

**VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
7:00 P.M., October 18, 2021**

After calling the meeting to order, President Kaufman led the Pledge of Allegiance. The Clerk called the roll, with the following members present: Hilliard, Leitch, Menold, Newman, Parrott - 5.

PUBLIC HEARING – Case No. 21-02: Miller Group USA, LLC sought a variance for the property located at 139 E. Ashland St. (PIN 06-06-17-201-008). The petitioner sought a variance from Ordinance #94-31 relative to the Interstate Corridor requirements. The variance would allow a reduction in minimum lot size requirement of one (1) acre to be reduced to .925 acre. This would provide a variance of .075 acre. Also, a variance was requested for the required minimum frontage width of 175' to be reduced to 160'. This would provide a variance of 15'. Heide McPherson and Greg Snodgrass of Miller Group and Dan Evans of Millennia Professional Services were in attendance to address the board and support their case. McPherson was sworn in by the court reporter and then provided in-depth explanations regarding the case for the Board of Trustees. There were some questions that were answered and then Trustee Menold moved to approve the variance. This motion was seconded by Trustee Parrott and approved with the following roll call vote:

Yes: Hilliard, Leitch, Menold, Newman, Parrott - 5.
No: None - 0.
Absent: Blunier - 1.

PRESENTATIONS – Newly hired Police Officer, Konnor Petefish, was sworn in before the Board of Trustees.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Leigh Ann Brown of the Morton Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development Council made some announcements regarding National Pumpkin Day, the Pumpkin Festival, Trick-or-Treat Mainstreet, Business Afterhours, and new Historical Plaques for Village Hall and Roth Grain. She also thanked Morton Police and Fire for their work at the Pumpkin Festival.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Minutes.
 - 1. Regular Meeting – October 4, 2021
- B. Approval of Bills

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

Yes: Hilliard, Leitch, Menold, Newman, Parrott - 5.
No: None - 0.
Absent: Blunier - 1.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT – None.

VILLAGE CLERK – Clerk Evans announced that the Junior Football League of Central Illinois would be hosting their League Championships for all age levels in Morton, IL on October 24th at

the High School and JFL Fields. He invited everyone to attend the event and take part in the highest level of youth football in Central Illinois.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR – Administrator Smick presented a recommendation from the Business District for a Building Improvement Grant for Hub and Spoke, which is a temporary office facility across from Village Hall at 117 N. Main St., who will be renovating the exterior of their building at a total project cost of \$41,545.00. The maximum grant of \$10,000.00 was recommended by the Business District. Trustee Leitch motioned to approve the grant and it was seconded by Trustee Parrott. The grant was approved with the following roll call vote:

Yes: Hilliard, Leitch, Menold, Newman, Parrott - 5.
No: None - 0.
Absent: Blunier - 1.

Administrator Smick then presented an update on Village sales tax received in the first 6 months of the fiscal year which was just over \$2,690,000.00. She explained this number, how it compared to the previous year, and her forecast for the future.

CHIEF OF POLICE – Chief Miller presented police payroll expenses for the Pumpkin Festival and requested that \$7,510.46 be transferred from the Tourism Tax Fund to the General Fund to cover these expenses. Trustee Hilliard moved to approve this transfer and it was seconded by Trustee Newman. The transfer of funds was approved by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Hilliard, Leitch, Menold, Newman, Parrott - 5.
No: None - 0.
Absent: Blunier - 1.

CORPORATION COUNSEL – None.

DIRECTOR OF FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES – None.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS – DPW Loudermilk presented an IDOT Resolution for maintenance under the Illinois Highway Code to purchase \$215,000.00 of salt using MFT funds for the 2022 calendar year. Trustee Leitch asked if fuel could be included and Administrator Smick noted that it could not. Trustee Leitch moved to approve the Resolution and it was seconded by Trustee Parrott. The resolution was adopted by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Hilliard, Leitch, Menold, Newman, Parrott - 5.
No: None - 0.
Absent: Blunier - 1.

DPW Loudermilk then gave an update on the Water Treatment Plant Upgrade. Trustee Leitch questioned the changeover process and DPW Loudermilk announced that it was a very quick turnaround to turn on the new plant and shut down the old one.

Lastly, DPW Loudermilk gave an update on the increasing natural gas prices and his best explanation as to why they are increasing and the factors causing it. Trustee Menold thanked DPW Loudermilk for his transparency and attempt to outguess a commodity so the Village stays informed.

ZONING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER – ZCO Marks presented a permit summary report for the fiscal year and explained the numbers.

VILLAGE TRUSTEES

Trustee Blunier – None.
Trustee Hilliard – None.
Trustee Leitch – Presented the possibility of allowing a final round of DCEO ES Business Grants and finishing a discussion from last meeting. There was some new discussion and the Board of Trustees decided to continue allowing applications with an end date of October 31st.
Trustee Menold – None.
Trustee Newman – None.
Trustee Parrott – None.

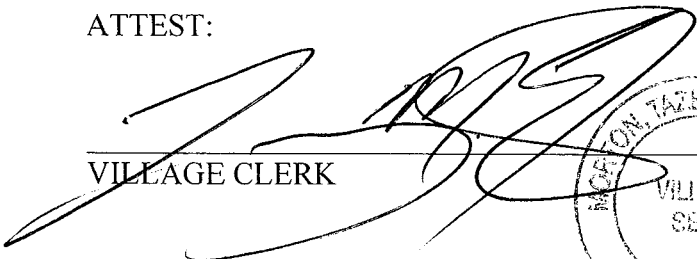
CLOSED SESSIONS – None.

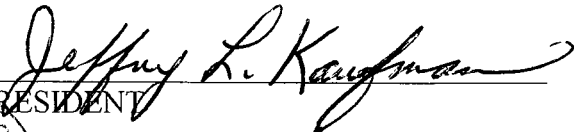
CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSIONS – None.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Board, Trustee Leitch moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Trustee Hilliard and followed by a unanimous voice vote of all present board members.

ATTEST:


VILLAGE CLERK


PRESIDENT

