

Regular Meeting

March 9, 2020

The Village of Ashton Board of Trustees met at 7:00 P.M. March 9, 2020 in the Village Hall with President Henert presiding. Trustees in attendance were Jeff Clark, Chuck Ellis, Martha Holder, Susan Larson, Ryan Pettenger and Jerry Williams.

Motion was made by Holder, seconded by Pettenger to approve the February minutes. Voice votes, 6 ayes – Clark, Ellis, Holder, Larson, Pettenger, and Williams. 0 nays. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Pettenger, seconded by Larson to draw upon the treasury to pay the monthly bills, payroll, additional bills in the amount of \$45,219.44. Voice votes, 6 ayes – Clark, Ellis, Holder, Larson, Pettenger, and Williams. 0 nays. Motion carried.

Lyle Sword would like an update on cars and trailers in people's yards. Henert told him to give Chief Yater a call and he could update him on it. Sword said he counted 62 cars and trailers in yards.

Old Business- Back hoe issues from last month- Henert reported Flagg Township is selling an 05 Cat 420 B it has 5000 hours and they are looking to sell it for about \$15,000.00. Williams says we have updated ours and he thinks we could spend the money elsewhere. Henert thinks he can get them down to \$12,000.00. We will table this issue till next month to look at the backhoe.

New Business- Clark reported the YWCA had asked if the village would proclaim April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Clark made a motion to make the proclamation seconded by Pettenger. Roll Call Vote- Holder-aye, Larson-Aye, Pettenger-Aye, Clark-Aye, Ellis-Aye, and Williams-Aye. 6-ayes. 0-nays. Motion Carried.

Rock River Energy sent bids for the water tower pumpage and street lights. Larson made a motion to accept the bid for the water tower from AEP for 36 months Pettenger seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote- Holder-aye, Larson-Aye, Pettenger- Aye, Clark-Aye, Ellis-Aye, and Williams-Aye. 6-ayes. 0-nays. Motion Carried. Pettenger made a motion to accept the bid for street lightening from Constellation for 40 months seconded by Holder. Roll Call Vote- Holder-aye, Larson-Aye, Pettenger- Aye, Clark-Aye, Ellis-Aye, and Williams-Aye. 6-ayes. 0-nays. Motion Carried.

Henert showed the board a proposal from Willett-Hofmann for a street assessment to assess the street conditions and prioritize repair. Larson made a motion to accept the proposal seconded by Ellis. Larson feels that having an outside look at repairs will help plan current and future repairs. Pettenger wants to look at water and sewer also in the assessment. Larson amended her motion to the study of streets and water and sewer infrastructure within the village up to \$15,000.00 with monthly updates seconded by Pettenger. Roll Call Vote- Holder-aye, Larson-Aye, Pettenger- Aye, Clark-Aye, Ellis-Aye, and Williams-Aye. 6-ayes. 0-nays. Motion Carried.

Henert wanted to thank Yater, Pettenger, and Clark for working on the FEMA grant. Stewart's office is working on getting the grant funds from the Main Street project.

Casper had a solar panel permit, panels fall under accessory structures and uses, we need to update the ordinance to make sure these are covered as well.

Larson reported she went to a conference for economic development conference in Springfield, it was a good networking experience and covered a variety of topics.

Williams reported pot holes were being filled in.

Yater reported they had 3 warnings, 7 citations, and 14 calls with 2 pending investigations.

Holder reported that park clean up days will be March 28th and April 4th starting at 8:00 am. Grover will be contacted to remove some trees at the park.

Clark reminded everyone to fill out the census.

Ellis moved the investments from making .8% to 2%.

Crull is working on 804 and 806 Main St, he talked to a person but the grants are for residential areas only. Possibilities to rezone if we have to take ownership. Possibly if we have to repair put a big enough lean that no one would buy it at the tax sale.

Holder made a motion to adjourn seconded by Larson. Voice votes, 6 ayes – Clark, Ellis, Holder, Larson, Pettenger, and Williams. 0 nays. Motion carried.

7:46 PM

Meghan Clark, Village Clerk