# **Regular Meeting**

August 13, 2012

The Village of Ashton Board of Trustees met at 7:30 P.M. on August 13, 2012 in the Village Hall with President Martinez presiding. Trustees in attendance were David Balch, Tom Balch, Mike Emmons, Andrew Kida, Dean Meurer and Richard Russell. Motion was made by Kida, seconded by Russell to approve the July minutes. Voice votes, 6 ayes- D Balch, T Balch, Emmons, Kida, Meurer and Russell, 0 nays, motion carried.

Motion was made by Kida, seconded by Emmons to draw upon the treasury to pay the monthly bills and payroll in the amount of $48,840.94 with A.I.P. bill contingent upon final inspection of the cemetery fence. Voice votes, 6 ayes- D Balch, T Balch, Emmons, Kida, Meurer and Russell, 0 nays, motion carried. Voice votes, 6 ayes- D Balch, T Balch, Emmons, Kida, Meurer and Russell, 0 nays, motion carried.

Lois Erickson thanked the board for taking care of the bushes in her alley.

Kevin O’Dell approached the board about the grass and weeds growing in the curb and gutters and overgrown trees hanging over the streets and alleys. O’Dell said there was a need for a stop or yield sign at North 2nd Street and Evans Avenue. Martinez said Cardot thought it should be a yield sign. Russell said we were waiting on Grover’s to come to town to trim trees.

Lori Black asked the board to consider allowing golf carts in town. Tess said it should be referred to committee then brought back to the board. Following discussion Kida, Meurer, Russell, Tess and Hetland formed a committee to meet on August 20 at 6:30 P.M. at the Village Hall for review. Tess asked the members to have streets identified not to use.

Anna Sacco-Miller spoke to the board about her run for Lee County State’s Attorney.

Liram Mimini asked who was in charge of weeds. Tess told him Casper Manheim was.

Meurer scheduled a Community Economic Development meeting for Monday, August 20 at 7:30 P.M. at the Village Hall.

Russell asked the board for approval to remove the One Way sign at the alley by the village office building. Tess recommended doing it by resolution. Russell made a motion, seconded by Emmons to remove the One Way sign. Voice votes, 6 ayes- D Balch, T Balch, Emmons, Kida, Meurer and Russell, 0 nays, motion carried.

Russell reported that the gentleman that was going to seal coat the parking lots had backed out because of Prevailing Wage. Tess said that it was maintenance and to have Sarver call him.

Matt Hansen from Willett Hofmann & Associates went over the ten bids for Contract No. 1, the North and West Side Water Transmission Main project and the bidding irregularities. Hansen said Northern Illinois Service Company out of Rockford had the lowest bid and that they were a good company and that they had had no problems with their work.

Hansen then went over the four bids for Contract No. 2, the Elevated Water Storage Tank Painting projects and the bidding irregularities.

Following discussion, T Balch made a motion, seconded by Kida to award Contract No. 1, the North and West Side Water Transmission Main project to Northern Illinois Services for their bid of $218,840 contingent on obtaining an IEPA loan. Roll call votes, 6 ayes- D Balch, T Balch, Emmons, Kida, Meurer and Russell, 0 nays, motion carried.

Russell made a motion, seconded by T Balch to award Contract No. 2, the Elevated Water Storage Tank Painting project to Neumann Company for their bid of $171,900 contingent on obtaining an IEPA loan. Roll call votes, 6 ayes- D Balch, T Balch, Emmons, Kida, Meurer and Russell, 0 nays, motion carried.

Hansen went over the recommended water and sewer system rates with the idea that the money would be there to repair or replace equipment instead of having to borrow the funds. Hansen said the reason the rates are important is we still have to submit user charge because the IEPA needs to know you can operate the system and repay the loan. Hansen said if the board makes no decision tonight there need to be a special meeting so we can get it into the IEPA for approval. Hansen told the board the only way to get the rate down is to cut the budget. T Balch asked Hansen if they need to do changes to get it though the IEPA. Hansen said if the IEPA doesn’t question it after taking a look at the historic line items and say that it falls in line with what we been doing. After going over budget cuts, Hansen said he would recalculate and adjust the budget and get back to Van Dam.

Hansen said the start date for the projects depend on the loan but the transmission main could start after the crops are out and the tank painting would probably be next spring.

Emmons reported that the Blum Foundation still supports the splash pad project. Emmons said the park committee would be meeting on August 21 at 7:30 P.M. at eh Village Hall.

Kida said he would inspect the fence and had straightened 45 small monuments. He reported that the Blum Foundation had turned down the request to straighten the large monuments. Merendino had edged around the road which exposed some deterioration.

Manheim informed the board that high weeds would fall under the Property Maintenance Code.

Tess informed the board that the IML Conference would be held October 18, 19 & 20th this year.

Upon returning form executive session, Martinez reported that personnel had been discussed.

Russell made a motion, seconded by Kida to adjourn. Voice votes, 6 ayes- D Balch, T Balch, Emmons, Kida, Meurer and Russell, 0 nays, motion carried. 9:55 P.M.

Dorthy S. Van Dam, Village Clerk