

Village of Joy

200 West Main Street, Post Office Box 265
Joy, Illinois 61260-0265
309-584-4127

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, October 19, 2022

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The regular meeting of the Village Board was called to order at 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, October 19, 2022 by Village President Joe Hunt. The meeting was held in Village Hall.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll was called by Village President Joe Hunt.

Trustees present: Elaine Anderson, Paul Hampton, Don Wilken, Noah Livermore, Rory Conway. Village Clerk, Gwen Pritchett was present.

Public Present: Audrey Bryant, Pam Westfall, Scott Petrie, Brian Glasgow, Missy Sloan, Murrel Sloan

Scott Petrie/Mercer County School Dist. 404, addressed the Village Board concerning the former Mercer County Jr. High School building located on Washington Street in the Village of Joy. The district office is currently located in the VoAg building. The original 3 story building is not being used. The new building (north end portion) is currently used for Pre K, 3 & 4 year old children. Together there are 86 children. It is going very well. The Pre K children are all together instead of being separated.

The Apollo building is under construction currently. Reconstruction work on New Boston will begin in the spring of 2023. Completion should be for the 2024-2025 school year. The Pre K will move to Apollo. New Boston will be completed for 2025-2026 school year. There is not a definite time line for when the district will be finished at the Joy school. The district wants to separate themselves from the Joy facility. The district also owns the empty lot with a garage at the corner of Liberty and Penn Street where the unit office used to be located. The district leases 1 1/3 acres from Doug and Barb Kiddoo. The Ag building is on school property.

A taxing body can dispose of property through an intergovernmental agreement with another government body, such as the Village of Joy. A taxing body may also dispose of property through sealed bids or public auction. Village Trustee Elaine Anderson stated, change is always difficult. Scott Petrie stated changes were needed. Scott provides utility cost of the buildings. The Ag building shares some utilities with the main building. The district plans to keep the bus garage at this time. The Village Board will review all of the information and discuss. They will keep in touch with Scott Petrie with their intentions. Scott Petrie left the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

Audrey Bryant addressed the Village Board. She thanked to board for having 100 N. Penn Street cleaned up. Audrey asked the trustee where they wanted the Lending Library to be located. Stan Nelson is making the library and will install it. It was discussed and decided at a prior meeting to have the Lending Library located with the Little Free Food Pantry. Village Trustee Elaine Anderson asked if she will be able to donate books. Audrey Bryant said any one can donate.

Audrey Bryant discussed the plan for a Village of Joy Christmas Ornament. Her plan is to have Quality Awards in Woodhull Illinois make the ornament. If the ornament is purchased through the Village of Joy there will be no tax. Audrey asked if the Village of Joy was interested in participating and help pay for the ornaments so they can be sold as a fund raiser for the park project or other projects around the village. Audrey needs to know as soon as possible, so the ornaments can be ordered and sold before Christmas. Since some of the ornaments will be sold and shipped it would be a good idea to have the ornaments made from a material that will not break easily. Audrey left all the ornament choices

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for the trustees to review. It was discussed to possibly make the ornament an annual event.

Brian Glasgow/ Ion addressed the Village Board –The pressure test passed for Well #2 which means that we should not have a leak. When the water line was flushed with water there was no water coming from the well. The well needs to be pulled to see what is going on. Cahoy gave Brian an estimated figure and said it should be less than \$5000 to come and inspect everything. That has to be the next step.

The tower level was lowered a few feet to make sure there continues to be more turn over during the winter months. Salt use has been pretty consistent at 1-2 bags per day.

Overall the plant is running fine with the exception of tackling the problem at Well #2. Village President Joe Hunt noted there was an email from Michael Wallace USDA stating another town was having the same issues.

The generators will be serviced in the next couple of weeks.

Audrey Bryant left the meeting at 5:33 p.m.

After discussion, Village Trustee Don Wilken made the motion to hire Cahoy to pull and inspect Well #2 for \$5,000 or less. Noah Livermore 2nd the motion. The following vote was taken: Elaine Anderson-yes, Paul Hampton-yes, Don Wilken-yes, Noah Livermore-yes, Rory Conway-yes. The motion was passed with a unanimous “Yes” vote.

Brian Glasgow left the meeting at 6:03 p.m.

Missy Sloan addressed the Village Board concerning the little blue house (shed home) located on the property of Murrel and Karen Sloan, 211 E. Main Street in Joy. Missy asked if her shed home can be grandfathered in so her and her family can be left alone and live in peace. Missy has contacted several agencies and they do not have any issues with her shed home.

Village Trustee Don Wilken asked Village Clerk Gwen Pritchett to contact the village attorney because Missy admitted it was her home. Missy said they live and sleep in the shed. She also said her and her children walk across the yard to go to the bathroom.

Don Wilken said Missy originally said the building was going to be moved. Missy wanted to know what the problem is with the home. It was discussed, the problems are she has a compost toilet in the shed home and it should be hooked up to sanitary sewer and water according to the Village of Joy’s ordinance, and she pays no property tax on her home.

Village President Joe Hunt stated, we have an ordinance for water and sewer and the house does not have its own address. If the shed is to be considered like a camper it would have to be moved every two weeks. It was originally built as temporary but now Missy’s plans have changed. An out building cannot be lived in. We have to deal with the situation as a City not personal. There is no sanitary sewer or city running water in the structure.

Murrel Sloan arrived at the meeting at 6:12 p.m. The issue is city regulations not DCFS.

Murrel Sloan will talk to his attorney. Mr. Sloan asked why the Village will not give the name of their attorney to his attorney. He was told, his attorney never asked for the name of the Village’s Attorney. The Village of Joy has only received a letter for Mr. Sloan’s Attorney. Mr. Sloan thinks the Village of Joy changed the ordinance to make the shed home noncompliant.

Mr. Sloan also has a complaint against his neighbor living at 102 S. Oliver Street. The neighbor has a 500 gallon LP tank setting next to his house. The Village Board will check with the Fire District about the LP tank so the issue can be

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addressed. The Village of Joy will contact their attorney concerning the shed house. Missy and Murrel Sloan left the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Pam Westfall Village of Joy's Treasurer address the Village Board. The last few years have been stressful rocky with the last two mayors. Pam began working as the Village of Joy's Treasurer, May 1, 1992. When Mark Heater was mayor he tried to micro manage her work. Pam stated her and Village Clerk Gwen Pritchett work very well together and was upset when she left the first time. The two communicate well. Pam is a Paramedic and Manager in the Quad Cities. The stress level in Joy has been more than at her other job where she manages a large group of Paramedics. Pam told the trustees to please let her know if anyone has any questions. She is willing to meet up and discuss if anyone needs to. Village Trustee Elaine Anderson is hoping things will be more relaxed now.

Pam Westfall left the meeting at 6:25 p.m.

Requisitions: The heater at pump house #2 is not working at all. Jeff Oleary said he can take a look at it. The heater at pump house #1 also needs a checkup as well. The heaters hang from the ceiling. Village Trustee Rory Conway, suggested calling several plumbing and heating businesses because it may take a while to get someone here. The problem could be dust.

Village Trustee Elaine Anderson made the motion to call someone far a service call for the well houses. Paul Hampton 2nd the motion. The following vote was taken: Elaine Anderson-yes, Paul Hampton-yes, Don Wilken-yes, Noah Livermore-yes, Paul Hampton-yes. The motion was passed with a unanimous "Yes" vote. It was decided to try blowing or cleaning the filters before requesting a service call. If that does not work, talk with Jeff Oleary, ask him to check the pilot light. Joe, Noah and Paul will go to the well house to check on the heater at 4 p.m., Thursday, 10/20/22.

Burn Days in the Village of Joy – Burning Complaint - A resident is wondering why it is ok for the Village to burn any day of the week, while the residents can only burn on Wednesdays and Saturdays. The Village of Joy is only burning at the burn site out east of town. After discussion, November burn days were set for Nov. 1 – Nov. 23, to burn leaves and yard waste only every day during daylight hours, with the exception of windy days.

Village President Joe Hunt discussed snow removal. In the past, while he was Village President, Mark Heater helped plow. Joe asked if the board wanted to hire someone to help plow if needed. It was discussed to hire a farmer. Stan Nelson, Doug Kiddoo and Josh Stead were discussed. After discussion Village Trustee Don Wilken made the motion to look for a part-time person to help with snow removal. Rory Conway 2nd the motion. The following vote was taken: Elaine Anderson-yes, Paul Hampton-yes, Don Wilken-yes, Noah Livermore-yes, Rory Conway-yes. The motion was passed with a unanimous "YES" vote.

The Village of Joy will continue snow plowing driveways by request. The cost will be by donation.

The snow plow needs to be repaired. Brad would like to buy the material and do the work himself. A piece of metal is needed to weld and paint is needed. Village Trustee would like to see the whole thing be painted.

Christmas Ornament discussion continued-after reviewing all of the ornament options it was decided that #1 and #3 was the two best options. After discussion Village Trustee Don Wilken made the motion to purchase 100 ornaments of either #1 or #3, which ever works best with this year's design, and give Village Clerk Gwen Pritchett and Audrey Bryant permission to choose. Elaine Anderson 2nd the motion. The following vote was taken: Elaine Anderson-yes, Paul

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Hampton-yes, Don Wilken-yes, Noah Livermore-yes, Rory Conway-yes. The motion was passed with a unanimous "Yes" vote.

FY 2024 Truck Access Route Program (TARP) was discussed. The Street and Alley Committee and Village President Joe Hunt were given Circular Letter 2022-27 for review. The committee will discuss. Noah Livermore will look into the program a little more. There was a discussion on applying and using funds for Washington Street.

September 21, 2022 Regular Board Meeting minutes were reviewed and discussed. After discussion Village Trustee Noah Livermore made the motion to approve the September 21, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes with corrections. Paul Hampton 2nd the motion. The following vote was Elaine Anderson-yes, Paul Hampton-yes, Don Wilken-yes, Noah Livermore-yes, Rory Conway-yes. The motion was passed with a unanimous "Yes" vote.

September 26, 2022 Special Board Meeting Minutes were reviewed and discussed. After discussion Village Trustee Noah Livermore made the motion to approve the corrected Special September 26, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes. Paul Hampton 2nd the motion. The following vote was taken: Elaine Anderson-yes, Paul Hampton-yes, Don Wilken-yes, Noah Livermore-yes, Rory Conway-yes. The motion passed with a unanimous "Yes" vote.

The Aledo Auto and Farm invoice for \$106.26 was reviewed and discussed. In the future try to purchase from Walmart whenever possible.

The Village of Joy no longer has a contract with Cintas. The company no longer comes to the Village of Joy.

After discussion, Village Trustee Noah Livermore made the motion to approve the October 2022 expenditures. Rory Conway 2nd the motion. The following vote was taken: Elaine Anderson-yes, Paul Hampton-yes, Don Wilken-yes, Noah Livermore-yes, Rory Conway-yes. The motion was passed with a unanimous "Yes" vote.

The September P&L Budget Performance was reviewed and discussed. The annual budgeted amounts for 5201260-Loan Principal Repayment and 5201261-Loan Interest Repayment will be changed for the next budget.

Illinois Municipal League Invoice for \$26,090.97 for insurance was reviewed and discussed. After discussion, Don Wilken made the motion to approve the payment of IML invoice for \$26,090.97. Elaine Anderson 2nd the motion. The following vote was taken: Elaine Anderson-yes, Paul Hampton-yes, Don Wilken-yes, Noah Livermore-yes, Rory Conway-yes. The motion was passed with a unanimous "Yes" vote.

The requisition for an additional water turn on wrench for the water department was reviewed and discussed. Village President Joe Hunt will discuss with Brad Weeks.

Constellation Energy Contract 48M: \$0.0962 per kWh for electric rates was reviewed and discussed. Village Trustee Don Wilken locked in the new price rate 8/2/2022, but the contract was not voted on. After discussion, Village Trustee Noah Livermore made the motion to approve the new Constellation Energy Contract. Rory Conway 2nd the motion. The following vote was taken: Elaine Anderson-yes, Paul Hampton-yes, Don Wilken-yes, Noah Livermore-yes, Rory Conway-yes. The motion was passed with a unanimous "Yes" vote.

Village of Joy 2022 Trick or Treat day and hours discussed. This year Trick or Treat falls on a Monday. After discussion, Don Wilken made the motion to approve 5:30 – 7:30 p.m., Saturday, October 29, 2022, for Trick or Treat hours. Elaine

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Anderson 2nd the motion. The following vote was taken: Elaine Anderson-yes, Paul Hampton-yes, Don Wilken-yes, Noah Livermore-yes, Rory Conway-yes. The motion was passed with a unanimous "Yes" vote. It was suggested to have a Main Street Trunk or Treat next year.

Hot Dogs and Hot Chocolate will be served at the Fire Station 4:30- 5:30. Gift bags will be available. WRMJ will be contacted to add Trick or Treat information to their community calendar.

Fall Clean-up was discussed. There will be no Fall Clean-up this year. No vote needed.

Delinquent accounts reviewed and discussed. 53-2 will be shut off if not paid by October 31, 2022.

Appointment of employees. Village Trustee Elaine Anderson stated technically the employees are still employees because Mark Heater didn't fire them the correct way and Joe can hire new people if wants to.

Village President Joe Hunt wants to keep employees, Brad and Gwen with the board's approval. He feels it will be a good working environment. Everyone on the board agreed.

Will discuss a new winter start time for Brad. Maybe 7:00 a.m., for normal start time in the winter. The start time can be adjusted for snow removal. Brad may leave at noon is everything is caught up. Village President Joe Hunt will discuss this with Brad.

Winter road salt and sand was discussed. Is there enough? Also discussed chains for the pick-up.

Additions to the agenda:

There is a need for a stop sign by Paul Hampton's house, and by Cody Fanning's house by the park, because of the bus stop and children playing. Village Trustee Noah Livermore discussed the possibility of issues and legalities, but will look into it. There are rules to be followed. Village Trustee Rory Conway wished Mercer County Police Department would send an officer to Joy to patrol where there are school functions.

Coby Whitmire contacted Village Trustee Rory Conway to inquire about ditch work to be done in front of his house. Village Trustee Noah Livermore recommends waiting until spring to do the ditch work. If done this late in the fall, grass will not grow. The sidewalk there is also a problem and needs to be addressed.

There is a possibility the City of Aledo is going to sell their jetter. Is the Joy Village Board is interested in purchasing? Village Trustee Paul Hampton made the suggestion to get a price on the jetter. The City of New Boston has been bringing their jetter to Joy and helping the Village.

Village Trustee Noah Livermore asked if the Village wants to request Looser-Flake Foundation Funds again this year. If so, we need to prepare. The pavilion needs to be painted. Sidewalks were discussed. Playgrounds equipment discussed. This will be discussed at the November 16, 2022 Board Meeting. Call WRMJ and inquire about the commercial for grain bin painting. The plan is to have bids ready for the meeting this year so the Village of Joy is prepared.

It was discussed to have the park bathrooms open in the summer during the day.

The alligator swing that was in the park was removed because it was broken. A few new pieces of equipment may be needed.

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Motioned by Village Trustee Elaine Anderson to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Rory Conway 2nd the motion. The following vote was taken: Elaine Anderson-yes, Paul Hampton-yes, Don Wilken-yes, Noah Livermore-yes, Rory Conway-yes. The motion was passed with a unanimous "Yes" vote

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gwen Pritchett
Joy Village Clerk