**#1 Call to Order**

The regular monthly meeting of the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Shiocton for the October 9, 2023 meeting was called to order by Village President Terri James at 6:00p.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 Dawes, Bunnell, D. VanStraten, Tyler and Gomm. Trustee Schmoock was excused. Also, present were Village Clerk Laurie Sweeney, Gary Bunnell, Patti Woods, Rich Woods, Jesse Smith, Dan Nabbefeld, Larry Berken, Lori Bellile, Michaela Woodward and Jake Lamb.

**#4. Approve Minutes from September Meeting**

**M/S/P Dawes/Gomm to Approve the minutes from the September meeting**

**05. Update on Buoy Application**

Trustee D. Van Straten reported that she, Trustees Schmoock, Bunnell and Gomm, Chief Knapp and DNR Warden Seitz went on a boat to look at the buoy locations that were approved. They feel that some of the buoys that were approved are not needed.

Village President Terri James tabled the subject and will revisit at the November meeting. She would like Mr. Fank to be present and asked the Trustees who are requesting the changes to bring specific details of what they are requesting.

**06. Approve/Deny Operator license for Sabrina Hale**

**M/S/P Bunnell/Tyler to Approve Operator license for Sabrina Hale**

**07. Update on Newton Blackmour Trail- correspondence with County regarding snowmobile and ATV use of the trail.**

At the September meeting the Clerk presented an email from the Outagamie County Parks Department regarding snowmobiles being able to use the trail when the regular trails are not open. The County asked for the Boards thoughts on the subject. The Board only had concerns of people leaving the trails. The Board also talked about why ATV/UTV/mopeds were not allowed on the trail. They asked the Clerk to check on that.

The Clerk received an email from the parks department stating that there would be signs posted to keep snowmobiles from leaving the trail. They also said that the original use of the trail allowed horses and ATV/UTV/mopeds do not mix well with horses. They stated that it would be a lengthy process to change that and they also would not want the horse groups and ATV/UTV/moped groups disagreeing on the subject. The email did not say that the County was willing to look in to allowing ATV/UTV/mopeds on the trail.

**08. Discuss correspondence with DNR regarding disturbance of wetlands to dig a pond.**

Clerk Sweeney reported that she had received emails regarding a resident who had recently dug a pond in a wetland area. The resident reached out to the DPW and the Clerk prior to the project and was told by DPW Conradt and Clerk Sweeney that he did not need a permit from the Village but still needed to get approval from the DNR. The resident stated he had already done that and was good to go. DPW Conradt asked for documentation from the DNR and never received it from the resident. Once the pond was done there were several residents who had questioned the pond being dug in wetlands and the fill from the pond being placed in wetlands. The DNR stated that they were not aware of the project and reached out to the property owner and is requiring him fix the issues. The property owner told the DNR he was told he didn’t need DNR approval and was good to move forward but did not provide any documentation for that. The issue is now between the property owner and the DNR as the Village has no say over DNR regulations and permit requirements.

The Board asked the Clerk to contact the Village Attorney and ask about an ordinance or permit that requires a resident to inform the Village and provide documentation of approval from the DNR on any projects involving removal or placing fill that would not require a permit from the Village.

**09. Street/Utilities Reports- Director of Public Works Dan Conradt**

DPW Nabbefeld reported that the garbage truck in here. The concrete work at the fire hall is done. The curb on Pine St. is fixed. There are a couple more trees that need to come down at Lake Park.

They have been trying to locate the water shut off at the River Rail site and so far, have spent $3,000. They will have to wait until the debris is moved to look further.

The quote for taking down the bathhouse at Lake park is $7,000. The DPW suggests taking it down now because of the continued vandalism and cost to repair the damage. They will use porta potties in 2024 and potentially rebuild something smaller in 2025.

**M/S/P Bunnell/D. Van Straaten to use funds from the range account to tear down the bathhouse.**

**10. Shiocton Police Department September Activity Report-Chief Knapp**

Chief Knapp reported that she and Tammy went to training in September. Officer Levi is done training

and on his own.

**Calls for September:**

DAMAGE 2

FRAUD 1

SUSP INCIDENT 1

JUVENILE 3

ACCIDENT 0

MEDICAL 4

BUSINESS CHECK 20

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| TRAFFIC SAFETY | 3 |  |
| ASSIST | 10 |  |
| DISTURBANCE | 0 |  |
| ORDINANCE | 5 |  |
| RECKLESS DRIVER | 2 |  |
| 911 HANGUP | 6 |  |
| ANIMAL | 2 |  |
| THEFT | 1 |  |
| TRESPASSING | 0 |  |
| SCHOOL SAFETY | 13 |  |
| LOST AND FOUND | 3 |  |
| ANIMAL | 1 |  |
| PROPERTY DAMAGE | 1 |  |
| FIRE CALL | 0 |  |
| WELFARE CHECK | 2 |  |
| TRAFFIC STOP  CRIME PREVENTION | 42  5 |  |
|  | 125 |  |

**11. Range Report- Chief Knapp**

Everything is running good at the range. It is getting busier with hunting coming up. The clean up from the cabbage chuck was good.

**12. Village President-Misc.**

President Terri James had nothing to report

**13. Approve/Deny Village President James Personnel Committee recommendation for 2024 Wages**

President James reported that the Personnel Committee met and discussed the 2024 wages. The committee is recommending $1.50/hr. for Clerk Sweeney and Deputy Clerk Free and $1.00/hr. for the DPW guys.

**M/S/P Dawes/Bunnell to accept the Personnel Committee recommendation** of $1.50/hr. for Clerk Sweeney and Deputy Clerk Free and $1.00/hr. for the DPW guys.

**14. Approve/Deny Police Committee recommendation for 2024 Police Budget**

The Police Committee met to go over the proposed 2024 Police budget. That would include adding back the part time hours that were cut in 2022 and 2023, raising the fuel budget and an in crease in pay for all the officers. The Police budget would go up about $6,000.

**M/S/P Dawes/Tyler to Approve Police Committee recommendation for 2024 Police Budget**

**15. Update and Approval of Village Hall Maintenance**

Clerk Sweeney presented the quotes she has received for the Village Hall maintenance. The duct work quote was just under $10,000 and the ceiling quote just under $20,000. That would include replacing all the lights as well. Painting quote was $2,660.

The sign quote was $3,700 but the Board would like the Clerk to see how much an electronic sign with message board would be.

**M/S/P Bunnell/D. Van Straten to accept the quotes for the duct work ceiling and paint. Motion amended to start the updating and maintenance of the Village Hall.**

**16. Clerk-Misc-River Rail update, Budget update and hearing date, update rate case study**

Clerk Sweeney reported that she is starting to work on the 2024 budget as the numbers from the state

come in. The Budget hearing be penciled in for November 27th.

The rate case study flyers went out to the residents in the October water bill. The PSC figured an 8% increase for the water.

**17. Committee Reports-**

Michaela Woodward reported that the Library has seen an increase in library cards due to September being library card month.

Trustee Bunnell reported that the Fire Commission met and were informed that Gold Cross has accepted Shiocton-Bovina EMS into their coverage area. This will start January 1, 2024.

Trustee Dawes attended a drainage district meeting and reported that the county will be cleaning the drains from Shiocton to Puls Rd.

**18. Finance Committee examination of bills & voucher**

**M/S/P Dawes/Bunnell to Approve the bills as presented**

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

**to address**

Trustee Tyler asked why the flags do not fly at half-staff when needed. The DPW and Clerk explained that they use to get an email when they should fly half-staff but have not been getting the emails. Trustee Tyler will get the information to the Clerk.

**20. Adjourn**

**With no further business to come before the Board meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.**

Posted and dated October 16, 2023

Laurie Sweeney, Village Clerk/Treasurer

The Shiocton Village Hall is accessible to the physically disadvantaged. If special accommodations for visually or hearing-impaired individuals are needed, please contact the Shiocton Clerk/Treasurer at 920-986-3415.