

Village of Arrowsmith

Board Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2024

Present: Chad Walden, Brent Beyer, Cheryl West, Ray Wilson, Taryn Cross, Megan Lopez

Absent:

Guests:

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 P.M.

The pledge of allegiance was said by all present.

All board members present reviewed the February 2024 meeting minutes and voted to approve the minutes with two changes.

Ray Wilson made a motion to approve the minutes, Cheryl West seconded the motion.

Ayes: Cheryl West, Ray Wilson, Brent Beyer, Taryn Cross

Nays: None

Public Comment

N/A

SAFPD Representative District Report

Ray Wilson provided the monthly status report for the district for the month of February 2024: Saybrook had a total of 7 EMS calls and no fire calls, Arrowsmith had 1 EMS and no fire calls for a total of 8 EMS calls for the district.

The department had one Cornerstone class so far this year. There will also be an extrication class coming up soon with Cornerstone.

Finance

Brent Beyer provided the board with all account balances in the CIBM and Illinois Funds accounts for the month of February 2024. Chad has forwarded the February monthly treasures report from Feller and Associates to all board members.

Chad reminded the board members that the village needs to find a new treasurer to take over the payroll and paying of the village's bills. We can no longer use Feller and Associates for payroll, bill

paying and the village audit. If the village is unable to find a new entity to manage the treasure responsibilities, then we would need to replace Feller and Associates as our auditor. This change needs to happen in the next few months. Chad stated that his preference was to find a replacement for the treasurer duties.

Property and Grounds

Chad presented a quote from Benjamin Lawncare for mowing all the village properties again this year. Chad stated that the quote was the same as last years costs for Benajmin to mow. The board agreed that the properties were well maintained last year by Benjamin's and that there were not any concerns with having them perform the work again this year.

Motion to accept Benjamin's Lawncares estimate for mowing the village properties again this year for \$1,040.00 each month.

Taryn Cross made a motion to approve the estimate, Ray Wilson seconded the motion.

Ayes: Ray Wilson, Taryn Cross, Cheryl West, Brent Beyer

Nays:

Water/Garbage and Recycling

Chad provided the monthly revenue report for February 2024 for water and garbage collections.

Funding for well 2 pump replacement: The village has requested an additional \$15,000 of ARPA monies from the county for the round two disbursement of leftover funds. Chad will be obtaining pricing as soon as possible so he can provide it at the mayor's association next month for consideration. Still no definitive answer if we will get the \$15,000. More to come on this next month.

Chad notified the board members that the water department has gone back to Pace Analytics for lab services for water samples. Tek Labs was unable to provide the timeliness that we needed when boil orders occurred and the testing process was not always efficient for our needs.

Chad informed the board that Republic Services will be providing an email address for residents to request bulk item collection. The emails will go to the local Republic Services office instead of having to call the Republic Services toll free number. This should mitigate some of the issues individuals have been having with their bulk trash items needing to be picked up. If residents have broken trash or recycling receptacles, they will need to call the local number shown on the village website and ask for a new can.

Ordinance processes and enforcement

Chad went over several ordinance violation letters and made sure that all board members present were okay with moving forward with the letters being mailed and the process that is entailed per violation letter. Ordinance violation letters include the following violations: abandoned vehicles, vehicles in village right ways, garbage on property and in village right away and incessant barking dogs that are causing noise and nuisance violations.

Streets/Alleys and Drainage

2024/25 MFT streets program: Chad stated that he and Ray need to get together and plan the chip and seal program for this year. More to come on this next month.

North Walnut drainage improvements: Chad discussed the need for additional drainage work along North Walnut Street this summer. Work will begin at the inlet in front of the Christian Church to determine why water is not leaving town from that location. This will likely include exploratory digs in the alley east of the church and at the edge of town.

Community Relations

Community center rentals for 2024 so far: March 16th and 30th, May 12th and May 18th, July 13th and July 25-26th (church youth retreat), August 24th and 31st and November 9th and 24th, and December 8th. Chad also asked Cheryl to provide all the Community Center rental dates to Taryn Lopshire (VoA webmaster) so she can add those rental dates to the website calendar.

Brent Beyer showed the board members present a training session being offered on website that he felt would be beneficial to post on the village website about a conceal and carry class for educators. The board decided not to proceed with posting it to the website.

McLean County Mayors Association update: Chad provided an update from the McLean County Mayors Association quarterly meeting. Some of the topics were the new CIRA airport authority board, immigrant bus drop-off ordinances and discussions around the use of unused ARPA funds that were set aside by the county for rural community projects.

Chad informed all board members present about America's Small Town Leaders Conference happening on June 22nd, 2024 in Lexington IL. This conference is targeted more to smaller communities to help educate and provide information in dealing with issues that do not affect larger communities that have full time staff and larger tax bases to draw from for economic growth. Chad let board members know that the village will cover the registration cost if anyone wishes to attend.

Board calendar Items

2024/25 annual budget planning: Chad and Megan will be meeting soon to discuss the 2024/25 budget. More to come on this at the April and May meetings. Fiscal year starts May 1st, 2024.

Chad let the board members know that he is ordering new toilets for the community center and will be having a new spigot installed on the outside of the community center building when the toilets get installed.

The Erthel Rose scholarship application forms have been provided to the school by Cheryl. April 1st, 2024 is the deadline for submission. Those letters are mailed to the village and then given to Cheryl.

Chad stated that the village dropped Frontier as a backup internet provider for the village. We are now on CIRBN only. This will save the village \$100 every month following Frontiers price increase in February.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 PM.