

**Village Board
Meeting Minutes
March 20, 2023
Approved**

Present: Mayor Lee
Trustees, Fowler, Farrell, Speer, Zabelny
Village Manager Shari Wilson- Pearce
Treasurer Maryalice Edwards
Deputy Clerk Amy Harter
DPW Superintendent Jeff Pearce
Code Enforcement Officer Mark Mazzucco
Asst. Superintendent Chad McManus

Guests: Russ Zurick

Mayor Lee called the meeting to order at 5 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. The meeting was held in the Board Room and was available on Zoom.

Budget Discussion

ARPA: Shari Pearce reported she met with MRB Group regarding grant opportunities for the water repair project on South Avenue under the bridge at Salmon Creek. It is recommended that Shari apply for the USDA Rural Development for the ECWAG for up to \$150,000. The cost of submission is \$5,000.00.

Resolution to authorize the Village Manager and MRB Group to submit a grant application to the USDA Rural Development for ECWAG project for up to \$150,000 for the South Avenue water repair. The cost for the grant submission is not to exceed \$5,000. The money will be taken from the original engineering quote. Motion made by Trustee Fowler, seconded by Trustee Zabelny. Carried 5-0.

On March 16th the proposed budget for 2023-2024 was presented by Treasurer, Maryalice Edwards and Village Manager Shari Pearce. This meeting was to discuss the presentation and make any adjustments.

DPW employee Russ Zurick was in attendance to discuss employee wages. There was a lengthy discussion.

Wages: The board agreed on a wage increase of 2.5% for full-time employees.

Cell phones: Trustee Fowler noted employees receive \$5 per month reimbursement for their cell phones, he is recommending it be increased to \$20 per month for the next budget year.

Mechanic: Trustee Speer recommended the hours for the part-time mechanic be increased to 24 hours per week if needed; the board agreed.

Resolution to authorize the Village manager to advertise the Public Hearing to adopt the 2023-2024 budget with a tax rate of \$2.70 per thousand. Motion made by Trustee Fowler, seconded by Trustee Zabelny. Carried 5-0.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn at 5:43 p.m. was made by Trustee Fowler, seconded by Trustee Speer. Carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Harter, Recording Secretary