

VILLAGE OF SOLDIERS GROVE, CRAWFORD COUNTY, WISCONSIN

Minutes of a Regular Board Meeting held November 2, 2023.

Public Hearing at 6:00, no comments or concerns made.

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm.

Roll Call: Present: Jerry Miller, Brett Pettit, Harrison Heilman, Vicki Campbell, Steve George, Paul Nicholson, and Howard Arndt.

Public Input: Keith Davenport stated that everyone is at the meeting for the Sex Offender Ordinance, Nicholson told the crowd that now is the time to speak as it is the only allowed time for the public.

2023 DAAF Report: Lori Bekkum spoke. Thanked Village personally this year. They had more community support this year for the Driftless Area Art Fest. 6,410 people attended, did a survey of Crawford County, brought 215 locations business. Had 77 artists for 2023. There was \$161,800 artist sales, \$6,200 was raised at the Gala, and \$683,000 dollars raised county wide for economic impact. Lori did mention that there is one tree in the park close to the power source that would be helpful for them if the tree was moved.

Fire department: Motion by Campbell, second by Pettit to approve Fire Department payroll. All present aye, motion carried. Jeannette stated that the Fire Prevention Day on October 27th at North Crawford Schools went very well, they will continue to do that every year. Had the truck in the park for Halloween, had a lot of compliments on that. The gun raffle went well. They will be having Santa at the Fire Station on December 9th from noon to 3. The toys for tots drive is on again this year, including the nursing home again too. Had Fire Elections at the November 1st meeting, results are: Jeannette McCormick- Fire Chief, Spencer Bailey- Assistant Chief, Captains- Mike Allie and Curt Linsley, Lieutenant- Anthony France, Safety Officer- Cameron Steyer, Secretary- Tasha France. Motion by Miller, second by Heilman to approve Fire Election Results. All present aye, motion carried.

CDC: No bills. Driftless Brewery has not paid on their CDC Loan in 3 months.

Public Works: Been working on winterizing all the equipment. The park has been winterized and water is shut off. Trucks are ready for snow. Had a cremation burial the morning of the meeting. Did some hole patching on roads. Wi-Fi in park for cameras: Motion by Campbell, second by Heilman to approve the \$83.00 a month charge for the Wi-Fi in the park. All present aye, motion carried.

Sewer Ordinance: No questions or concerns, will go on to a public hearing at the next meeting.

Sex Offender Ordinance: Many concerns were brought to the board regarding sex offenders in the Village. Many were upset that the community was not aware there was one being placed in the Village, the board was unaware of it until the community brought it to the office. The county is responsible for making the community aware when a sex offender is placed in a village/town, and that was not done. No action can be done regarding the offender living in the Village as the ordinance was not in place before them moving into the Village. The Village attorney is whom wrote the ordinance and that is what the board is sticking. Motion by George, second by Pettit to adopt the Sex Offender Ordinance. All present aye, motion carried.

Motion by Campbell, second by Pettit to approve the 2024 Budget. All present aye, motion carried.

Motion by George, second by Miller to approve minutes of the October 5th and 17th meetings. All present aye, motion carried.

Motion by Campbell, second by Pettit to approve bills General \$16,743.54, Fire \$569.98, Sewer \$12,225.99, Water \$443.68, and Library \$6,002.97. All present aye, motion carried.

Motion by Miller, second by Pettit to adjourn to closed session pursuant to Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(f), for personnel matters. All present aye, motion carried.

Motion by George, second by Campbell to reconvene to open session, pursuant to Wis. Stats. 19.85(2).

Motion by Miller, second by Pettit to adjourn meeting at 8:12 pm. All present aye, motion carried.

Kaitlynn R Ott