

**Regular Meeting**  
December 9, 2019

The Village of Ashton Board of Trustees met at 7:00 P.M. December 9, 2019 in the Village Hall with President Henert presiding. Trustees in attendance were Jeff Clark, Chuck Ellis, Martha Holder, Susan Larson, and Jerry Williams. 1 absent-Pettenger.

Motion was made by Larson, seconded by Ellis to approve the November minutes. Voice votes, 5 ayes – Clark, Ellis, Holder, Larson, and Williams. 0 nays. 1 absent-Pettenger. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Larson, seconded by Ellis to draw upon the treasury to pay the monthly bills, payroll, additional bills in the amount of \$74,830.71. Voice votes, 5 ayes – Clark, Ellis, Holder, Larson, and Williams. 0 nays. 1 absent-Pettenger. Motion carried.

Henert introduced Adam Heal from Query Insurance. He reviewed the insurance policy for the village. They increased some of the property values which is reflected in the increase but the rates stayed the same. IPRF which does work comp, has an increase due to the increase in payroll. The village always pays in extra at the end of the year, so we are trying to show actuals to help that not to happen.

Casper was absent due to a conflict. Henert reported that he had sent out letters since the last meeting and Yater had also about the concerns brought up at the last meeting.

Larson reported she had met with a representative from the USDA. October 1<sup>st</sup> is the beginning of their fiscal year, the earlier we get in the better as money runs out as the year goes on. They have a facility program, which would include the roof at the village, 3 bids would be needed and they cover 35% up to \$25,000.00. They also have a water/wastewater section. Larson attended the Blum Foundation meeting, they paid \$2219.00 towards the warning siren and Larson will resubmit at the beginning of the year for the remainder of the request. The 40 acres will belong to the Blum Foundation until it is paid in full and then is gifted back to the village. Larson would like to thank Tom Demmer for a grant of \$75,000.00 for the village that we will receive sometime in the next 3 years. There is no designated spot these funds need to be spent and it does not have to be paid back.

Williams stated he would like to reapply for another \$30,000.00 for sidewalks from the Blum for the year 2020, which is the second year of the sidewalk improvements. Williams made a motion to submit a request from the Blum Foundation for \$30,000.00 for sidewalks for the year 2020 seconded by Holder. Roll Call Vote-Clark-aye, Ellis-aye, Williams-aye, Holder-aye, and Larson-aye. 5-ayes. 0-nays. 1 absent-Pettenger. Motion Carried.

Henert reported that Blair, the new hire was doing well.

Holder reported that the Christmas walk went well, it was busy downtown and they were starting to work on spring projects.

Yater reported they had 9 warnings, 4 arrests, and had 3 calls.

Clark reported that she needed a motion to pass the Annual Levy Ordinance. A motion was made by Larson to pass the Annual Levy Ordinance seconded by Clark. Roll Call Vote. Clark-aye, Ellis-aye, Williams-aye, Holder-aye, and Larson-aye. 5-ayes, 0-nays, and 1 absent-Pettenger. Motion Carried.

Ellis reported the doors should be done this week and the steel for the roof is being delivered on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

Larson reported there will be no December, they were having a scavenger hunt for the Christmas walk. Larson thought it was great that for the book loaning program the library is in, it was the first month we loaned more than we borrowed. The rentals are busy. They are hoping to do some electrical work, furnace work, and show a movie. They will be working on policies and by-laws.

Crull reported he met with Tess about the buildings on Main St, there is another building of concern also, we will make a list and him and Casper will meet to discuss a plan to move forward.

Lyle Sword asked if everyone sees the bills, Henert stated everyone gets a list of the bills.

Larson made a motion to adjourn seconded by Holder. Voice votes, 5 ayes – Clark, Ellis, Holder, Larson, and Williams. 5-ayes. 0 nays. 1 absent-Pettenger. Motion carried.

7:35 PM

Meghan Clark, Village Clerk

