Meeting minutes for March 9th, 2020

The meeting was brought to order by President Oller at 7:00 p.m.

Roll call:

Berroyer-Here, Mahan-Here, Keafer-Here, Garner-Here, Durbin-Here, Evans-Here

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Trustee Durbin with a second motion made by Trustee Berroyer for the approval of last month’s minutes.

Roll call:

Garner-yes, Mahan-yes, Evans-yes, Berroyer-yes, Keafer-yes, Durbin-yes

Guest: Jack Hanlon from South Fork Youth Assn spoke to the Board. Their lease agreement is up in 2025. The building belongs to SF Youth Assn but the land is leased from the Village. He asked if they would be able to lease building again or if the Village may want to purchase building from the SF Youth Assn. He also questioned if the building could be moved. He also stated that he was neither for nor against the campground out there. He is concerned with people using the parking lot near the building because he knows people will be coming out there on weekends to visit other people that have lake lots and he will need to be able to mow on weekends. He is also concerned with the trash that people will make in the parking lot. Mr. Hanlon also stated that personally he would go back to just trolling motors on the lake due to have so many boats on the lake now that people are leasing lots. President Oller stated that in future meetings they will discuss the matters that he was concerned with.

Attorney’s Report:

Attorney Fines stated that he had the ordinance ready to sign for the Retailers Occupation Tax for Cannabis and would email to the clerk tomorrow. It was already passed by the Board at last month’s meeting to allow this.

OLD BUSINESS:

Pass Lease Agreement for Kincaid Lake

The Clerk typed up the lease agreement for the lake lots from what was discussed at the previous meeting. She then sent the documents to the President and Board members previously to this evening’s meeting. President Oller asked the Board if they felt there needed to be any adjustments made. No members suggested any changes or adjustments. A motion was made by Trustee Durbin with the 2nd motion made by Trustee Berroyer to pass the lease agreement for the lake lots.

Roll call: Garner-yes, Berroyer-yes, Mahan-abstain, Durbin-yes, Evans-yes, Keafer-yes

Pass Lake Rules and Regulations:

The Clerk typed up the Lake rules after discussion from the last meeting. The documents were also sent to the Village Board and President prior to meeting. President Oller asked the Board if there were any adjustments to be made the to the Rules and Regulations. No members suggested any changes.

A motion was made by Trustee Durbin with the second motion made by Trustee Evans to approve the Lake Rules and Regulations.

Roll call: Keafer-yes, Evans-yes, Durbin-yes, Mahan-yes, Berroyer-yes, Garner-yes

Pass Ordinance to replace previous Lake Rules and Regulations:

A motion was made by Trustee Durbin with the second motion made by Trustee Berroyer to approve the ordinance to replace the Lake Rules and Regulations.

Roll call: Mahan-yes, Durbin-yes, Garner-yes, Evans-yes, Keafer-yes, Berroyer-yes

New Business:

Donation to Kincaid Church of God for Easter Egg hunt

A motion was made by Trustee Berroyer with the 2nd motion made by Trustee Durbin for the Village to make a donation of $100.00 to the Church of God for the Easter egg hunt.

Roll call: Garner-yes, Evans-yes, Mahan-yes, Berroyer-yes, Keafer-yes, Durbin-yes

Donation to South Fork School District for post prom event:

A motion was made by Trustee Berroyer with the second motion made by Trustee Durbin to make a donation to the South Fork School District for $100.00 to help with the post prom event that they are having.

Roll call: Berroyer-yes, Keafer-yes, Evans-yes, Garner-yes, Mahan-yes, Durbin-yes

Purchase new radios for police:

Chief Constantine stated that he has talked with the American Legion with helping with the purchase of new radios for the Police Dept. The first radio is free with each additional radio to be $1600.00. He would like to have three total. There is an additional fee of $45.00 per month for the use of the radio system which will include the CAD system. He will update us once he talks again to the American Legion

Raise impound fee from $250.00 to $500.00

A motion was made by Trustee Mahan with the second motion made by Trustee Berroyer.

Roll call: Keafer-yes, Mahan-yes, Evans-yes, Berroyer-yes, Garner-yes, Durbin-yes

Lease bucket truck:

Foreman Mark Wolfe stated that Josh Casad from Taylorville Pawn and Loan has a bucket truck that he wants to sell. He wants $10,000.00 for it but stated that he would lease it to us for $3500.00 a year for three years and then it would be ours. It is a 1998 truck with a 60 ft ladder. Our truck now has only a 30 ft ladder. This would upgrade our old truck in which we can sell if we get this one. We can take the money out of Motor Fuel Fund since it would be leased. They will still have Dale Basil help the Village with cutting some trees down but the Street Dept. would be able to cut down a lot of trees down they can’t with the old truck.

A motion was made by Trustee Durbin with a second motion made by Trustee Berroyer with the approval of leasing bucket truck for $3500.00 per year for three years.

Roll call: Mahan-yes, Garner-Abstain, Durbin-yes, Keafer-yes, Berroyer-yes, Evans-yes

Saving on office supplies:

Trustee Mahan would like to try coming up with something different with the documents that are given out at the meetings. The past couple of meetings there has been a lot of money spent on paper and ink with printing them. He would like to discuss at a Committee meeting on ideas that we can come up with about saving cost on this.

Hiring part time mowing person:

Foreman Mark Wolfe asked if it would be ok to put applications out for a mowing person. Trustee Garner asked if the other two guys could mow. Foreman Wolfe stated that they could but it is a full 40 hr. a week job and we can’t get anything else done when one is mowing and that leaves only two of us. He would also like to raise the mowing person to receive $12.00 per hour instead of $10.00 which we have paid for several years now.

A motion was made by Trustee Keafer with a second motion made by Trustee Durbin to take applications for mowing person at $12:00 per hour.

Roll call: Garner-no, Keafer-yes, Berroyer-yes, Durbin-yes, Evans, yes, Mahan-yes

Hiring a full time Police Officer:

Chief Constantine stated that with as much stuff that is going on in the Village, we are in need of another full-time officer.

Trustee Evans stated that she had a list as to why she feels that we should place Officer Grove on as full time. She feels that Officer Grove knows the people in the Village and that she knows the system and has already been trained. If we hire someone else, we would have to train them which takes time. The list that she has made is everything that Officer Grove has done since she has been here the first week of January. She has worked a lot of hours on her own time. She has cleanup both offices, completed and filed reports that hadn’t been done. She found that a gun has gone missing in the gun safe. She has stocked up supplies that were needed. She has printed reports from August of 2019 to current that needed to be done. She had body cams sent in that needed batteries. She has updated Cam footage and sent to State. Computer programs have been updated for the squad cars. She has gotten access IDS for officers. She does all the monthly reports that has to be done in the Police Dept. Evidence room has been cleaned. When Officer Grove started on Day 1 she went out and started giving out ordinance violations. She has given out 7 violations and did all reports and follow-ups for each. She is also trying to rebuild Kincaid with the States Attorney in Taylorville. She also got the uniforms and badges back from the previous part time officer. Officer Grove still needs to move the gun safe into the evidence room. Once this is moved the Evidence room will be locked. Trustee Evans once again stated that she feels Officer Grove would be a good person to hire full time. She knows we would have to pay IMRF which the Village does not have to pay since she is part time but we still would not have to pay for health insurance for her since she is on her husband’s insurance. She feels that Officer Grove knows a lot and knows everyone in town and the she will not have to be trained like we would have to if we hired someone else. Trustee Evans stated that some people may have issues with the past. This needs to be taken care of now and go forward. The Board needs to work together or this town is going to fall apart. We need to work together and quit fusing over little things.

Trustee Durbin stated that he feels that Chief Constantine is doing an amazing job. He knows that Chief Constantine is working more hours that he should be and he appreciated everything that he has done. He agreed with Trustee Evans that Officer Grove was already trained and knows the job and feels the same as Trustee Evans that she should be given the opportunity first for the full-time position.

Trustee Oller and the Board went over the amounts that we are saving with a part time officer vs. what it would cost to hire another full-time officer.

Officer Mark Mason also stated that Officer Grove has done a lot so that the Village as not got into trouble for reports that should have been done monthly and were not. She took it upon herself to get them done and did them on her own time so that the Police Dept. did not get written up. He also stated that Chief Constantine was working a lot of hours and with hiring another full-time officer this would help take a large load off of him and give him some down time. He also stated that he can only work so many hours due to his retirement that he already receives. At his current salary he can only work 66 ½ hours per pay period. Officer Mason also addressed the matter of people needing house numbers on properties. This would help everyone especially if there is an emergency so that they know that they are at the right house.

President Oller stated that the Board will go into closed session once we take care of the rest of the agenda items.

Approval of Bills:

A motion was made by Trustee Durbin with Trustee Berroyer making the second motion for the approval of bills.

Roll call Evans-yes, Durbin-yes, Mahan-yes, Garner-yes, Berroyer-yes, Keafer-yes

Approval of Treasurer’s report:

Treasurer Beverly Merano presented the Treasurer’s report to the Board and asked for Board for approval to close out the Safe Passage account. Trustee Evans stated that there is $8093.57 in the Safe Passage account. Approximately $7000.00 was from a grant of $9000.00 that Chief Wheeler received. Last year we received several donations from private citizens as well as having a couple fundraisers. When she left to start Safe Passage in Taylorville her and Beverly got together and balanced the Safe Passage account so that when the new coordinator came it would have a starting balance for her. We purchase $25.00 gift carts from Casey’s to help the volunteers with their gas for transportation. If you break this down there was approximately 7000.00 from the grant. There was a little over $100.00 from a 50/50 drawing. There was $73.00 dollars in the account left over from the Easter egg hunt that Safe Passage took over last year from the Fire Dept. There was $200.00 from the General Fund that was donated to purchase gift cards. This was all in the account. When she left here in July there was no Chief of Police here, therefore there was no Safe Passage Coordinator here because it is in the Police Dept. and is under the Chief. At this time Beverly and (couldn’t understand what she said) decided that they did not want the Safe Passage in the city’s account as a line item. In Taylorville it goes through the First Presbyterian Church. They hold the account. When she needs money for something, they give it to her. She then goes on to state that she was looking for a coordinator for Kincaid but had no one. She put it out in Taylorville and found a lady, trained her and the lady also helps her in the Taylorville office when they are really busy. She came over to Kincaid for a couple days. Since they had the money balanced out they did not want to take any money out of the account to give her. Denise stated that she paid her out of her account and that she would get this all straightened out. She talked with the various churches in Kincaid and no one wanted to take the account over. She then talked to a Church in Taylorville but they are not having their Board meeting until April. She also stated that our Treasurer wants the account closed now because there is an audit coming up because it wasn’t put on the Levy so therefore the auditors are going to say what is this? So therefore, Safe Passage was not to close. Denise also stated that no one ever said it was closing, but it has been pretty much decided that we will send the $7000. something back to the church that donated it to us, in which they are not very happy with it. She said They gave the Church of God $73.00 to the Church of God so they can put it towards their Easter Egg Hunt, and put the 50/50 money which her Safe Passage clients worked and sold for the program back into the city’s General Fund with the $200.00 the Village donated to us not loaned to the Safe Passage. They donated to us. She does not think it is right. She then stated as she was talking to Chief Constantine that she had been talking most of a Friday about three people that was needing Safe Passage and one today from Officer Grove. There are people in Kincaid that are needing Safe Passage. Many surrounding areas have started Safe Passage. Morrisonville started Safe Passage and they already have a coordinator there which is the Treasurer. There is no conflict there.

An attendee of the meeting Louis Selzer asked Denise if the issue here was that the money has to go to a nonprofit organization. Trustee Evans stated yes it has to be nonprofit. It does not have to go to a church but it is not here place to go around a find a place that will take this money. Mr. Selzer stated to Trustee Evans that when she first started that she was a volunteer for the program. Trustee Evans said that was correct she was a driver. Mr. Selzer then went on to say that she moved up into a paid position? Trustee Evans stated yes as a coordinator. Mr. Selzer asked her again about being a paid position. President Oller stated that what we have ran into here was when this was voted on and he had broken the tie on the vote to move the Safe Passage account out of the Safe Passage Dept. it was also stated in the meeting minutes in which the funds will be transferred out of the Village of Kincaid. Mr. Patrick (the Church that was in charge of giving the grant) gave Beverly a deadline to have the funds out of the account by February or returned and that is what is needing to happen. It is past February. Trustee Evans stated that after that Chief Wheeler talked to him and explained the circumstances of us not having a Chief of Police here at the time and that we couldn’t get the program going that Mr. Patrick was fine with it because he knew we were working on it. President Oller stated that he was trying to explain the City side of it that we are having an audit in May and we have $8000.00 that we have no where to put it. Treasurer Beverly Merano then stated that she wants to make sure that this is in the minutes that she is not against Safe Passage. Trustee Evans stated that that was not the point and to move on. Treasurer Merano stated that they had met several times to go over this fund. First Denise told her that the Methodist Church that gave the grant had to have this all done by December 31st because of their audit. The money had to be returned to them. The first of January Beverly stated that she called up the Pastor of the Methodist Church and talked to Mr. Patrick. I asked him to give us another month on it and try to find someone. He did. He gave us until February 1st. Beverly gave it another 2 or three weeks and then spoke with Denise last week several times. The first time she spoke to Denise she stated that she was done with it. Dwayne had told her to get out of it. It was not her position to find somebody. The Methodist Church did not want it. The Church of God did not want it. Something needed to be done. Beverly then stated that she talked to Dale Eggiman from the Midland Fire Dept., she thought they may want to take it over. They did not. She then talked to him about the Easter Egg hunt. They were not doing it. Beverly stated that she felt like she was up against a wall. She called Denise again and explained all of this to her. Beverly stated that Denise told her to go to the Police Dept. and see what they wanted to do. Beverly then went to Police Department. She talked to Jody. Jody said that she did not have time for it. She then talked to Randy and he said he didn’t have time for it. Beverly then called Denise back and told her what they said. Beverly also stated at this time Denise and her came to the conclusion that this money needed to go. Beverly said that Denise told her to contact Church of God. The $74.00 left from last year’s Easter egg hunt went to the Church of God because they were doing the Easter Egg hunt this year. During the meeting Denise asked if Beverly if she already gave it to them and Beverly stated that she did. $241.00 was the 50/50 money, it went back into the General Fund. $278.00 went back into the General Fund. Beverly also stated that when her and Denise worked on this, Denise only wanted from January when the $7000.00 was given to us. She didn’t care what was in the account before then. Beverly and her then broke it down into her salary and everything. $7043.90 has gone back to First United Methodist Church because Mr. Patrick was wanting it back. Beverly proceeded to say that Mr. Patrick was sorry that the Village of Kincaid could not go on with the Program. Once again Beverly stated that the Police Dept. said no, they did not have time for it. She did not know what to do with it. She did not put it on the levy last year. The auditors back in August told her if we were going to continue this, we had to put it on the levy. In the minutes that she had a copy of stated that it was to be taken out. It was not to be housed in the Village no more. That was back in October. She stated that she has given it enough time until now. The money has been distributed the account needs to be closed out. Trustee Evans asked her if she already sent the money. Trustee Merano stated that she has and that you (Denise) knew this. Beverly stated that she called you (Denise) and told you this. Trustee Evans stated that yes, Beverly had called her but she thought that Beverly was waiting to distribute the money after the Board had voted on it. Beverly stated that it was already voted on in October. Beverly stated again it was in the meeting minutes that it was not be housed in the Village. Trustee Evans stated not to ever think about getting it started again because it won’t work. She guarantees that. Beverly stated to Denise that she was in communication with her about this. Denise asked what will be do now if someone comes to the Police Dept. and wants help. Many people from the audience stated to send them to Taylorville. Denise said that that was not going to happen. The Clerk asked Denise why not, when Taylorville did not have a Safe Passage Program Kincaid Safe Passage helped them. Most of the people were from Taylorville. Denise stated that was because there was no program open at the time in Taylorville. Denise also stated that she has already talked with Chief Wheeler and if Kincaid sends someone over from Kincaid that Kincaid will have to pay for their transportation. Beverly also stated that before she did any of this, she told Mayor Oller everything including the conversations that I had with Denise. Mayor Oller stated that we needed to meet the deadlines for the auditors. Denise stated that it has already been done but it was not voted on how the money was going to be distributed. Trustee Garner asked that if there was a 50/50 drawing held for Safe Passage, why was that money put into the General Fund and not made as a donation to another Safe Passage program. Beverly stated that her and Denise had talked about this and where all the money was going to go. Trustee Durbin stated that he would make since to go to another Safe Passage program. Denise stated to the Board is you have already decided this then do what you want. Beverly asked Denise why she didn’t say any of this. Denise told her that she wasn’t going to sit there and argue with her. Beverly stated that she was not arguing with her and that she asked for her advice last week. Denise stated that she was sorry and not arguing with her about this. Denise then went on to ask Beverly that the Village will be safe now when it is audit time since we do not have the money anymore. Beverly responded yes. Trustee Garner then asked Beverly that didn’t she say that she already closed the account by sending all the checks out. Beverly and Mayor Oller stated to her that the account is not closed that it is just at a zero balance once these checks have been written. Denise then stated that Kincaid is really getting bad with getting along and it is just getting worse and worse. We need to get together and work together but it is constant anymore fighting. Trustee Durbin stated that we have Board members that don’t get along.

Mayor Oller asked for a motion to close out the Safe Passage account. Trustee Mahan made the first motion with the second motion made by Trustee Keafer.

Roll call: Keafer-yes, Berroyer-yes, Garner-Abstain, Durbin-no, Evans-no, Mahan-yes

Treasurer Merano stated that there is $241.00 in the General Fund from 50/50 money. There is also $278 and $456. In the General Fund that is Safe Passage. She wanted to know what they want her to do with this money. Trustee Durbin and Trustee Evans stated that they thought it was already gone. Beverly stated that the money is not spend it is in the General Fund. Trustee Durbin said to give it to Safe Passage in Taylorville. Beverly stated that it was not their money it was the Village’s money. Beverly stated that we can get $25.00 gift cards from Casey’s and when Kincaid has someone, they can give the gift card to Taylorville so they can take them. The crowd applauded her suggestion.

A motion was made by Trustee Berroyer with the second motion made by Trustee Durbin to purchase gift cards.

Roll call: Keafer-yes, Berroyer-yes, Garner-yes, Mahan-yes, Durbin-yes, Evans-yes.

A motion was then made to approve the Treasurer’s report by Trustee Durbin and the second motion made by Trustee Keafer.

Roll call: Keafer-yes, Berroyer-yes, Mahan-yes, Durbin-yes, Evans-yes, Garner-yes

Police report:

We need to update radios but we need to wait and get more information from County once they have all the information that they need to determine the pricing and how much it will cost us.

Foreman’s report:

Foreman Mark Wolfe stated that they cleaned up the house on Tower Place and Walnut Street. Foreman Wolfe also asked about the leasing of the lake lots and people picking their lots. If it is ok with the Board he stated that he and the Clerk and work a couple weekends on a Saturday for an hour so that would give time for people to come out on the weekend, pick their lot and sign all the necessary paperwork and pay at that time. March 28th for the Kincaid area residents and April 4th for out of town residents. Trustee Berroyer asked if we were just doing it on a weekend so that it would be more convenient for people and Mark stated yes, he thought that it would be better. Berroyer agreed. Trustee Berroyer stated that he thought Taylorville does theirs on a Wednesday. Mark agreed and stated he just thought it would give people a chance to come out and look at the lots since it was our first year. President Oller asked the Board if they were ok with having Mark and Marla come in on Saturday and work at lake to lease the lake lots. No one had any objections.

Zoning report:

No permits issued.

Clerks report:

Nothing to report

Committee and Trustees:

Trustee Durbin stated that he had heard that a lady had tripped on the sidewalk on North Ave. We probably need to check into this as to if we need to get it replaced.

He also asked about ripping out the steps on the boulevard of his dad’s property.

Trustee Keafer stated that we need to cut out the shoulders on some of the roads due to the rain.

Trustee Berroyer stated that people on 100 block of Elm are double parking and we need to keep on eye out on this.

Visitors:

Mike Lawrence stated that the AT&T tower should be completed by the end of April. They have been there working on it.

President Oller asked the Board for a motion to go into closed session. A motion was made by Trustee Durbin with the second motion made by Trustee Evans.

Roll call: Berroyer-yes, Mahan-yes, Keafer-yes, Garner-yes, Durbin-yes, Evans-yes

The Board went into closed session at 8:33 p.m.

The Board returned from closed session and back into open session at 9:05 pm.

Roll call:

Berroyer-here, Mahan-here, Keafer-here, Garner-here, Durbin-here, Evans-here

A motion was made by Trustee Durbin with the second motion made by Trustee Evans to hire Officer Jody Grove as full-time officer.

Roll call:

Garner-yes, Keafer-yes, Evans-yes, Berroyer-yes, Mahan-no, Durbin-yes

President Oller asked for a motion to adjourn meeting. Trustee Berroyer made the first motion to adjourn the meeting with Trustee Durbin making the second motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

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Marla O’Dell, Clerk