



Village of Industry

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

February 6, 2025

Kiwanis Building

The Board of Trustees, Village of Industry, McDonough County, State of Illinois met on February 6, 2025. President Staci Danner called the meeting to order. Those answering roll call were Trustees Rittenhouse, Wheeler, Thompson and Stuckwisch. Also present were Attorney Laegeler, Treasurer Black, Interim Clerk Larson and Superintendent Gorsuch. Trustees Jones and Murray were absent.

I. Public Comments

- a. Penny Williams discussed her concerns with a water leak on her property. The leak was discovered this past Sunday and has since been repaired.
- b. Eric with GFL discussed the expiration of the current 2-year contact with the Village. The proposed renewal is a 5-year extension with only 3% increase annually.

II. Benton & Associates

- a. Doug with Benton & Associates was present. Trustee Jones had raised concerns about the Federal funding freeze. That freeze is currently stayed and Doug is not presently concerned.
- b. Doug submitted a disbursement request from Caldwell Tank showing 7% of tank computation at \$17838.76. This is the typical monthly completion amount. Payment to Benton & Associates of \$19618.31 was requested.
- c. Badger, Mueller, and Census meters were selected as top contenders for meter replacement. Doug suggests meeting where those companies submit proposals and benefits. Potential meeting dates could be sent out to the companies for a meeting by the end of the month. The full board could then vote on the purchase of meters at the March meeting. At the same meeting, the Board would vote to authorize construction to remove old meters and install the new meters with installation to begin in April/May. Doug believes a drive-by system will be best but will provide estimates for the higher cellular read meters. The following costs have been budgeted \$14,500 for design, bidding at \$4500, and construction of \$11,000. President Danner will organize a meeting. Benton & Associates requested payment of \$9350 for phase II engineering at 80% completion.
- d. The progress on the Pinhook Park improvements was discussed. Benton & Associates requested payment of \$7900 for engineering that is 90% complete. There is \$35,000 left to allocate. Doug will request Laverdiere Construction price installation for a piece selected that was listed at \$9,500. For \$3,000 could have metal type siding for bathroom or LP smart side with wood grain for \$5000. The Board selected the smart siding in a garden sage color. Doug will prepare a change order.

III. Minutes and Bills

- a. Trustee Thompson made a MOTION to approve the Minutes from the January meeting and pay the bills for February. The motion was SECONDED by Trustee Stuckwisch. The VOTE was unanimous and MOTION CARRIED.

IV. Village Officials' Reports

- a. President/Mayor Ad Hoc
 - i. Trustee Thompson will order ATV stickers from WIU. The stickers can be purchased from Superintendent Gorsuch. There was an email from TEST that their water and sewer contract will be expiring.
- b. Clerk
 - i. Nothing to report
- c. Treasurer
 - i. The General Fund needs to be increased without ARPA funds. Treasurer Black will look into cashing in a CD.
- d. Village Superintendent
 - i. Water meters continue to break down including the Insurance company's and Hiroko Greuel's. Water bills will be adjusted to the minimum amount due. Trustee Thompson made a MOTION to authorize two invoices to Benton & Associates for \$19,618.31 and \$7,900. Trustee Rittenhouse SECONDED. Roll call VOTE was held and the MOTION CARRIED.
- e. Village Attorney
 - i. Attorney Laegeler reminded the Board that we are entering appropriations season. She advised the Board should review the current year's appropriations and look for ways to cut spending and raise revenue. She will send last year's appropriations for Board members to review for potential cuts.

V. Old Business

- a. Discussion was held on nuisance properties
 - i. Betsy Welch is starting to build a fence around accumulations. A notice to abate should be sent.
 - ii. Mark Wickert was sent notice back in August along with ordinance violations for the property on Main Street. The property taxes haven't been paid so the Village could seek ownership of the building. The Village is not in a financial position to take ownership and demolish. Attorney Laegeler will try to send another notice.
 - iii. Many of the potential heirs of the Miller property were foster children that were not legally adopted. The only legal children are the two we have been working with and the unlocatable individual. Attorney Laegeler suggests trying to get a judicial deed. This process would take approximately 3 months. The board agreed that is the next selected course of action.
 - iv. Superintendent Gorsuch has started clean up of the Hickory Street property.

VI. New Business

- a. Discussion was held on a TEST proposal for water billing. The submitted proposal includes a \$2000 set up fee and \$500 per month. The Board still wants to hear from TEST at a meeting.

The discussion was tabled until after the meeting with meter companies. Clerk Larson will request a delay to a May onboarding date with UBMax.

- b. Discussion was held on a new waste removal contract. Trustee Thompson made a MOTION to renew for a 5-year contract. Trustee Wheeler SECONDED. A roll call VOTE was held and the MOTION CARRIED.

VII. Executive Session

- a. None

VIII. Other

- a. Trustee Thompson raised a concern about a water rate increase from West Prairie and whether our tower was the “new tower” causing higher rates. It was determined it was not.

IX. Adjourn

- a. Trustee Thompson made a MOTION to adjourn and it was SECONDED by Trustee Stuckwisch. Meeting was ADJOURNED.

Respectfully submitted,
Shelley Larson, Interim Village Clerk