

### **#1 Call to Order**

The regular monthly meeting of the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Shiocton for the month of October 2019 was called to order by Village President Terri James at 6:00 p.m.

### **#2 Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America**

### **#3 Roll Call**

Roll call was taken and present were Village President Terri James, Trustees Bunnell, Gomm, Dawes, Winterfeldt and Schmoock. Trustee Van Straten was excused. DPW Corny Van Voorhis, Dan Conrardt, Sgt. Sara Knapp, Shay Foxenberg, Abby Maslanka -Martensen & Eisele and Village Clerk Laurie Sweeney.

### **#4. Acceptance of minutes from previous meeting**

**M/S/P Bunnell/Dawes to approve the minutes from the last meeting.**

### **#5. Martensen & Eisele-Elm St Project and recap of meeting with DNR regarding Sanitary Sewer Concerns**

Abby reported that she was present at the meeting with the DNR, DPW Van Voorhis and Mary Jo from Martensen & Eisele. The DNR seemed happy with what was reported thus far. DPW Van Voorhis can use the letter from Marten & Eisele to satisfy the DNR request for a plan.

The CMOM plan was prepared in 2016 but nothing had been started to date. There has been about 14,000 feet of sewer lines televised but 60,000 feet yet to be done. Abby is working on DNR funding for the cost of that. They may be able to use clear water finds or a low interest loan up front then pay it off with the clear water funds when available.

The DNR was satisfied with the report that they are replacing 300' of sewer main and a manhole. The DPW feels this may be a part of the issue with bypassing this spring. The DNR also agreed that any repairs needed that are found while televising will be bid in the fall of 2020 and completed in 2021.

The DNR is not concerned about the generators, they can be a future expense if they are awarded funds from the clear water fund.

The solutions given to the DNR met their standards and out timeline.

Abby spoke about the upcoming phosphorus requirement. Permits are expected to be issued late 2022 or 2023. She would assume the utilities would have 6-10 years to set it up. There are options other than an entire new facility.

Abby went over a proposal for the culvert and sewer issues on Elm St. The Village may be eligible for a grant because of the substation being on Elm St. There was discussion on doing the entire street but if the grant is less than a 90% match the Village may not have the funds with all the other projects going on. Elm St started out to be a \$20,000 project but now could be as high as \$100,000.

**#6. Approve amendments made to Ordinance 12-1-1 Shooting Range**

This was tabled until the November meeting so copies can be sent to the entire Board to review before approval.

**#7. Discuss and Approve Personnel Committee's recommendation for 2020 wages**

Village President James asked the Clerk to explain the three options presented to the Personnel Committee. The three options were a .25/hr. raise, a 2% raise and a .50/hr. raise, all with the employee paying 2% more toward the insurance premiums. Village President James explained that the employees' checks would go down with the first two options because of the raise in the insurance premium. The committee recommended the 2% raise in wages to help offset the insurance increase.

Trustee Winterfeldt stated that the employees are working multiple rolls and are under what the average hourly rate is and she would hate to lose an employee that the Village paid to train because they could make more per hour somewhere else. Trustee Bunnell would like to see the employees at least break even so their checks don't go down. Trustee Gomm stated he would like to see the .50/hr. to offset the insurance increase.

**M/S/P Dawes/Schmoock to approve the employees 2% increase towards their insurance premiums and a .50/hr. raise for 2020.**

**#8. Update on condition of Smith Street**

At a previous meeting the Board received a letter from Shiocton Cut Stock regarding their concerns for the condition of Smith St. Specifically the pot holes. There was discussion on how long a fix would last with all the heavy truck traffic. DPW Van Voorhis looked at the survey map that was done and found that most of Smith St. is considered part of the railroad right of way. The DPW has filled the pot holes with gravel and will do a cold patch but as far as anything else they would have to check with the county and/or DNR in the spring.

**#9. Approve/Deny Operator License for Samantha Slaets, Amy Blohowiak, Thea Rhode and Brooke Rohloff**

Trustee Schmoock recused herself from the conversation. Sargent Knapp stated that there was one applicant who had felony on her record and with the type of felony it was the police department would not recommend approval.

**M/S/P Bunnell/Dawes to approve Operator License for Amy Blohowiak, Thea Rhode and Brooke Rohloff and to deny the application for Samantha Slaets.**

**#10. Street/Utilities Reports- Director of Public Works Cornelius Van Voorhis**

DPW Van Voorhis gave the Board a 5-year plan for the public works and utilities along with a report from Hydro Corp regarding the cross-connection inspections done thus far. Van Voorhis will reinspect those that needed work done to make sure they are now in compliance.

The utilities had another DNR audit and it went well.

The quote for well #2 is about \$21,000. The electric motor needs to be replaced it is 60 years old. The Clerk talked about using a certificate that the water account has at Fox Communities to pay for the well motor.

The water tower manway needs repairs and the company is charging \$1,400 just to tell the DPW what needs to be done. Van Voorhis will talk to them about that fee.

Van Voorhis asked if there was an update on the weight limits for Park Ave. President James stated she will check on that with the County.

Van Voorhis and Dan Conradt will be attending a meeting on Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> with emergency management in Greenville.

**#11. Shiocton Police Department September Activity Report- Chief George**

Sgt. Knapp reported that they attended a training with Black Creek and Seymour in September.

They are in the process of hiring another part-time officer to help with open shifts.

**#12. Range Report- Chief George**

Sgt. Knapp reported that they are keeping the range users informed of the water at the ranges. Right now, it is open but they know they have to go through water. The roads were graded by the DPW and the pot holes are good now. From now until end of Nov. there will be no closures due to the busy season coming up.

**#13. Finance Committee examination of bills & voucher  
M/S/P Dawes/Gomm to approve the invoices as presented**

**#14. Village President-Misc.**

President James asked that the Board members look over the closed session meeting notes then return them to her.

**#15. Committee Reports-**

Shay Foxenberg reported on the Library. Shay went over the numbers for the summer reading program and how successful it was. She will be reaching out to the local daycares. The OWLS grants will cover guest performers

President James reported that there were closed session meetings on 10/1/19 and 10/10/19 concerning personnel issues.

A meeting on 10/1/19 for public works employee evaluations. They went over how training is going and possibly hiring a fourth person part-time for now to cover so Dan Conradt can train more with Corny. They will look into that after the end of year. In April they will re-evaluate Crony's contract.

Ordinance Committee went over several ordinances but the Judge needs to look them over before they can go to the Board for approval. They talked about setting a time limit for the Judge to review ordinances.

Trustee Bunnell reported on the Fire Commission meeting. They went over the 2020 budget. The budget only went up \$100. The Budget was passed. There will be a school drill on Thursday at 1:30pm.

**#16. Clerk- Update on HWY 54 Property, election training, cell tower contract,**

The Clerk informed of a letter from the County regarding the property located at W7593 HWY 54. The County recently took the property for back taxes and are requesting to be reimbursed for the special assessments they pre-paid the Village over the past few years. The assessments were for unpaid utility bills

and the amount of \$2,553.41. If the property sells for enough to cover the back taxes then the Village could be reimbursed, the back taxes are over \$18,000.

The Office will be closed the afternoon on November 7<sup>th</sup> for election security training.

The Village Attorney is working with AT&T on negotiations for a new cell antenna contract.

**#17. Public Comment – This is a time for the public to bring up any concerns they would like the Board to address**

**#18. Adjourn**

There being no further business to come before the board the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Posted and dated October 17, 2019

Laurie Sweeney, Village Clerk/Treasurer

These minutes are a condensed version of all of the conversations that took place at the meeting. These minutes are a draft and will not be approved until the next regular Board meeting.