

**Village of Annawan
Regular Board Meeting
August 11, 2015**

Attendance

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order with Rico, Goodley, Ashley, Miller, and Heitzler present. Also present at the meeting were Carolyn Miller, Chris Fronk, Dick and Sharon VanKerrebroeck, and Eric Shallert.

Month's Minutes

Heitzler, seconded by Rico, made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

The bill for a new pressure washer was discussed. New board members were told that the purchase had been approved at an earlier meeting. Miller questioned why we didn't have a separate account for the downtown park. All bills for that park and Howes Park are paid by the General Fund. Howes Park is coded separately but there is no need for that for the downtown park. Heitzler, seconded by Goodley, made a motion to pay the monthly bills. Motion carried. The balance in the General Fund on July 31, 2015, was \$164,129.42. Ashley said that the VFW has never received a new door or any renovation of a door even though we paid them for a door. The village clerk will call, try to cancel the order, and get reimbursement from Sullivan Door Company.

Police Report

Chief Elliott gave the police report showing 4 citations and 10 written warnings since the last meeting. The dept will receive new body armor for 2 part time officers through a grant from the Illinois State Police at no cost to the village. Chief Elliott will go to Springfield to pick them up. Chief Elliott and Office Halberg completed 8 hours of training for the month of July. Annawan police assisted the Atkinson P.D, H/County Sheriff's Dept, and the IL State Police this month. Ashley questioned body cameras for the police. Chief said that we would hold off until it was mandatory. He hopes when that happens that the cameras can be paid for by some grant instead of the village paying \$5000 per camera.

MFT Update

Eric Shallert, of MSA Professionals, told board members that the County asphalt crew was delayed in getting to Annawan. They are expected to be back in September. At that time work will be done on the Howe's Park parking lot; Depot Street from Pritchard to Farmer Drive; Farmer Drive from Depot to Main, and the alley between West Street and Henry Street (north edge). The alley will be paid for by residents. At the request of the mayor MSA Professional will come to town when the asphaltting is done in a supervisory capacity at an estimated cost of \$1000. The cost will come out of the funds set aside for the General Engineering and Miscellaneous contract.

The parking area west of Paxton's Coop has been cleared off. When plans were changed from sealcoating to asphalt more work needed to be done than was in the original MFT contract in order to achieve positive drainage. Also, an old cistern was discovered during the removal of materials from the ROW so that will have to be abandoned before work can begin. He feels the best solution is to rotomill about 30' wide parallel to 2nd Street. This work would have to be hired outside of MFT. Mayor Smith said that new drainage work had also been discussed. Nothing will be done this year.

MSA remains prepared to assist the Village with site and infrastructure design and construction management of parking area, streets, storm and sanitary sewers, and water mains surrounding the new C/C as needed.

MSA will also prepare a scope of services and estimate for issues with the inflow and infiltration of ground water into the sanitary system. Smith said that as of now the possibility of mapping out the oldest pipes and replacing them is what will be discussed in the future.

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Handicapped parking places at the new Community Center were discussed. Suggestions were varied. MSA Professionals will estimate the cost of 2 handicapped parking spaces on the North Side of the C/C. A parking lot will be built there eventually. Also included in the estimate should be a way to access the handicapped spaces from North State Street. Schallert thought that the MFT money not being used for new parking on Second Street would match the amount for the spaces.

Lastly, the bridge in Howes Park may have to be raised due to drainage issues caused by asphaltting instead of sealcoating. Schallert said that he could use a construction laser to be sure. He would stop at the parking lot before leaving town. Schallert will also check the code to see if the bridges in Howes Park should have railings.

Heitzler suggested that any dirt from the community center or ball diamonds be used to backfill the edges of the sidewalk from Howes Park to the Library when village employees have the time to do so.

Budget for 2015-2016

The budget is being worked on. Every committee has submitted numbers for the first three months and things look pretty good. Nothing is set in stone. A cause for concern is the monthly garbage tipping fee. We continue to use Kewanee because the Atkinson Landfill is closed. The fees doubled once we started using Kewanee. Heitzler suggested that the board decide how often committee chairmen present their part of expenses/receipts at a later meeting. Smith suggested that once a year the committees speak with village employees to find out about large future expenses that should be planned for.

TIF Request from Fire Department

The final request was received for roofing the fire dept building. They will receive their request of up to \$75,000 in 2016.

Future TIF Requests

It was suggested by Smith and approved by the board that the next TIF grants would be decided on at the February 2016 meeting. Applications may be turned in at any time and a presentation made to the board at any meeting, but the actual grants would not be decided on until that February meeting. The procedure would be repeated at the August 2016 meeting for any applications turned in for that six months. That way the board would know exactly how much TIF money is available for that time period. Miller, seconded by Heitzler, made a motion to accept TIF applications throughout the year, but to make decisions concerning those applications twice a year –February and August. Motion carried.

Tif Grant for NavyGold

It is hoped that the Tif Grant and the tax rebate to NavyGold can be combined and then divided into two payments of \$50,000. Smith will talk to the applicants.

Plans for Old Community Center

Kathleen Orr, TIF attorney, told Smith that TIF money may be used for demolition of the old C/C. Smith is waiting for two bids. Heitzler questioned which was best...to leave it as is or to demolish it without intent for what to do with the space afterwards and a definite change to the look downtown. Safety issues, insurance costs, utilities, etc. point to demolition. The bid request for demolition included grading the space afterwards. Any plans for cement work, building a gazebo, etc. would require funds that the village doesn't have at this time. Goodley, seconded by Heitzler, made a motion for Smith to be able to make a decision about demolition of the old C/C down to green after receipt of another bid using TIF money. Motion carried. Discussion of what to do with the contents was also held. No action was taken.

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Community Center Loan #2

BankOrion had agreed to loan the village up to \$400,500 toward expenses for the community center and Howes Park renovations at a rate of 2.75%. The village has borrowed \$200,000 previously and needs to borrow more. Current bills for the C/C total approximately \$60,000 and the C/C account owes the General Account \$193,050.17. BankOrion has to reevaluate the need for the loan because it isn't to be used for the original intent due to the Oslad Grant being rescinded. Heitzler, seconded by Rico, made a motion to borrow up to \$250,000 to go to the Community Center account. Motion carried. The interest rate will continue at 2.75%. Residents are reminded that we are still taking donations. It was agreed that the "thermometer" signs need to be updated.

Sale of Village Property

A water sprinkler was purchased from Alton Irrigation for use of watering the grass on the fourth baseball diamond. Village employees have no use for that equipment. Heitzler said that the original intent was to sell it. Alton Irrigation will be contacted and an ad will be published after information is given to the village clerk in order to do so, hopefully in time for the September meeting.

Howes Street

Prior to the meeting Smith had asked board members to drive down Howes Street to see the horrible condition that it's in. Truck traffic from CHS Annawan uses that street to get to the gas station. The building housing Crown Home Entertainment, Brandner Mapping and Sales, etc. is for sale. There is a lot of interest in that sale and the sale of two lots owned by the village. Something needs to be done about Howes Street as it dead ends into that area. Three options were mentioned: Fill the potholes, work with Annawan Township Road Commissioner to redo the street like a country road at a cost of \$7500, with no charge for labor because the Village pays taxes to the township, or use MFT money and asphalt it. Eric Shallert had several suggestions also. He will call Henry County for a quick-fix to see if they have any millings that could be used for the potholes. The material would be free. The township would have to blade it, Betcher's would have to roll it. Rico said that millings would also be available when the road from Geneseo to the Bureau County line is revamped. This will be discussed again at the September meeting.

TIF Attorney

Kathleen Orr plans to come to a special meeting to talk with board members about which projects can and cannot be paid for with TIF money. She is going through the bills from the past year to see if anything could have been paid with TIF money, but wasn't. Board members can ask about future projects to see if they qualify.

Community Center Committee

Smith would like to get the original committee of residents together to think about any new ideas for fundraising, suggesting décor or colors if anything comes up, equipment needed, follow up with donors who have promised yearly donations, etc. A meeting will be called for in the near future. After coming up with suggestions the committee would contact Lauren Dynes, who would bring the ideas before the board. Ashley asked about putting a fence around the air conditioner and power box. That will be addressed after a decision is made about a back-up generator.

Resident Concern

The Cub Scout leader was concerned about having meetings at the new community center with the policy of no glitter. She wanted to have meetings at the old C/C. That won't be possible. The rule will not be changed.

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Village Email Addresses

Lauren Dynes and the police dept will have to get new email addresses due to conflict with Microsoft. The village clerk's email will remain the same.

Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session

Heitzler, seconded by Goodley, made a motion to adjourn to executive session. Motion carried.

After Executive Session

Part-time work wages were changed to: \$12/hr. for non CDL work; \$18/hr. for CDL work.

Overtime for salaried employees will remain the same: Employee works 45 hours, then overtime is paid at time and a half.

A new contract was approved for the police chief: That position no longer requires being a resident in Annawan.

A certified appraisal has been received for the two lots near Howes Street that are owned by the village. No action was taken.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Heitzler, seconded by Rico, made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried.

Julie DeSplinter
Village Clerk