

COMMITTEE-AT-LARGE MINUTES: JANUARY 22, 2013

The Committee-at-Large Meeting was held on Tuesday, January 22, 2013, at the New Baden Village Hall, 1 East Hanover Street and was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Brandmeyer, Trustees Malina, Linthicum, Picard, Nielsen, and Gunn. **Board Members Absent:** Trustee Oster. **Staff Members Present:** Clerk Crane; Administrator Morani, Public Works Commissioner Renth; Chief Building and Zoning Official Green; Treasurer Pollmann; Police Chief Riley; Brian Buchheit of HMG Engineers; and Attorneys Gruenke and Palen of Bruckert, Gruenke & Long, P.C.

Wesclin Water/ Sewer Extension Project

Attorney Gruenke reported that he has filed the complaints for condemnation (eminent domain) for the water easements. A total of five (5) complaints were filed against the following property owners along Clinton County Line Road: Graul Testamentary Trust, Kenneth H. Graul Declaration of Trust, Donna S. Graul Declaration of Trust, John A. Bumpus Trust, and Keith and Jane Athmer; these owners will be served in the coming weeks. Mr. Gruenke stated that he has reviewed a draft agreement with Tri-Township Water District for the rights to provide water service to the new high school campus. The Wesclin School District and the Village will be splitting the cost with the Tri-Township Agreement. Maurice Zurliene, New Baden resident, had questions regarding the process being taken for eminent domain, which were addressed Attorney Gruenke. Tom Hull, New Baden resident, brought up his continued issue of lack of water at his residence and the cost the Village is expending in running water and sewer lines to Wesclin. Mayor Brandmeyer informed Mr. Hull that the Wesclin School District is funding most of the estimated \$1.4 million project, with the Village only responsible for approximately \$450,000. He further stated that once the Love's Truck Stop is built on the west side of Interstate 64, his property will have access to water. It was noted that Love's will fund the entire project.

Global Connect Fee

Chief Mike Riley and Village Clerk Teri Crane participated in a training session with the City of Breese for the new emergency notification system through Global Connect. Last year, the Village Board indicated a preference to set a fee for non-residents to use this service. Village staff is requesting the Board establish this fee prior to implementation of the program. Administrator Morani recommends charging a fee of \$5.00 or \$10.00. The consensus of the Board is to charge a one-time fee of \$10.00 for the duration of the program. This will be considered at the February 4 regular meeting.

Pay Period Adjustments for Employees

The Personnel Committee met on January 7 and has recommended a pay period adjustment for employees effective May 1, 2013. The purpose of this change is to allow Deputy Clerk Barb Wilken more time to process payroll. Additionally, it will be more efficient for department heads since the new pay period will end prior to the date when payroll information is sent to the bank. Currently, payroll information for the bank is finalized by the end of the business day on Tuesday while the pay period ends on Wednesday. Administrator Morani discussed the proposed plan with the employees who will be affected and there is no opposition. Employees were also provided notice about the Personnel Committee meeting. The method of implementation was discussed as well as a recommended option for employees who do not wish to see a reduction in wages during the adjustment period. The police department union employees will not be affected by this change. The collective bargaining agreement contains specific language that defines the work week, which means a separate agreement will be needed for them. This will be considered at the February 4 regular meeting.

Trustee Oster arrived at 7:20 p.m.

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Village Administrator
Residency
Requirements

Administrator Morani asked for an amendment to his employment contract allowing him to live outside of the Village limits. Consensus of the Board was in favor of this. It will be considered at the February 4 Regular meeting.

Country Lake Estates
& West Clinton
Estates

Mayor Brandmeyer and Administrator Morani have organized two meetings with Country Lakes and West Clinton residents to discuss proposals for annexation and sanitary sewer extensions. The Mayor provided an update on the Village activities and solicited feedback from the Board on how the Village should proceed from this point forward. HMG Engineers has an initial probable cost of \$1.4 million to have an 8" sanitary sewer extension to the two subdivisions. It was explained that the homeowners have been informed that it is their choice, if they do not want the sewer and annexation, the Village will not proceed. Attorney Gruenke explained the two options available for annexation: resident initiated or Village initiated, with the resident initiated being the preferred option. The Village would issue bonds to pay for the sewer line and set up a Special Service Area (SSA) for those residents. The goal is to not charge the residents more than \$400 per year for the next 20 years.

Electric Aggregation
Program Amendment
to Plan of Operation
and Governance

The Village will consider an amendment to its plan of operation and governance that will make it easier for new residents to transition into the aggregation program. New Accounts will encounter a similar opt-out process when the account is established.

There being no further business to be discussed by the Village Board, a motion was made by Trustee Gunn and seconded by Trustee Nielsen to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Malina, Linthicum, Oster, Picard, Nielsen, Gunn.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

A majority of the Board voting aye, the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Teri L Crane, Village Clerk
Approved: February 4, 2013