

Newberry Village Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 20, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.
Meeting Location: 307 E. McMillan

Present: Village President – Freese, Trustees: Cameron, Hendrickson, Olson, Puckett, Schummer, Stokes.

Also Present: Village Manager – Watkins, Clerk - Terese Schummer, Newberry News – Sterling McGinn.

Call to Order: President Freese called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda: Moved by Freese, support by Hendrickson, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: All.

Approval of Minutes: Moved by Freese, support by Stokes, **CARRIED**, to approve the minutes from the January 16, 2024, regular meeting, as presented. Ayes: All. Abstain: Puckett.

Public Comments on Agenda Items: None.

Village President’s Comment: None.

Special Schedule Topics: Closed Session – Meeting with Village Attorney. Moved by Freese, support by Olson, **CARRIED**, that the Council go into closed session pursuant to mcl 15.268€ to discuss trial and settlement strategy related to Pentland versus the Village because discussion in open session would have a detrimental effect on the Village’s trial and settlement position. Ayes: Freese, Cameron, Hendrickson, Olson, Puckett, Schummer, Stokes. Council entered into closed session at 6:05 p.m.

Moved by Freese, support by Olson, **CARRIED**, to return to open session at 7:27 p.m. Ayes: Freese, Cameron, Hendrickson, Olson, Puckett, Schummer, Stokes.

Moved by Freese, support by Puckett, **CARRIED**, that Council direct our attorney, to inform the Pentland v. Newberry mediator of the Council’s settlement position, as discussed in closed session. Ayes: Freese, Cameron, Hendrickson, Olson, Puckett, Schummer, Stokes.

Accounts Payable and Financial Updates:

A.) **Bond Payment:** Moved by Freese, support by Hendrickson, **CARRIED**, to approve payment of the 2005 and 2009 Water Bonds in the total amount of \$40,940.63 Ayes: Freese, Cameron, Hendrickson, Olson, Puckett, Schummer, Stokes.

B.) **Village of Newberry Monthly Bills:** Moved by Freese, support by Stokes, **CARRIED**, to approve payment of the 01/12/2024 – 02/15/2024, bills, in the amount of \$238,418.86. Discussion followed. Ayes: Freese, Cameron, Hendrickson, Olson, Puckett, Schummer, Stokes.

C.) **Treasurer’s Report:** January 2024 report – N. Moulton submitted a written report. Council accepted the report as presented.

D.) **Christmas Lights Fund** – as of 01/31/2024 - \$17,557.71.

Petitions and Communications: None.

Unfinished Business:

a.) **Pentland Litigation:** Discussed earlier in the meeting.

b.) **Clean Water SRF 2023 Project:** Update by Watkins.

c.) **2024 EGLE Community Technical, Managerial, and Financial (TMF) Support for Lead Line Replacement:** Update by Watkins.

d.) **Phasing out \$49 Delinquent Utility Carry-Over:** Update by Watkins. This will be effective June 1, 2024.

e.) **Public Comment Follow-Up from previous meeting:** None needed.

New Business:

A.) **2002 Case Loader Repair:** Moved by Puckett, support by Freese, **CARRIED**, to approve paying Miller-Bradford & Risberg, Inc., \$9,378.50, to repair the loader. Discussion followed. Ayes: Freese, Cameron, Hendrickson, Olson, Puckett, Schummer, Stokes.

B.) **2024 Bond Payment Tracking:** For review.

C.) **Energy Adjustment for January – June 2024:** For review.

Reports of Boards:

1.) **Planning Commission Meeting:** Did not meet. Next meeting TBD

a.) Zoning Steering Committee – Did not meet. Next meeting TBD.

Committee Reports:

- 1.) Ordinance Committee: Minutes from 02/07/2024 meeting presented. Next meeting is 03/06/2024 @ 9:30 a.m.
- 2.) Infrastructure Committee: Minutes from 02/14/2024 meeting presented. Next meeting is 03/13/2024 @ 9:30 a.m.
- 3.) Management Committee: Next meeting 02/22/2024 @ 9:30 a.m.

Reports of Village Officers & Management:

- A.) Fire Chief: Written report submitted by Secretary T. Immel.
- B.) Ordinance Enforcement Officer: None.
- C.) Working Superintendent of DPW: Written report submitted by Hollingshead.
- D.) Superintendent of WWTP: Written report submitted by Blakely.
- E.) Working Superintendent of Water & Light: Written report submitted by Kucinkas.
- F.) Village Manager: Verbal and written report by Watkins.

Public Comment: None.

Assignment of Public Comment Response: None needed.

Comments by Council Members: Comment heard from: Schummer, Stokes, Cameron, Olson, Puckett, Freese.

Adjourn Meeting: Moved by Puckett, support by Cameron, **CARRIED**, to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m. Ayes: All.

These minutes are unofficial until voted on at the next meeting.

Terese Schummer, Clerk

Catherine Freese, Village President