

Regular Meeting
September 14, 2020

The Village of Ashton Board of Trustees met at 7:00 P.M. September 14, 2020 at the Village Hall with President Henert presiding. Trustees in attendance were Martha Holder, Susan Larson, and Chuck Ellis.

Henert stated that we had accepted a bid of \$675.00 for the Ford Jubilee tractor. He is working on someone to appoint for Williams position and should have a recommendation at next month's meeting. The Main Street grant that Don Ross started in 2014 finally came in.

Motion was made by Holder, seconded by Ellis to approve the August minutes. Voice votes, 4 ayes – Ellis, Holder, Larson, and Henert. 0 nays. 2 absent-Clark and Pettenger. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Larson, seconded by Holder to draw upon the treasury to pay the monthly bills, payroll, additional bills in the amount of \$68,817.74. Voice votes, 4 ayes – Ellis, Holder, Larson, and Henert. 0 nays. 2 absent-Clark and Pettenger. Motion carried.

Kyle Mahaffey applied for a liquor license and was at the meeting for any questions the boards members may have. He is wanting to put in a gaming parlor and only serve on premise. He would include a full bar menu and have 6 machines in the building which is the limit of what you can have. A motion was made by Ellis to approve the additional liquor license Larson seconded. Roll Call Vote- Larson-aye, Ellis-aye, Holder-aye, and Henert-aye. 4-ayes. 0-nays. 2 absent. Motion Carried.

Casey's would like to apply for a license to also be able to sell hard liquor. A motion was made by Larson seconded by Holder to table this until next month's meeting. Voice votes, 4 ayes – Ellis, Holder, Larson, and Henert. 0 nays. 2 absent-Clark and Pettenger. Motion carried.

Lee-Ogle County Enterprise Zone would like the village to approve an amendment to add Franklin Grove back into the Enterprise Zone. A motion was made by Holder seconded by Larson to approve the amendment. Roll Call Vote- Ellis-aye, Holder-aye, Henert-aye, and Larson-aye. 4-ayes. 0-nays. 2 absent. Motion carried.

Henert was asked if the golf cart driving age could be changed from 18 to 16 with a valid driver's license. A motion was made by Ellis seconded by Holder to change the driver's age from 18 to 16 with a valid driver's license. Roll call vote Henert-aye, Ellis-aye, Holder-aye, and Larson-aye. 0-nays. 2 absent.

Casper reported he is working on blight ordinances and rubbished letters, Yater and he are working on the system to make it run more smoothly when someone does not comply with the letter that has been sent. We have a business in town that is not complying and is being fined, we will probably end up taking him to court as nothing is being done. There are also some remodeling and buildings going up around town.

Yater reported on the calls for July and August with warnings and citations being issued. There was a string of vehicle burglaries and an arrest has been made.

Larson reported the salon was open, the ice cream shop is a hit, the vet clinic is still progressing and she would like to see Casey's do some upgrades to their building.

Henert mentioned that patching had been done around town, seal coating and seal cracking had been done also. IDOT is going to replace a storm sewer on the highway and look into a hole that is opening up on the edge of the highway.

Holder is working on an alternative Halloween, with pre-made goodie bags from donations of local citizens and businesses, it will be from 2-5 on October 31st. A motion was made by Ellis seconded by Larson to set Trick or Treat hours from 5-7 on October 31st. Roll Call Vote- Ellis-aye, Holder-aye, Henert-aye, and Larson-aye. 4-ayes. 0-nays. 2 absent. Motion carried.

Clark reported that there will be 3-4 year term, 1-2 year term and Village President up for election in the spring, she will post when the dates start to circulate and file begins.

Ellis reported that he talked to Grover about the trees at the cemetery and they will have a meeting to discuss.

Holder reported that the Mills is working on a list of repairs for around the building and they are still working on the museum project.

Crull reported letters have been sent to the owner of the buildings on Main Street with no reply. We will probably have to issue citations and then move to demolish the building.

Larson made a motion to adjourn seconded by Holder. Voice votes, 4 ayes – Ellis, Holder, Larson, and Henert. 0 nays. 2 absent. Motion carried.

7:50 PM

Meghan Clark, Village Clerk