

VILLAGE OF KINCAID
115 CENTRAL AVE. KINCAID, IL. 62540
TIME- 6:00 P.M.
MONDAY, JUNE 26, 2023
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was brought to order by Mayor Robert Morris.
Roll call was taken by Village Clerk, Stephanie Brown
Gibson- here, Paso- by phone, Lawrence- here, Warren- here, Dees- by phone, Nelson- here.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all who attended the meeting.

- Toni Cleeton to speak in regards to an Ordinance she had received- Toni spoke up and stated that she had received the citation for tall grass. She stated that she never received a warning, prior to receiving the citation. She wanted to let the board know that she had lost her dad several months ago and that he was the one taking care of her grass for her. She stated that she has been trying to find someone to cut the grass for her. She did state that she tried to hire a lawn care service to cut the grass for her, but they wanted to charge her an arm and a leg for it. In the meantime, her son has been helping her with the grass, but at one point, her son stopped because he was told that he was not able to drive the lawn mower across town and that he would get a citation for it. Since, receiving the citation, her grass has been cut. Toni, stated that she does have health issues and is unable to go outside and do it herself because of this problem. She did state that her neighbor has since offered to help her out with cutting the grass, because her son has some issues with getting a trailer to put his mower on. She did state that since this issue, her son has acquired a trailer for the lawn mower and is cutting her grass for her now. Trustee Nelson spoke up and asked if the violation has been taken care of. Toni stated that as of now, her grass has been mowed and there is no issue. The cost for the Ordinance Violation is \$250.00. Toni is asking for the board to remove the Citation down to a warning, since the grass has been cut. She is not able to afford the \$250.00 fine, plus on top of this, she also has a high-water bill that she is on payment plan for. There were a few questions as to whether she had received a warning prior to the citation. Trustee Nelson stated that these ordinances are in place for a reason. He stated that we are not here seeking money from people but that we are just wanting to make sure that the problems are taken care of, so that we do not have to issue citations. The board decided that this would be put on the agenda for the next meeting to decide.

- Visitors:

VISITORS- A PERSON SHALL BE PERMITTED AN OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS OFFICIALS UNDER THE RULES ESTABLISHED BY THE VILLAGE (3 MINUTES PER PERSON) 5ILCS 120/2.06g

Citizen, John Heikes spoke up in regards to an Ordinance citation that he had received previously for disturbing the peace. He stated that the Ordinance was back on May 19, but he had just received the citation on June 16th. He stated that he does have cameras on his property showing where Officer Merker had dropped off the citation a month later after the

incident. Heikes stated that he would like this citation dropped, as he has since resolved the issue. He stated that his 4-wheeler had been having issues and he was not able to get it fixed, but he has since been able to fix it. On the date that he had received the citation, he was disturbing the peace by riding around on the 4-wheeler. Heikes was asking for either a court date, or to squash the citation since he did not receive it till a month later. This will be put on the agenda for next month.

Michael Motley spoke up about the issue that happened out at the Lake, with regards to getting him kicked out. Motley stated that he was told he had 14 days to vacate the premises, but he is not wanting to get out since he feels that the issue was not his fault. He stated that he was not the cause of the issue but it was family members and friends. He stated that he told these people to leave his lake lots and not to come around him. Motley stated that he does not want to have any issues out at the lake and that he does not want to be kicked out because of this one issue that happened. Mayor Robert Morris asked the Foreman, Mark Wolfe, whose camp site that the incident happened at? Mark Wolfe stated that it happened out in front of Motley's campsite. Motley stated that there was no chance for him to be able to call the cops and that he was just sitting there, minded his own business and then the other people came up and started in, which led to the incident that was in discussion. Mark Wolfe stated that Motley was told to be out by July 1st. Motley stated that it would only give him 14 days to get all his stuff out. Apparently there has been other incidents that have happened in the past out at his lake lots, which he had been given warnings for. Chief Mathon, who was on the phone at the time, spoke up and stated that there had been a few times where the cops were called out last year to Motley's Lake lot. Motley stated that he has put a lot of time and effort to each of his lake lot's. Motley stated that he would need more time to get all his stuff out of the lots. Trustee Nelson spoke up and stated that we do need to give Motley more time to get all his belongings out, but not to give him four weeks, which is what Motley was asking. Foreman, Mark Wolfe spoke up and stated that there has been issues with Motley in the past and it was brought to his attention that several people wanted to leave their Lake lot due to the issue that was going on, at that moment. The mayor stated that we would give him till July 7th to vacate the Lake Lots.

A citizen of the community, who has a camper out at the lake lot, had brought up the fact that he found a gun shell casing that was in his camper. He had taken it to the Sheriff's office, so they were aware of this, but wanted to bring it to our Officer's attention. He stated that he had taken pictures of his window where there was a hole in it from the gun shell. He stated that he does have cameras out there but the cameras did not catch anything at that time. He just wanted to make the community was aware of this incident.

- Discuss possible changes to the employee handbook- Since Trustee Paso, was the one looking into the employee handbook, and she was out of town for this meeting, this issue will be put on the next board meeting.
- Discuss having April Wolfe represent the Village of Kincaid as the Marketing and Social Media Manager- April Wolfe spoke up and asked if anyone had any questions with regards to the

proposal that she handed out at the previous meeting. April reiterated that she would not have total control of the village website, knowing that the clerk has control of several things on the website already. Only that she would help with the marketing and media aspect of the website and other sites as well. She stated that you can have multiple admins on a website to be able to do different things when it comes to these strategies. April spoke about the fact that she probably would not even need to be at the office, as to the fact that she would be able to do the marketing remotely from the comfort of her own home. Mayor Robert Morris spoke up and stated that he had spoke with our attorney about this matter and since the Attorney was on the phone, he would allow him to give his input to the matter. Attorney Jared Rahar spoke up about the matter and stated that what we have is a conflict of interest, in that April wanting to be come an employee of the village of Kincaid, with the fact that her father is a Trustee on the board. Attorney Rahar stated that he spoke with the mayor and the clerk in regards to this matter, just so that we are all following the Illinois Municipal League handbook. Attorney Rahar stated that he is not saying it is illegal or impossible, but just wanting to make everyone aware. April spoke up and stated that she would not necessarily be an employee but doing this as a contracted person of the village. Attorney Rahar just wanted to make sure we are doing what is best for the village, especially with all the things that have happened in the past. He just wanted to make sure we watch our P's and Q's. Trustee Sue Paso spoke up (who was on the phone), and stated that she just feels this could be a disastrous situation. She also spoke of a lot of entanglement in the city hall. Paso stated she does feel like this could be something we could use in the future, but she was unsure that we needed to do this right now. Mayor Robert Morris spoke up and stated that he did not think we could afford this right now and Paso conquered the same, especially with just buying new water meters and trying to fix the sewer. Trustee Nelson spoke up and stated that if we were to have someone just work for us independently and not ever have to come up to the office, he thinks that the timing would be elite for us, especially with all the holiday's coming up. He was mainly speaking with regards to having people rent out the RV spots that are out at the lake. He spoke about the fact that we charge \$25 a night right now, so getting those spots filled up would be more than enough to pay April's salary. Trustee Nelson stated that maybe to have a probationary period of now till December of this year, just to see how things work out for us with regards to this matter. He stated that there are so many opportunities right now that we could be making money with all the holiday's coming up.

Sue Paso spoke up again and stated that, the minute we had put out the RV spots, the word traveled and people who were already out there were spreading the word. Trustee Nelson, spoke up and asked if we had some spots out at the lake reserved for the fourth of July weekend. We had a few spots that were already reserved at this time. Paso stated that she just wants the board to think about this proposal more, since she does not want the village to have any issues or conflicts of any kind with people working for the village of Kincaid. Trustee Dees spoke up (who was on the phone), and stated that he does not think we can afford to do something like this at this time. This will be further discussed and put on the agenda for the next board meeting.

- Discuss possibly changing the water rate for the bulk water machine- Trustee Nelson spoke up and stated that he had talked about this previously but it was never really voted upon and or stated what the actual rate was going to be. Foreman Mark Wolfe checked around to some other towns, and they were at \$6.00 per 1,000 gallons. There are some other places that have raised theirs to \$10.00 per 1,000 gallons. There was talk about just raising it to \$8.00 per 1,000 gallons. Trustee Nelson talked about raising it 2% every year just to compensate with all the water raises. This will be put on the agenda for the next board meeting.

- Discuss putting door bell back on door instead of buzzer for front door- The clerk spoke up and stated that she had a company from Springfield come out and do an estimate of what it would cost to put a buzzer on the front door. She is just waiting to hear back from them on the price. She stated that Foreman, Mark Wolfe had told her that the office used to have a door bell on the front to allow people to use. She stated that maybe to save overall cost, they should investigate putting the doorbell back on instead of paying for a buzzer to put on the front door. Trustee Nelson spoke up and stated that the whole thing was a safety issue and he wants to still investigate the cost of putting a buzzer on the front door. She is also looking into other companies around the area to give an estimate, so that way she will have some numbers for the board by the next meeting.

- Discuss changing internet and phone providers to CTI- The clerk spoke up about this matter and stated that obviously everyone knows that CTI is coming to our area. The Village right now has Consolidated and the speed is very slow. She stated that changing to CTI with the same Megs that we have now, would still be faster in the long run. The charge would be roughly the same that we are paying now with Consolidated. She gave a run down of how much we pay now for Consolidated, versus the cost for CTI. She stated that by the next meeting she would have the exact amounts to present to the board for a decision to be made.

The discussion of hiring part-time officer and discussion of golf cart sticker issue in town was moved to closed session.

A motion was made to go into closed session by Trustee Nelson, a second was made by Trustee Lawrence. All Ayes. The time was 6:50 p.m.

- Closed Session:

Meeting to consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees. 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1)

A motion was made to come out of closed session by Trustee Nelson, a second was made by Trustee Lawrence. All Ayes. The time was 7:20 p.m.

A motion to Adjourn the meeting was made by Trustee Warren, a second was made by Trustee Gibson. All Ayes. The time was 7:30 p.m.

The minutes were taken by the Village Clerk, Stephanie Brown

