

Village of Lee
Regular Board Meeting
on
February 8, 2021
on Zoom

Meeting come to order:

Village President Josh Carlson-- present
Trustee Martha May – present
Trustee Jesse Blackwood --present
Trustee Thomas Kapraun--present
Trustee Jean Michels – present
Trustee Mike Schafer—present
Trustee Jessica Moser – present

V. Treasurer Linda Korth – present
V. Clerk Julie Griffith – present
V. Attorney Cassandra Gottschalk – absent

Visitors and Communications:

Several visitors attended the meeting: Justin Post, Garret Galbreath, Norm Beeh, Mike Woodbury, Jessica Galbreath, Jordan & Allison Steffa, Heather Galbreath, John Peterson, Stacy Schnupp, Don, and Terri Voitik.

Lee Fire Protection District Chief (LFPD) Garret Galbreath voiced a concern about the once-in-eight-years snowstorm. There was a non-passable access for firefighters to get to the station in the event of an emergency. The path was blocked for over 12 hours. Apparently County Line is in Lee County's jurisdiction, but Lee County has been cutting their budget. The LFPD needs a plan going forward. Chief Galbreath would like to see snow fences in Ray Mast's field. The village currently has two plows and two employees who plow. The recent snowstorm couldn't have been kept up with unless the road was plowed every hour or two. Technically it's the country's jurisdiction, but they can't be counted count on for future similar situations. Resident Jordan Steffa volunteered to plow. Village President Josh Carlson said he could plow also. Water Assistant Mike Woodbury stated that he had offered to help with plowing but was told that it was being handled already.

Resident Jessica Galbreath voiced appreciation for Justin Post and everyone who helped plow. Resident Heather Galbreath noted that we are a village and everyone needs to come together and be proactive to solve our problems.

Woodbury reported that the south side door on the old fire department has been freezing. The door jam is rusty and needs to be replaced.

Village Engineer Norm Beeh stated that the village needs to proceed with acquiring the well house property title as soon possible.

Old Business:

Regarding the property under the well house, if something can't be worked out by Wednesday, Village President Carlson will proceed with adverse possession. Adria was going to rebuild on McGirr and Tower roads, but the country roads will not support full semis.

Chief Galbreath confirmed that LFPD is not interested in the Adria property. The yellow truck was noted to be on the railroad's easement.

Engineer Beeh said if the village seeks adverse possession of the property under the building, then they should ask for the easement on the east side of the building also. He suggested eminent domain would pick up the easement, but adverse possession would only be for the building. Village President Carlson will talk to Attorney Gottschalk about it.

There have been close calls at Skole and Kirke Gate according to Trustee Thomas Kapraun. He suggested yield signs. Trustee May said that signs cost a lot of money, and she doesn't know why we need them. Trustee Michels said that it's a wide open intersection and people can see. Trustee Moser said if we put a yield sign at one intersection, the village should put one at all intersections. Trustee Blackwood says that individuals need to take responsibility to pay attention. There was discussion about the intersection on Skole and Hardanger where kids cross to get to the school bus. The board generally consented not to proceed with yield signs.

Review and Approval of the Minutes, Treasurer's Report and Bill List:

Trustee Moser made a motion to accept the minutes from January 11, 2021. Trustee Blackwood seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Trustee Kapraun made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Trustee May seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Trustee Blackwood made a motion to pay the bills. Trustee Kapraun seconded the motion. All were in favor with a roll call vote.

New Business:

The little alley north of Sor Gate is technically Viking Vie. It needs to be paved. It is hard to plow keep clean. There was discussion on who plows it and who owns it. The village owns half of the alley, so Trustee Kapraun voiced a concern about paving the other half on private property. Trustee Moser asked if re-graveling it would be an acceptable solution. Jordan Steffa got a quote of \$9500 from Royer for the whole thing. It takes a \$10,000 project to come out of motor fuel money, so it will have to come out of the general fund. Residents Chris Szurgot, Stacy Schnupp and Jordan Steffa would be willing to chip in.

The village clerk tendered her resignation, effective after the June board meeting. Jordan Steffa volunteered to be the village clerk. Trustee Moser suggested that the position be posted. The village clerk will type up her job description before the March water bill. She suggested extra compensation for managing the new website. Trustee Kapraun suggested a separate web designer. Stacy Schnupp suggested another person as the face of social media. Village Treasurer Linda Korth would like to learn how to put stuff on the website, and Village Clerk Julie Griffith will teach her how.

Trustee Moser wants to see new bids from Post Mowing and other mowing companies. She recommended two or three bids just to make sure we are still getting the best price and service. Post's price is \$3500/year, and it has been raised once in 15 years. If a price is under \$10,000, it doesn't have to go out for bid according to Treasurer Korth. Trustee Moser thinks an updated contract is a good idea. Trustee Blackwood thinks Justin is doing a great job and that the village should continue to hire him without extra bids. Post will give a bid to be voted on at the next board meeting.

Trustee Michels thinks that everyone on the board should have a voice mail set up. President Carlson said that he would set up his voicemail.

Reports:

- Streets and alleys/public safety
- Water and refuse

Jene Gray would be willing to do senior garbage pickup. The seniors will be informed about the rules for senior garbage pickup—two kitchen bags—in the next garbage bill. Senior garbage pick-

up is in the garbage contract. Northern Illinois Disposal System (NIDS) is working on a new garbage contract. The salary for senior garbage pick-up is \$15/hour. Treasurer Korth has a list of people who get it. President Carlson will offer Resident Gray the job. If seniors break the rules on a regular basis, they will be asked to pay the regular price. No loose garbage is allowed.

- Finance and ordinances/zoning

Adjournment:

Trustees May and Kapraun made a motion to adjourn. All were in favor, and the meeting adjourned at 8:38 PM.