

COMMITTEE-AT-LARGE MINUTES: JANUARY 20, 2015

The Committee-at-Large Meeting was held on Tuesday, January 20, 2015, at the New Baden Village Hall, 1 East Hanover Street and was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Picard.

Present: Mayor Picard, Trustees Malina, Linthicum, Oster, Nielsen, Mavrogeorge and Gunn. **Board Members Absent:** None. **Staff Members Present:** Clerk Crane; Administrator Joost; Public Works Commissioner Renth; Police Chief Riley; Treasurer Pollmann; Chief Building & Zoning Official Green; and Attorney Gruenke.

Wisper ISP, Inc. Agreement

Board members reviewed the proposed agreement with Wisper ISP, Inc. for a satellite antenna on the elevated water tower. Working with Attorney Terry Bruckert, of Bruckert, Gruenke & Long, P.C., changes were made to the standard municipal agreement and incorporated specific provisions the Village wanted included as well as Wisper's modifications. Key component of the lease include: the lease is valid for five years; Wisper will pay the Village of New Baden \$79.98 per month (equivalent of two free internet services per month), the Village can take the free services at any time in lieu of payment; and that Wisper will have 24 hour/365 day access to the tower, but only after providing a 3 hour notice (unless it is an emergency). The agreement will be considered at the February 2 Regular Meeting.

One Stop Drive: Lane Striping and No Parking Designation

Discussions concerning One Stop Drive about either restriping lanes or designating it as no parking since the pavement repairs are now complete. It has been noted that damage to the pavement and curbing was more than likely caused by the weight of vehicles, specifically large trucks and semis. To restrict parking on the street, it can be accomplished by either designating it as "no parking" or restriping the roadway to designate two driving lanes and a center turn lane, effectively eliminating any parking. Public Works Commissioner Renth stated that when the road was originally installed, it was striped with the 3 lanes, but the markings have faded over the years. It was also discussed to limit the parking along State Route 161 where semis have the tendency to park; it was noted that IDOT would have to be involved for placements of signs in that location. The consensus of the Board was to establish One Stop Drive as a "no parking" zone and have it striped with two driving lanes and a center turn lane. An ordinance must be approved to declare the street "no parking"; this will be considered at the February regular meeting.

Emergency Siren System Upgrade

Trustee Mavrogeorge requested that Chief Riley research and report possible costs associated with upgrading the Village's emergency siren system. Chief Riley obtained a quote from American Signal Corporation/ Wireless USA, who installed the Villages three emergency sirens. The priority issue that needs to be addressed is moving the siren computer system from an office in the Fire Department's bay at the Emergency Services Building into the Police Department. Chief Riley feels that between the Fire Dept., the Police Dept. and the Public Works Dept., this move can be done at a cost considerably less than American Signals quote of \$1,784.00; a new Motorola radio will also need to be purchased at a cost of \$850.00 (the current system uses a spare Fire Dept. radio). Trustee Mavrogeorge would like to see a new siren installed in FY16/17 (approx. \$32,000.00) and upgrading the computer system in FY 17/18 (approx. \$16,000.00). Also discussed was the use of the CodeRED Weather Warning system. This is an additional service offered by CodeRED whom the Village currently uses for emergency notifications. CodeRED Weather Warning automatically sends messages to citizens in the path of severe weather using the National Weather Service's storm based warnings to generate its geographically targeted notifications. The consensus of the Board was in favor of adding this feature to our current contract with CodeRED. The contract will be considered at a future meeting. The cost of this service is \$1,000.00 per year.

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EMS Services: Billings vs. Collections

Trustee Mavrogeorge asked that Administrator Joost review data regarding billings versus collections for New Baden's EMS services. Mr. Joost prepared a document comparing the current year to the previous 3 years. The Village currently uses TriTech to assist with reporting and billings and uses Credit Control, LLC to assist with collections. It was discussed to look into a 3rd party company that will be able to do all the billing and collection. By March, Mayor Picard would like to see companies contacted to see what services they can offer. Trustee Mavrogeorge stated he would also like to look into professional development training for the EMS Director and to start staffing the 2nd ambulance for scheduled transfers of patients from Clinton Manor Nursing Home.

Sale of Surplus Vehicles

The Board previously passed an ordinance for the disposal of surplus vehicles but the Village did not follow through with that action in order to wait for the new truck for Public Works Commissioner Renth and to include some vehicles seized by the Police. The vehicles that are considered surplus are: a 2000 Chevrolet Blazer LS, a 2001 Dodge Ram 1500 quad cab pickup truck; a 2002 Ford Crown Victoria Police Interceptor; and a 2005 Chrysler 300. A revised ordinance was reviewed and will be considered at the February 2, 2015, regular meeting.

2015 Pool Season: YMCA Agreement

Administrator Joost has been negotiating a possible agreement with the YMCA of Southwest Illinois to return and operate the Legion Memorial Pool for the 2015 season. The Village needs to decide if it wishes to commit to the agreement, operate the pool itself, or take some other approach. The potential agreement with the YMCA was reviewed by Board members along with a comparison of proposed fees to previous fees over the last five seasons. The agreement with the YMCA is based upon a budget prepared by them that projects revenue and expenses. If their projections are accurate, the pool will "break even" although the Village is still incurring additional costs (chemicals, insurance, and utilities). The proposed agreement states that if the YMCA makes a profit above their budget, that excess will be returned to the Village; if the YMCA loses money in excess of their proposed budget, the Village will need to make up that loss, up to a cap of \$2,100.

Western Junction Rodeo Proposal

Eric Hull from Western Junction, 11401 State Route 161, has made a preliminary request to hold his annual rodeo in New Baden rather than in Mascoutah. The event would be scheduled for June 27th and June 28th of 2015; the weekend after the June Jamboree. Board members reviewed information provided by Mr. Hull from last year's rodeo. The proposed location for the rodeo would be the south section of the Park, east of the American Legion Ball Diamond, in the same location that the truck pull is held in conjunction with the June Jamboree. Mayor Picard has spoken to the Hull's on several occasions regarding the rodeo and feels it would be a great addition to the Village of New Baden. Currently all events held on the Park grounds are operated by not for profit groups. No decisions were made by the Board.

There being no further business to discuss by the Village Board, a motion was made by Trustee Malina and seconded by Trustee Him to adjourn the meeting.

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

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

A majority of the Board voting aye, the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Teri L Crane, Village Clerk
Approved: February 2, 2015