

**VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
7:00 P.M., DECEMBER 21, 2020**

After calling the meeting to order, President Kaufman led the Pledge of Allegiance. The Clerk called the roll, with the following members present: Leitch, Menold, Newman, Kaufman – 4.

PUBLIC HEARING – A Public Hearing was held on a Pre-Annexation Agreement with Highland Morton, LLC for 7.684 acres off Highland Rd., Morton, IL. No public comments were given.

PRESENTATIONS – None.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Paul Grethy Jr., owner of Johnson’s Floral and Greenhouse, gave a public comment regarding the Business Sustainability Grant Program and encouraged the Board to include floral and greenhouse businesses as qualifying categories.

Leigh Ann Brown from the Morton Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Council gave an update regarding upcoming events, Chamber Dollars, Leadership Morton, the Chamber Annual Meet-Up, and the EDC Symposium.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Minutes.
 - 1. Regular Meeting – December 7, 2020
- B. Approval of Bills

Trustee Leitch moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion was seconded by Trustee Menold and approved with the following roll call vote:

Yes: Leitch, Menold, Newman, Kaufman – 4.
No: None.
Absent: Blunier, Leman, Parrott – 3.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR

Administrator Smick presented the Fall 2020 Tourism Grant Recommendations. After some discussion, Trustee Newman moved to amend the grant amount for RHMA Small Town Pastor’s Conference from \$7,000 to the requested amount of \$10,000. The other two grants were for Morton Chamber of Commerce for Hometown Holidays (\$3,000) and 4th Fridays (\$700). Motion was seconded by Trustee Leitch and approved with the following roll call vote:

Yes: Leitch, Menold, Newman, Kaufman – 4.
No: None.
Absent: Blunier, Leman, Parrott – 3.

Trustee Newman then moved to approve the Tourism Grants as amended. Motion was seconded by Trustee Leitch and approved with the following roll call vote:

Yes: Leitch, Menold, Newman, Kaufman – 4.
No: None.
Absent: Blunier, Leman, Parrott – 3.

Administrator Smick then presented Building Improvement Grant Recommendations for Schooner's (\$5,295.50) and Hambrick Commercial Properties (\$5,040.00). Trustee Newman moved to approve. Motion was seconded by Leitch and approved with the following roll call vote:

Yes: Leitch, Menold, Newman, Kaufman – 4.

No: None.

Absent: Blunier, Leman, Parrott – 3.

CORPORATION COUNSEL

Attorney McGrath presented Resolution 17-21 - A Resolution Approving Amendment of Sewer Easement Affecting 500 Pierce Street, Morton, IL. Trustee Newman moved to approve. Motion was seconded by Trustee Newman and approved with the following roll call vote:

Yes: Leitch, Menold, Newman, Kaufman – 4.

No: None.

Absent: Blunier, Leman, Parrott – 3.

Attorney McGrath then presented Ordinance 21-31 - An Ordinance Annexing 7.684 Acres Off Highland St., to the Village of Morton. Trustee Menold moved to approve. Motion was seconded by Trustee Newman and approved with the following roll call vote:

Yes: Leitch, Menold, Newman, Kaufman – 4.

No: None.

Absent: Blunier, Leman, Parrott – 3.

ZONING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

ZCO Marks presented Zoning Amendment #20-08 ZA – Highland St. He noted that this is for the parcel that was just annexed and the Zoning Amendment would change the zoning from R-S to I-2. Trustee Leitch moved to approve. Motion was seconded by Trustee Newman and approved with the following roll call vote:

Yes: Leitch, Menold, , Kaufman – 4.

No: None.

Absent: Blunier, Leman, Parrott – 3.

ZCO Marks then presented Preliminary and Final Plats for Kruse & Bliss Subdivision. Trustee Newman moved to table the two items. Motion was seconded by Trustee Menold and approved with the following roll call vote:

Yes: Leitch, Menold, Newman, Kaufman – 4.

No: None.

Absent: Blunier, Leman, Parrott – 3.

VILLAGE TRUSTEES

LEITCH – Trustee Leitch announced that the Village is still waiting to hear back from the state on the Business Sustainability Grant Program and that because of the year-end deadline and the next regular meeting not being until January 4, that there may be a need for a special meeting in the next week to amend/approve before the end of the year.

Trustee Leitch then led a discussion on the ETSB and Tazewell County-Wide Radio System. He gave an overview and there was considerable discussion on the current radio system and upgrades that are being discussed with the ETSB for Motorola's StarCom system. The Board's consensus was to proceed along these discussions with the ETSB for upgrading Morton's radio systems.

Trustee Leitch then presented an info sheet and proposed a project for increasing the street lighting on North Main St. between Harding Rd. and Courtland Ave. There was considerable discussion amongst the Board and DPW Loudermilk, and the consensus was to proceed with exploring this further.


ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, Trustee Menold moved to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Trustee Newman and followed by a unanimous voice vote.

ATTEST:



VILLAGE CLERK



PRESIDENT

