Regular Meeting Village Hall Thursday, December 19, 2024 7:00 pm

The regular meeting of the Village board opened with Acting Mayor Laura McMahon presiding. Trustees present were as follows: Natalie Krause, Todd Kinzel, and Bryan Bingel. Roy Dean and Chris Klingeman were absent.

Charles Heyl-Building and Zoning and Chad Easton-Village Administrator were present.

Visitors present were Mike Trotter-County Journal and Kenneth Chandler.

Acting Mayor Laura McMahon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Natalie and seconded by Todd to approve the previous meeting minutes. Motion passed. 4-ayes, 0-nayes, 2 absent (Roy Dean & Chris).

A motion was made by Bryan and seconded by Natalie to approve the summary of Village Financial reports. Chad asked if any Trustees would like more information given with the financial reports or if any changes need to be made. Everyone was good with how they are reported. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Natalie-yes, Todd-yes, Bryan-yes, Laura-yes, Roy Dean-absent, Chris-absent.

No Correspondence.

Acting Mayor Laura McMahon asked the Trustees to think about what they would like to do with the old Fire Department building.

Natalie had no report but said she had been asked by residents what will be done with the old First Responders Building. It could be used to store the street departments equipment. This would be short term until Spring or Fall. Natalie also asked when the dumpsters would be moved. The street department needs to drop rock at the Sewer Plant and then they can be moved. No date has been given for the move, but it is on the list of things to do. The gate currently is closing at 3:30 due to construction at the new Fire Department.

Todd had no report.

Bryan had no report.

Laura reported that 22 trees were planted. 2 trees were replaced at the ball diamonds and a few more were added there.

No building and Zoning permits were issued but Charlie reported that he is giving out about 2 occupancy permits a week.

Chad reported that the gate locking at 3:30 is only short term. The Sewer Plant is under 24-hour surveillance, and it still needs a gate before moving dumpsters, limbs and scrap. No current date is set for the move. The security alarm company will be replacing the keypads at the old Fire House because the codes cannot be changed. St. Clair County board approved the grant for the zero turn mowers. The grant for the retention pond has not yet been decided. A decision should be made at the January meeting. A new agreement with the Fire District needs to be passed by the end of January. The Village of Marissa name needs to be removed, and the Fire District need to be put in its place, but other than that the agreement will stay the same. Last meeting it was discussed that a $50.00 per year increase would be added to the agreement but that is no longer happening. The preliminary audit is in and there are no abnormalities. Bid letting was last week and Hank’s Excavating won the bid.

Citizens wishing to speak:

Kenneth Chandler asked who writes tickets for trash that is blowing around. Chad told him that Danny-Code Enforcement is responsible. When code issues are noticed City Hall should be informed so that they can let Danny know where the problems are, and he can investigate them. Charlie let Butch know that he always makes people clean the yards before he issue’s occupancy permits. Butch also stressed his concerns for needing more Police coverage. He says that the board needs to do more to get Police. Chad and Laura, both told him that the Police budget has been increased so the pay is good, they have great insurance and a clothing allowance. There are just no candidates.

Old Business:

American Legal Publishing sent back the Ordinances that were changed. Bryan and Jennifer will be looking over the changes to make sure they were changed correctly.

New Business:

The Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement between the Village of Marissa, Marissa Township and the Marissa Fire Protection District providing for the First Responder Unit is tabled until the agreement can be looked over. The agreement from the December 2, 2024, meeting had few items that needed to be changed before a vote was made.

A motion was made by Bryan and seconded by Natalie to approve the low bid of $80,000.01 from Hank’s Excavating. A construction hearing will be held in January and the project will start in the Spring. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Natalie-yes, Todd-yes, Bryan-yes, Laura-yes, Roy Dean-absent, and Chris-absent.4-ayes,0-nayes, 2-absent.

A motion was made by Natalie and seconded by Bryan to approve the meeting dates for 2025. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Natalie-yes, Todd-yes, Bryan-yes, Laura-yes, Roy Dean-absent, and Chris-absent.4-ayes,0-nayes, 2-absent.

A motion was made by Natalie and seconded by Todd to enter Executive session for Personnel at 7:45 pm. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Natalie-yes, Todd-yes, Bryan-yes, Laura-yes, Roy Dean-absent, Chris-absent. 4-ayes, 0-nayes, 2-absent.

Roll call was taken to re-enter regular session. Natalie-here, Todd-here, Bryan-here, Laura-here.

A motion was made by Todd and seconded by Natalie to re-enter regular session at 8:03pm. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Natalie-yes, Todd-yes, Bryan-yes, Laura-yes, Roy Dean-absent, Chris-absent. 4-ayes, 0-nayes, 2-absent.

A motion was made by Bryan and seconded by Todd to approve the part-time employees wage increase of $1.00 an hour starting January 1, 2024. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Natalie-yes, Todd-yes, Bryan-yes, Laura-yes, Roy Dean-absent, and Chris-absent.4-ayes,0-nayes, 2-absent.

A motion was made by Natalie and seconded by Bryan to approve a temporary full-time Police pay of $30.00 an hour. Motion passed with roll call as follows: Natalie-yes, Todd-yes, Bryan-yes, Laura-yes, Roy Dean-absent, and Chris-absent.4-ayes,0-nayes, 2-absent.

A motion was made by Natalie and seconded by Todd to adjourn at 8:05pm. Motion passed. 4-ayes, 0-nayes, 2-absent (Roy Dean & Chris).