

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

CALL TO ORDER: The President and the Board of Trustees held the regular scheduled meeting on Thursday, December 2, 2021 at the Jerome Civic Center, 2901 Leonard Street, Jerome, Illinois via Zoom. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by President Lopez, followed by Roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: The following were present:

Mike Lopez, Village President
Kathy DeHart, Trustee of Public Property & Co Trustee Public Health
Leigh Irons, Trustee of Public Safety
Ralph Irons, Trustee of Water Department
Christina Smith, Co-Trustee of Public Health
Dale Lael, Trustee of Building & Zoning

Also Present:

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

Absent:

Phil Raftis, Trustee of Public Works

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: President Lopez asked whether the Board had reviewed the November 18, 2021 Minutes and if they found need for any changes, corrections, or amendments. President Lopez asked for a correction on roll call to ensure his name was listed as present. President Lopez asked the November 18, 2021 minutes would stand approved as amended.

Motion to approve the November 18, 2021 Meeting Minutes as amended by:
Trustee DeHart and 2nd by Trustee Leigh Irons

Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE, except Trustee Smith voted present

MOTION PASSES.

APPROVAL TO PAY BILLS: President Lopez asked whether the board had reviewed Warrant List 22-15 dated December 2, 2021 totaling \$65,719.76. Treasurer Roth added that of this amount \$9,466.53 will be paid from the General Revenue Fund, \$36,933.40 will be paid from the Water Fund, \$377.39 will be paid from the 1% Fund, \$18,518.28 will be paid from Road and Bridge and \$424.16 will be paid out of Motor Fuel Tax.

President Lopez asked for a motion to approve Warrant List 22-15 as presented.
Motion to Approve the Bills to be Paid as presented by Trustee Lael and
2nd by Trustee Smith.

Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE;

MOTION PASSES.

TREASURER REPORTS: Treasurer Roth presented to the Board of Trustees the Financial Status as of December 2, 2021, via email. *Revenues:* We have received none of the revenue for November yet. *Funds:* Currently there is approximately \$713,155.38 in the Illinois Funds GRF account and \$97,821.07 in the MFT funds. There is approximately \$35,477.97 in the INB GRF account and \$233,220.68 in the INB Water account. The other bank account balances are as follows: Law Enforcement - DUI – \$290.00; Law Enforcement – Vehicle - \$717.43; 1% NHR - \$385,108.59; Road & Bridge - \$18,518.28; and Police Equipment Fund - \$2,039.83, Cannabis Fund - \$2,864.43, MFT-Rebuild Illinois fund – \$72,757.96, and the American Rescue Plan Fund \$107,966.31.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

President Lopez opened the Visitors Acknowledgement portion of the meeting at 6:37 pm.

He noted that during the time when remote meetings are being held public comments must be submitted in writing to the Clerk by email or by placing them in the deposit slot outside the office front door by 6:00 p.m. the day of the meeting.

Clerk Cave stated she had received 2 comments by email. Clerk Cave read the comments into the minutes.

On November 30, 2021 at 8:56 pm Jackie Bordewick wrote Please address the water leak problems in visitors.

On December 1, 2021 at 8:48 am Dee Lynn forwarded an email she had sent addressed to Trustee DeHart, which was sent on November 29, 2021 at 1:30 pm. The email states: Hi Kathy-Dee Lynn 2600 S Lincoln—Question about ditches—I’m praying nothing is scheduled for ditch running along my property on Iles 🙏 It’s never run over onto Iles - handles it all fine! And if anything is done to it I won’t be able to maintain it 😞 I mow it myself now but I couldn’t maintain the ditches they’ve made further down!! So do you know plan for this area? I appreciate you reading and responding- Just something that is weighing on my mind. Thank you - Dee Lynn

Trustee Ralph Irons stated that the Village has been testing the water on Wabash to determine if it was groundwater or an actual leak. They tested again on Thursday which the test result was positive for a water leak. City Water Light & Power was contacted and the soonest they can come repair the leak will be on Tuesday.

Trustee DeHart stated that Dee Lynn emailed her and she has responded to her email after speaking to Trustee Raftis and Dave Wilken, Trustee DeHart responded the following email *Hi Dee Dee, I will refer your questions and concerns to Trustee Phil Raftis. He can speak with Dave Wilken about it and one of us will get back in touch with you. It is my understanding from Phil that most village ditches will be cleaned out at some point, not just Iles. I did see some recent utility flagging in some ditches on Iles and that is an indication they are back on the cleaning out process. After that each resident will get a letter before hand as a heads up. They plan to keep working on it as long as the weather holds up and then resume next year. We will also be posting info on the village wide ditch project very soon for all residents to see. Kathy . Trustee Raftis responded to Dee Lynn directly today through email, that email stated Ms. Lynn, The ditches on both sides of Iles Ave are being recontoured to allow for more adequate flow between culverts under roads and driveways. More simply, the ditches are being cut so that the bottom of the culvert at either end is unobstructed. Your ditch in particular may not have seen significant flow historically. But as ditches are maintained "upstream" of you, there may be more water moving than has in the past. We are recontouring the ditches to their original depths. I cannot imagine the ditch adjacent to your*

residence being cut down more than a few inches, and I have instructed our Public Works Supervisor to contour the ditch as gradually as is possible to allow for adequate maintenance. Thank you for your concern, Philip Raftis

This portion of the meeting closed at 6:42 pm.

REPORTS:

Trustee Smith stated she is still dealing with limb piles.

Trustee Raftis was absent. President Lopez stated that Brandon started on Wednesday and Caleb started the 2nd week of November. Both employees are working well with Dave. They are getting acclimated to the Village and the jobs that they are required to do.

Trustee DeHart stated the Christmas decorations are up and will be adding a few more by the end of the weekend. Trustee DeHart stated the stove is in place and working well. Trustee DeHart reached out to Toys for Tots and has scheduled a 1 day drop off for gifts Saturday December 18, 2021 from 11 am to 3 pm. Chief Forsythe, Trustee DeHart and the coordinator from Toys for Tots will be here to help collect the toys.

Trustee Lael stated he has issued a building permit to Debbies Video Slots at 1501 Wabash, Ste D.

Trustee Leigh Irons wanted to remind residents that the holidays are coming up lock your cars and to keep an eye out on your neighbors.

Trustee Ralph Irons stated CWLP will be in the Village on Tuesday to repair the leak on Wabash.

Village Clerk Cave reported that the liquor license and gaming renewals are coming in and President Lopez and Clerk Cave will meet next week to review the renewals that have been turned in.

Attorney Brokaw had nothing to report but reminded Clerk Cave the renewals for liquor licenses are reduced this year and make sure they pay the lessor amount.

President Lopez stated that Clerk Cave and himself are working on the newsletter and President Lopez wanted to wait until the new staff started to add to the bulletin along with events, parking of cars for the snow plows and this newsletter will be a winter edition. Toys for Tots date is being added to the water bills. Due to Covid cases still on the rise, we will continue to close the office and have limited exposure. If anyone needs to meet with the office staff they should call and make an appointment. President Lopez stressed it is a good reminder to lock your cars as the surrounding areas are being hit with retail theft, and stolen vehicles.

NEW BUSINESS DISCUSSION: President Lopez presented Ordinance 22-15 Levying and Assessing Taxes for the Village of Jerome, Illinois for the Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2022. Attorney Brokaw stated this ordinance needs passed every year, there has been no change since the estimate that was provided to the board members. Street light tax will go up to \$9,572.24 and Police Protection is \$15,309.25.

Motion to approve Ordinance 22-15 Levying and Assessing Taxes for the Village of Jerome, Illinois for the Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2022 by Trustee Leigh Irons and 2nd by Trustee Smith.

Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE;

MOTION PASSES.

President Lopez asked for discussion and approval of the repair for the rear brakes on the Orange dump truck. Dave Wilken received a bid for \$1,550 currently. President Lopez would like an approval to fix the rear brakes of the orange dump truck not to exceed \$1,800 in case there are other issues once the mechanic gets into the repair.

Motion to approve repairs not to exceed \$1,800 on the rear brakes on the Orange dump truck by Trustee Lael and 2nd by Trustee Ralph Irons.

Upon roll call vote, all voted AYE;

MOTION PASSES.

President Lopez stated on Wednesday December 1st Trustee Raftis spearheaded the Employee Appreciation Luncheon from Hyvee. President Lopez wanted to thank Trustee Raftis as it was great food and was nice for everyone to get together and meet the new employees that have started with the Village.

Trustee DeHart asked about the infrastructure bill that was passed by the Federal Government on how we can qualify for any of the funding. Attorney Brokaw stated that the terms of the bill have not been ironed out yet and it will probably come down to state grants versus allocations directly to the Village. Treasurer Roth added that he is still awaiting news on the Iles project that the state had stated they would make a decision by Christmas.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business, President Lopez asked for a motion to close the meeting at 7:01 pm. Motion was made by Trustee Leigh Irons and 2nd by Trustee DeHart.

PREPARED BY: Lisa Cave, Clerk

DATE APPROVED: December 16, 2021

Village Clerk

Date