

**MINUTES OF THE
WARRENSBURG VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
August 2, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Riley called the meeting to order at the Warrensburg Village Hall on Monday, August 2, 2021 at 6:00 p.m..

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited.

ROLL CALL: President: Mayor Riley, Trustee D. Fisher, Trustee Freeman, Trustee Hackl, Trustee Hood, and Trustee J. Oakley. Also present were VAC Hundley, C. Willis of Public Works, Chief G. Wheeler, and Attorney J. Jankowicz. Trustee Netherton was absent.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS: Mayor Riley stated that Trustee Netherton was recuperating from surgery and would not attend the meeting. Mayor Riley reported the oil and chipping update would be covered under Public Works. Finally, Mayor Riley wished to extend a big 'thank you' to the CornFest Committee for putting on a wonderful CornFest Celebration.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: At the beginning of Public Comments, Mayor Riley advised the public that speakers would be afforded a reasonable time and there would be no trustee feedback to citizens' comments.

T. Hoffman reported on the CornFest as being very successful and it was profitable. Some expenses were still coming in. He believed that the Committee did not want to make it bigger. Some expenses had been made to make the festival better, including buying picnic tables and an ice machine. There would be a meeting on Thursday, August 5, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the Village Hall for the CornFest Committee to review and start preliminary planning for next year. He thought the Committee would return for next year.

Jeannie Mayfield spoke about her belief that curfew ordinances were not being properly enforced. She indicated a problem the previous Thursday where two children came on her property and spoke and acted threateningly to her. There have been other instances of mischief, vandalism, and inappropriate behavior. There frequently were 6 to 15 children involved.

Shane Reed spoke as a 40-year resident of Warrensburg and backed up comments from Ms. Mayfield. He also observed littering problems in the community. He felt ordinances were for the benefit of the town. The Village had become messy and had lost its charm. He felt the Village was getting run down.

Amanda Davis has been here one year. She felt her teenage daughter has been bullied and there are problems with the children in the community.

Heather Ross said her daughter walked to her father's at 9:15 one evening and her daughter was bullied and hit with a golf club.

William Ross was the father of the 15 year old daughter and echoed the mother's comments.

Debbie Smallwood said there is a problem with a home in the community where foster children are placed. They are not complying with Village ordinances and she followed the children one evening at 10:30 p.m. going from the house to the park.

Gerri Edwards said that the community has houses that are in bad shape and are falling down. Many residences are now a dump. She said many houses need attention and have to be cleaned up. She felt the town is not safe. She thought there were a bunch of kids running around and destroying the Village. She noted the vandalism to the old train station behind the house on West Main Street. She also observed a dangerous dog without a muzzle, which needs to be muzzled, and witnessed a girl pull a rabbit out of another girl's hands and throw it to the ground.

Ms. Mayfield stated that the Village needed to warn little old ladies and a Neighborhood Watch should be created.

Mr. Jackson stated that the parents of curfew breakers should be "nailed". He stated that parents are the problem and trash should be picked up.

Shane Reed stated that A.C.T.S. is not doing a good job cleaning up after installation of its fiber optic lines.

Mayor Riley reported that the board is addressing curfew and will look at the issue of bullying.

Shane Reed stated that kids are bored and the Village needs to provide activities for children. The Village might consider creating an incentive award for a "beautiful" house.

Mayor Riley determined that was the conclusion of Public Comments.

NEW BUSINESS: David Mizer reported that he had negotiated for the Village to experience no rate increase for its Humana dental coverage. He expected this Fall to see health insurance premiums rise for the January renewal.

REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Trustee Freeman moved and Trustee Fisher seconded the motion to approve the July 19, 2021 regular meeting minutes. On voice vote, motion carried.

Trustee Oakley moved and Trustee Hackl seconded the motion to approve the July 19, 2021 closed session minutes. Upon roll call vote, the trustees voted as follows: 'Yes' - J. Oakley, K. Hood, S. Freeman, D. Fisher, and L. Hackl; 'No' - None. Motion carried unanimously.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK: VAC Hundley reported that the Sewer Fund transfers out amount of \$77.92 needed to be amended to \$65.23. D. Fisher moved and S. Freeman seconded the motion to accept the Balance Sheet, pay the bills and make the transfers as amended on the VAC Financial Report for August 2, 2021. Cindy Hundley reported that the Village had received its first part of real estate taxes. Discussion followed and the board agreed to pay the Vulcan Rock expense out of the Road & Bridge Fund. Upon roll call vote, the trustees voted as follows: 'Yes' - S. Freeman, D. Fisher, J. Oakley, K. Hood and L. Hackl; 'No' - None. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Hundley advised the board that Warrensburg was eligible to receive \$153,073.18 under the American Rescue Plan, in two installments. There was a big list of do's and don'ts. The first installment would be 30 days after the portal opened and the second installment would be 12 months later.

FINANCE: J. Oakley moved to receive and file the 2020-2021 audit. K. Hood seconded the motion. On roll call vote, the trustees voted as follows: 'Yes' - K. Hood, S. Freeman, D. Fisher, L. Hackl, and J. Oakley; 'No' - None. Motion carried unanimously. J. Oakley reported that there would be a Finance Committee meeting on August 25, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the Village Hall.

BUILDING: In the absence of Trustee Netherton, Trustee Fisher provided a report to the board. There has been no change at the Baker property and there was still the expectation that Mr. Baker would complete work by the end of August. The letter to him was approved. The Simpson property had some vehicles removed, but other cars had been brought in and/or moved. There were still tires on the property, washers and appliances on the property in violation of the Village Code. After discussion, the board agreed that Mr. Simpson should receive an ordinance citation in the amount of \$150.00. Trustee Fisher also reported that, although the Illinois Street property was slightly better, the owner was still selling merchandise and equipment from the premises.

POLICE: Chief Wheeler reported that after police vehicles and Village vehicles started exhibiting mechanical problems, it was ascertained that Morgan Distributing had improperly pumped diesel fuel into the Village's gas tank. The vehicles were being worked on and it was hopeful they could be repaired properly. Morgan Distributing has been advised as to the issue and Morgan management has said that it will take care of the problems. Attorney Jankowicz suggested that Illinois Municipal Risk Management Association be advised as to the potential claim.

Chief Wheeler also reported that Christopher Hale had obtained a different full-time job and declined the offer. Chief Wheeler indicated that Christopher Hale would be employed as a part-time officer.

Chief Wheeler advised the board he heard the audience's comments. He has been very busy. He added that he would not discuss police hours at a meeting.

SEWER: Trustee Hackl had no report.

STREETS: Trustee Hood reported that Dunn had been delayed in Clinton, which resulted in delays working in Illini Township, so Warrensburg would be delayed. He further reported that town cleanup would occur on August 7, 2021 with the placement of dumpsters from Pugsley Container for the Village cleanup.

WATER: Trustee Freeman had no report.

PUBLIC WORKS: Mayor Riley and C. Willis reported that water was still coming out and the issue did not appear to be ground water. Burdick Plumbing will need to be hired to bring a high-pressure truck to address the issue.

ENGINEER: Stephanie Brown stated that a new round of Safe Routes To School funds would be released. If the Village was interested in applying, it would have to do so again with the School District. Submissions would have to be made in October. There would be an 80/20 match, up to a maximum of \$250,000 with no preliminary engineering fees being paid.

VILLAGE ATTORNEY: J. Jankowicz had nothing to report.

OTHER AND/OR OLD BUSINESS: Trustee Freeman asked for an A.C.T.S. update. Mayor Riley reported that JULIE had messed up twice, causing difficulties in laying the fibre optic lines. Mayor Riley reported that perhaps A.C.T.S. had over-promised and under-delivered on its work.

Mayor Riley reported that the Village would continue to monitor the state's mask mandates and recommendations.

Mayor Riley asked Chief Wheeler to provide a report at each meeting on how the public's concerns were being addressed. He stated it was okay to staff additional part time officers. He requested the police committee bring ideas (cameras, etc.) to the board to curb the curfew/vandalism issue.

Mayor Riley stated there was no further business to come before the board. Trustee Oakley moved and Trustee Freeman seconded the motion to adjourn. On voice vote, the motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Cindy Hundley,
Village Administrative Clerk