

April 1, 2013

REGULAR VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

Call to Order/Roll Call – Village President Tom Pinch called this Regular Village Board meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. Roll call was taken with the following members present: Zach Washa, Tom Cody, Susan Washa, John Kreul, Dennis Richgels and Tom Pinch. Caleb Buroker was excused. Others present were Bart Nies, Tom Hebgen, Daniel Swinehart, Steve McGuire, Dan Nankee, Josh Tarrell, Sue Colburn, Craig Ramsden, Tom Ramsden and Becky Fredericks. Tom Michek arrived at 6:11 p.m.

Certification/Compliance – Clerk certified that notice of meeting was posted on March 28, 2013. Susan Washa motioned as to compliance with open meeting law. Tom Cody seconded. Motion carried.

Public Input – not for action – None

Well House/Prospect St Discussion – Bart Nies, Delta 3 Engineering – take action, if necessary – Bart Nies informed the board that with the CDBG-PF Grant that the well house construction needs to begin by May 1st, which means that the project needs to be published for bids. Bart shared with the board the current plans for the well house. We need to check on the zoning for this, clerk will contact Mike Fenley. After further discussion, Susan Washa motioned to send the plans as presented out for bids. Dennis Richgels seconded. Roll call vote “Aye”: Zach Washa, Tom Cody, Susan Washa, Dennis Richgels, John Kreul and Tom Pinch with Caleb Buroker absent. Motion carried.

Set bid date for Well House Project – Tom Cody motioned to set a bid date of Thursday, May 16, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. Zach Washa seconded. Motion carried.

Discussion/Approve Highland Fire District to purchase a Brush Rig – Tom Michek was present asking permission from the board to purchase a new brush rig truck. Currently they have a 1994 F350 Diesel which is in need of repairs. They are looking at replacing with a F550 that will be used for multiple tasks at a cost of about \$70,000 and will be listing the current truck, with hopes to get no less than \$20,000. Currently they have \$144,000 in Certificates of Deposit. After some further discussion, Susan Washa approved the purchase of the F550 at a cost of about \$70,000. Tom Pinch seconded. Roll call vote “Aye”: Zach Washa, Tom Cody, Susan Washa, Dennis Richgels, John Kreul and Tom Pinch with Caleb Buroker absent. Motion carried.

Discuss Potential Economic Feasibility Study on the Highland Grocery Store, conducted by the Highland Charter School – Josh Tarrell was present to inform the board that the Highland High School Charter Program has been researching on how they can incorporate service learning with the community of Highland. The School District received a School Charter Initiative Grant and is looking at doing a feasibility study to see if there is any potential to move forward. All costs will be covered by the grant monies. They are looking to start it right away next fall. The whole board agreed that this is a good idea so Josh will move forward with this project and keep the Village informed.

Discuss Blackhawk Lake Commission Composition – take action is necessary – The Town of Highland is requesting to be able to make an appointment to the Commission every other year. Tom Pinch stated that this has always been a part of the Village Board and has no desire to change the way it is currently being done. The appointments can only be changed if both the Village of Highland and the Village of Cobb mutually agree. After some discussion Tom Pinch informed the Village Board and Craig Ramsden and Tom Ramsden, Town of Highland Supervisors that the Village of Cobb did send a letter stating they have no desire to change and the Village of Highland agrees with Cobb.

Our Town Discussion – Susan Washa motioned to approve an agreement with the Whiskey River Band for Saturday night's music. Zach Washa seconded. The Village clerk to look into ordering can coolers and sending a newsletter to residents about Our Town and requesting help.

Discussion on Progressive Way Subdivision – Dennis Richgels wanted to discuss possible options to deal with the drainage between parcels 136-0212.014 and 136-0212.015. To fix it will cost quite a bit so need to look at some other options. Possible options discussed were to leave as green space, if sell the lot document that there is a drainage issue, possible sell lot & a half or sell as an empty lot with no potential to develop on it, if someone would be interested in that. The Village board decided that we should go with the last option at this time.

Discussion on Parcel 136-0212.06 – Dennis Richgels talked to Jeff Michek and Jeff informed Dennis that he would be interested in purchasing the lot as is for \$25,000. The Board would like to find out a value of what it is worth before entertaining an offer.

Discuss/Approve Maintenance Truck Purchase – Tom Hebgen informed the board that he has two options:

- F450 truck with plow & box for \$44,900.00
- F350 truck with plow & box for \$40,000.00

Trying to decide between a 9' box vs. an 11' box, this is a difference of only \$250.00. If go with the 11' box then would want to get the F450 from a recommendation of the dealership. After some discussion, Dennis Richgels motioned to approve the purchase of the F450 with a 9' plow and 11' box. John Kreul seconded. Roll call vote Aye": Zach Washa, Tom Cody, Susan Washa, Dennis Richgels, John Kreul and Tom Pinch with Caleb Buroker absent. Motion carried.

Approve Conditional Use Permit Application for Kelly Michek – Susan Washa motioned to approve the Conditional Use Permit for Kelly Michek on the recommendation of the Planning Commission. Tom Cody seconded. Motion carried.

Blackhawk Lake Discussion on Tax Exempt Certification – Received an email from Blackhawk Lake stating that they no longer need to discuss this with the Village; things have been taken care of.

Approve/Deny Office Repairs – Village Clerk sent out bid requests to three contractors and received one bid back from Kevin Honahan Drywall. Susan Washa motioned to approve the office repairs per the bid at a cost of \$1,500.00. Zach Washa seconded. Motion carried.

TRIP Program – discussion on accounts that qualify – take action, if necessary – Village Clerk has signed up for this program which can be used to collect unpaid Village debts (invoices, personal property, utility bills etc...). After some discussion John Kreul motioned to place the charges of an outstanding personal property bill on the TRIP Program. Tom Pinch seconded. Roll call vote Aye": Zach Washa, Tom Cody, Susan Washa, Dennis Richgels, John Kreul and Tom Pinch with Caleb Buroker absent. Motion carried.

Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings – Zach Washa motioned to approve the March 4, 2013 Board Meeting minutes. Tom Cody seconded. Motion carried.

Authorize Payment of Bills – Susan Washa motioned to approve payment of bills as presented: General Account \$21,727.44, Sewer Account \$17,204.17, Water Account \$15,460.51 and TID #2 Account \$3,897.34. Dennis Richgels seconded. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Economic Development – Tom Hebgen informed the board that Mike Eppley has contacted the DNR about wastewater discharge from his business. The DNR sent a letter to Tom stating that Midwest Poultry and Ratite Processors can use the Village sewer system and stated why wouldn't the Village want to support the business. The concern that we have after talking with Bart Nies is the BOD levels so Tom informed the DNR of this concern and that the Village of Highland would like to see in writing from either Midwest Poultry or the DNR the BOD levels that will be discharged; he is still waiting for this report.

Law Enforcement – Report submitted.

Public Property – John Kreul stated that he would like to get a committee meeting scheduled to look at the apartments.

Set May Board Meeting – May board meeting will be May 6, 2013.

Adjournment – Susan Washa motioned to adjourn at 9:36 p.m. Zach Washa seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Becky Fredericks, Clerk-Treasurer