

VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MEETING MINUTES  
April 18, 2022  
5:15 p.m.

Mayor Williams called the Meeting of the Mt. Zion Village Board of Trustees to order at 5:15 p.m. in the Village Hall Board Room. The following Board Members were present for roll call: Mike Mose, Chris Siudyla, Ellen Ritchie, Donna Scales, Wendy Kernan, and Kevin Fritzsche. Also present were Village Administrator, Julie Miller, Director of Public Works, Chad Reynolds, Chief of Police, Adam Skundberg, Director of Parks & Recreation, Tiffany Wilson, Village Treasurer, Corey McKenzie, Village Attorneys, Ed Flynn and Ross Munsterman, and Village Clerk, Dawn Reynolds.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Forum: Two (2) people were present. No one wished to address the Board at this time.

Consent Agenda: A motion was made by Trustee Scales to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Trustee Kernan. A breakdown of Fund Warrants for the period ending April 18, 2022 is as follows: General Fund - \$122,587.08, Motor Fuel Tax - \$582.76, Lease Purchase - \$16,287.01, Water Revenue Fund - \$148,904.84, Sewer Revenue Fund - \$22,724.74, and 2009 Fletcher/TIF B/I Repay - \$10,934.25. A roll call vote was taken: Mose-yea, Siudyla-yea, Ritchie-yea, Scales-yea, Kernan-yea, and Fritzsche-yea. Motion carried 6-yea, 0-nay, 0-absent.

Consideration and action on Ordinance No. 2022-6 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 51 Wastewater Service Charges: Administrator Miller presented for consideration an ordinance amending and increasing the current wastewater (sewer) charges beginning June 1, 2022. For many years the sewer fund has been below the recommended fund balance recommendations by the Association of Public Treasurers. Construction costs, IEPA requirements, energy prices, payroll, and increases from the sanitary district are just a few of the increased expenses that have been rising each year.

The Village's sewer rate is broken into 4 parts: basic user charge, unit service charge, capital improvement charge, and sanitary district treatment charge. The Village's current rate structure has a built-in 1.3% inflation increase for the basic user charge and the sanitary district treatment charge is automatically increased by the annual increase charged by the sanitary district each June. The Village's ordinance adjusts rates in January which is seven months after the sanitary district rate increase in June.

The Village's aging sanitary sewer system, major maintenance or replacement of several lift stations, and the Eastside Sanitary Project are all anticipated future needs. By changing the Village's effective date of the ordinance to June 1 each year to be in alignment with the sanitary district, by increasing the basic User Charge, by increasing the Capital Improvement Charge, and by increasing the Unit Service Charge the sewer fund balance will grow to cover anticipated future expenses.

Discussion was held regarding a 2019 survey containing 83 central Illinois communities and their rates. The Village's current rate is less than the average rate of other communities. Options were discussed of phasing in the increases. An aggressive approach was discussed on new sewer tap reimbursements for the east side. There was also discussion on the rate increases from the Decatur Sanitary District. Attorney Flynn informed the Board that the sanitary district has a 4-5 year plan with a 3% annual increase.

A motion was made by Trustee Siudyla to approve Ordinance No. 2022-6 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 51 Wastewater Service Charges as presented, seconded by Trustee Kernan. A roll call vote was taken: Mose-yea, Siudyla-yea, Ritchie-yea, Scales-yea, Kernan-yea, and Fritzsche-yea. Motion carried 6-yea, 0-nay, 0-absent.

Administrator & Staff Items:

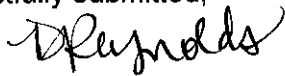
Director Wilson reported the summer park classes are starting in May and the Village rummage sales are May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>.

Director Reynolds reported that street sweeping and mowing has begun.

Administrator Miller advised the Board that she is working with Martin Engineering on traffic signals for the Village West project. Miller also reported that the resurfacing of State Highway 121 will be out for bid in June, a section of the Baltimore trail has been resurfaced, and Ripples Auto Body is submitting plans for an expansion. Action will be seen on Highway 121 with the Ripples Auto Body expansion and the new Jensen Diesel business.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Trustee Ritchie to adjourn the April 18, 2022 Village Board meeting, seconded by Trustee Fritzsche. A voice vote was unanimous; motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dawn Reynolds  
Village Clerk