Bowerston Village Council

Regular Meeting, Tuesday, July 18, 2023

Attendance: Council: Melody Jarvis, Polly Wolf, Paula Beamer, Jon Humphrey and Karen Donovan. Juliet Humphrey was absent, notified Mayor prior to meeting, working.

Others in Attendance: VA Bart Busby, Mayor Jacquie Humphrey, Solicitor JJ Ong, Fiscal Officer Heidi Trice, Income Tax/Utility Administrator Janeen Scott.

Regular Agenda Items

July Minutes: Jon Humphrey made motion to approved July minutes, as presented, Wolfe seconded, unanimous.

Payment of Bills: Beamer made motion to approve payment of bills, as presented, Jarvis seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.

Financial Report: Beamer made motion to approve financial report, as presented, Wolfe seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.

Council President’s Report
1.Beamer reported that there is a Finance committee meeting Wednesday at 5pm.
2. Beamer reported that the demolition grant is opened back up, deadline is August 28th. A discussion took place regarding the matter Ong suggested contacting the Health Department and having one problematic property condemned. Ong will write him a letter.

Mayor’s Report

1. Jacquie Humphrey reported that the local churches have requested use of the community building on August 13th and requested that Council waive the rental fee. Donovan made motion to approve, Wolfe seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.
2. Humphrey advised that the annual records committee meeting will be held just prior to the September meeting of Council

Fiscal Officer
1. Heidi Trice presented a resolution 2023-103 to approve putting the current expense levy on the November ballot. Beamer made motion to proceed, Jon Humphrey seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.

Water/Sewer Administrator
1. Scott reported. 305 Billings, 29 delinquent, 29 notices issued, 1 shut off.

Income Tax Administrator
1. Janeen Scott reported that we are at the same place this year that we were last year. Falling short from employer withholding taxes at this point, total of $52,358.93.

Village Administrator
1. Busby reported that the softball teams are done with the port a johns at the park, Jon suggested keeping them for the summer. A discussion took place.
2. Donovan made motion to return the port a john, Wolfe seconded, unanimous by roll call vote.
3. Busby said that RCAP will be out next month and he’s putting an all call out prior to. We need to stress to our residents that this will be at NO COST to the property owner. This includes work inside the house, the Village has $325,000.00 towards this project. Please do the survey.

Solicitor’s Report
1. A contract with the Leesville FD was discussed, Beamer to provide Solicitor with copy of contract with Bowerston.

2. Busby explained that all that is needed from the school is a transfer of property, Solicitor will contact Zucal.
3. Easements for Water Distribution, Ong advised that he has reviewed and we are way behind the 8 ball on this one. He believes that we will have to file the condemnation paperwork so that we are moving forward. Also, he thinks we’ll probably just have to knock on doors at this point. He will record the ones that are already signed.
4. Ong discussed what direction that we will go in to get this work caught up.

New Business
1. Beamer reported that Harrison County Water Department has reached out to the Village about purchasing water for future needs. A discussion took place regarding this matter. Busby reported that they may also want sewer in the future.
2. Ong advised that he has a contract that he can edit for Bowerston’s use. Busby says that he thinks this will be a great thing for the Village.
3. Busby said that we are invited to their meeting September 5th. Ong will prepare the agreement for Council’s review at the August meeting.
4. Donovan made a motion to have the agreement prepared, Jon Humphrey seconded.
5. Scott reported that there are still issues with the postal service, she has gotten returned mail from last December. Last month no one on Main Street received their bills.

Donovan made motion to adjourn, Jarvis seconded, unanimous. 7:42

Mayor: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Council President\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_