrails for Village Hall and Community Center. Bid from last fall of \$4,700 for Village Hall and \$9,000 for Community Center is good until mid-May. We would need to pay ½ down and remainder at completion. It is possible we could start process of Village Hall and pay ½ from the 2022-2023 budget.

President asked for approval to contact vendors to move forward. A deposit of \$2,350 will be paid from FY 2022-2023 for Village Hall railing and balance will not be paid for until after May 1. The full cost of railing for Community Center will be paid from FY 2023-2024 budget. Trustee Ross made a motion to approve. It was seconded by Trustee Dalton. Voice vote. All present at roll call voted yes.

In the December meeting it was discussed regarding the purchase of property along railroad north of the CN railroad tower. It seemed the purchase would be in the best interest of the Village to purchase. The property will need to be surveyed and President received an estimate of \$2,770 which would be in addition to the \$5,000 for purchase of the property. President asked if she could move forward with process. Trustee Hilliard made a motion for the Village President to proceed with whatever is necessary for the purchase of the floodplain property, including having a survey done, if the Village attorney says it must be done. It was seconded by Trustee Wolff. Voice vote. All present at roll call voted yes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: President advised the playground will need replacement of mulch this year. She will get an estimate and advise on the cost.

Sage, from Buncombe Public Water District, contacted President to see if she would be willing to write a letter of support for a grant the Water District is applying for. The board was okay with the request for a letter of support.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS: Trustee Ross announced that there will be an Easter Egg Hunt at shelter 4 in Giant City State Park on April 8th, starting time to be announced.

ADJOURNMENT: President asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was made by Trustee Hilliard and seconded by Trustee Dalton. Voice vote. All present at roll call voted yes. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Leslie Yambert, Village Clerk

Tina Shingleton, President