

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the
Village of Jerome Board

CALL TO ORDER: The Board of Trustees held the regular scheduled meeting on Thursday, September 16, 2021 at the Jerome Civic Center, 2901 Leonard Street, Jerome, Illinois via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Attorney Brokaw, followed by Roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: The following were present:

Kathy DeHart, Trustee of Public Property & Co Trustee Public Health
Leigh Irons, Trustee of Public Safety
Ralph Irons, Trustee of Water Department
Phil Raftis, Trustee of Public Works
Christina Smith, Co-Trustee of Public Health

Also Present:

Jason Brokaw, Attorney, Giffin, Winning, Cohen & Bodewes, P.C.,
Steve Roth, Village Treasurer

Absent:

Lisa Cave, Village Clerk
Mike Lopez, Village President
Dale Lael, Trustee of Building & Zoning

TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN: Attorney Brokaw stated that a trustee needs to make a motion to appoint Trustee Raftis as Chairman of the September 16, 2021 board meeting.

Motion to appoint Trustee Raftis as Chairman of the September 16, 2021 meeting by Trustee Leigh Irons and 2nd by Trustee Ralph Irons
Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE;

MOTION PASSES.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Trustee Raftis asked whether the Board had reviewed the September 2, 2021 Minutes and if they found need for any changes, corrections, or amendments.

Motion to approve the September 2, 2021 Meeting Minutes as presented by: Trustee Smith and 2nd by Trustee Ralph Irons
Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE;

MOTION PASSES.

APPROVAL TO PAY BILLS: Trustee Raftis asked Treasurer Roth to address the board on the Warrant List 22-10 dated September 16, 2021 totaling \$51,860.03. Treasurer Roth added that of this amount \$12,078.25 will be paid from the General Revenue Fund, \$2,833.89 will be paid from the 1% Fund, \$36,893.89 will be paid from the Water Fund.

Trustee Raftis asked for a motion to approve Warrant List 22-10 as presented.
Motion to Approve the Bills to be Paid as presented by Trustee Leigh Irons and 2nd by Trustee DeHart.

Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE;
MOTION PASSES.

TREASURER REPORTS: Treasurer Roth presented to the Board of Trustees the Financial Status as of September 16, 2021, via email. *Revenues: Most of the revenues remained steady, although a few continue to be slightly off the increases they have shown over the past year, including Local Use Taxes and Income Taxes. Although with automobile production limited, it is not surprising that Use Taxes are down. Gaming Revenues seemed to have leveled off to a steady amount each month, around \$15,000, which is still higher than where we were at monthly before the pandemic. Please continue to monitor your accounts and keep our monthly expenditures within budgeted amounts. Funds: There will be approximately \$624,924.75 in the Illinois Funds GRF account and \$86,937.28 in the MFT funds. There is approximately \$47,498.56 in the INB GRF account and \$244,952.40 in the INB Water account. The other bank account balances are as follows: Law Enforcement - DUI – \$300.00; Law Enforcement – Vehicle - \$727.48; 1% NHR - \$361,203.95; Road & Bridge - \$18,518.28; Police Equipment Fund - \$2,039.83, Cannabis Fund - \$2,415.06; MFT-Rebuild Illinois fund – \$72,757.96; American Rescue Funds - \$107,939.70. We have received our first of two payments under the American Rescue Plan. I also received the draft of the audit. I have to review it and my plan, after doing so, is to send it to the Board next week for review and schedule the auditors for the next meeting in October.*

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Trustee Raftis opened the Visitors Acknowledgement portion of the meeting at 6:36 pm.

Trustee Leigh Irons stated that Clerk Cave received one comment after the meeting had started on September 2, 2021.

Trustee Leigh Irons read the email received from Nick Thomas on September 2, 2021 at 6:34 pm

*Hello, I realize I am submitting this form late for this months town hall.
Jerome water bill is still one of the only things that cannot be paid on line. the office is also only open from 10-1, which is inconvenient for most working class citizens, seeing that they are gone at those times.
If we remade the Jerome website on Squarespace, we can utilize their merchant services, and could pay our water bill AND rent out the civic center AND make donations to any churches/whatever.
this would only cost each citizen \$2/per YEAR. less late payments would be submitted, less paper would have to be sent out, and less shut offs would incur.
many people on facebook in the Jerome neighbors page support this movement.
if you would like more detailed analysis please let me know, as i would love to see this problem solved.*

This portion of the meeting closed at 6:36 pm.

REPORTS:

Trustee Smith stated they are making progress with the residents to clean up their property. Big thanks to Trustee DeHart for helping reach out to residents. Reminder that Public Works will not be picking up limbs this year, residents need to make arrangements to remove them, and Trustee Smith will be sending out letters to remind the residents. The Sangamon County Department of Public Health will be holding a Flu Clinic on October 26, 2021, from 10:00 am to 11:00 am. No proof of residency required.

Trustee Raftis stated the last speed hump has been received and will be installing it on Monday. Public Works is still digging out ditches. Please do not put sticks in your ditch. Alberta Street is complete we will be adding grass seed to the area. Residents, if you see flags in your yard, please do not remove them, once work is completed, we will remove the flags. Bids will be coming to repair the AstroVan, we believe it is the water pump. Trustee DeHart asked if there are flags in a resident's yard does that mean the work will be done soon at that residence? Trustee Raftis stated the plan is to go down Iles, all contractors must call into Julie for locates and it could be any of us that have called in. Trustee Raftis is not going to say yes, they will be there soon as it all depends on how fast Julie can be out to locate and how quickly they can move before the weather breaks.

Trustee DeHart reported she has received fire pit applications and she is continuing to get tall grass, bushes, complaints that we have received, letters will be out to the residents. Residents need to be reminded to cut back their weeds overgrowing their fence lines. Ryan Electric will be installing the additional wiring in the kitchen. Floors are being waxed in the civic center. A rental from last weekend had damaged the floors and we are keeping the deposit.

Trustee Leigh Irons stated acting Chief Kyle Forsyth is working on some audits and reviewing the inventory.

Trustee Ralph Irons stated we are still waiting on CWLP to repair the two hydrants; they are short-handed at the moment. Thank you to Steve and Diane for the zoom meeting this week and will have one more zoom meeting the next week.

Treasurer Roth stated he has received the draft of the audit and is reviewing it. Hopeful we can pass the audit at the next meeting.

Attorney Brokaw had nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS DISCUSSION: Attorney Brokaw presented the Declaration of Local Disaster which is the same as before just updating the dates to cover through November.

Motion to approve the Declaration of Local Disaster by Trustee Ralph Irons and 2nd by Trustee DeHart.

Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE;

MOTION PASSES.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business, Trustee Raftis asked for a motion to close the meeting at 6:59 pm. Motion was made by Trustee Leigh Irons and 2nd by Trustee DeHart.

PREPARED BY: Lisa Cave, Clerk

DATE APPROVED: October 7, 2021

Village Clerk

Date