7:30 p.m. The regular meeting of the Village Board of Trustees was called to order by Mayor Klein, who led the Pledge of Allegiance. A roll call was answered aye by Wilson, Newbold, Hamon and Geppert. Ruhmann and Boden were absent. Sandy Stofte, Village Treasurer, Leo Simburger, Chief of Police, Tyler Liefer, Superintendent of Public Works, Attorney Ted Dennis and Andrew Green, Ambulance Director, were also present.

The board reviewed the minutes from the December 2, 2019 board meeting.

A motion was made by Geppert; seconded by Newbold, to approve the board minutes as presented. A vote was answered aye by Hamon, Wilson, Newbold, and Geppert.

VISITORS
John Feder, Jeff Wetzel, Kyle Wetzel and Terry Politsch.

Jeff Wetzel would like to see the board adopt an ordinance for building inspections and occupancy permits when houses are rented. John Feder would like to see it for all houses. The board will discuss.

Kyle Wetzel asked about the status on their purchase of the lots in the industrial park.

Terry Politsch would also like to see housing inspections and asked about the status of the marina. Attorney Dennis said we will be back in court on the 19th and an offer was made to the Village which involves Mr. Smith giving up all interest in the lease immediately. Issues need to be worked out like how long he has to remove his personnel property. Previously the Village filed a forcible entry and detainer asking the Village be put in possession. The court did not put us in possession, which allowed Mr. Smith to keep possession of the property and rent to the campers. The Village also asked that the camper rental money be put into an escrow account, which the court turned us down. We now have a new judge which is more in the Village’s favor.

FINANCE & AUDIT
Nothing to report at this time.

WATER & SEWER
Nothing to report at this time.

STREETS & ALLEYS
Tyler Liefer to check the dip in the road on Van Buren Street where the culvert runs to the park.

CEMETERY
Nothing to report at this time.

PUBLIC PROPERTY & PARK
Nothing to report at this time.

PUBLIC SAFETY & ADA
Trustee Geppert will schedule a committee meeting.

POLICE
Nothing to report at this time.

PERSONNEL
Nothing to report at this time.

IMPROVEMENTS & GRANTS
Nothing to report at this time.
ORDINANCE REVIEW
Nothing to report at this time.

TREASURERS TIME
Sandy handed out the monthly treasurer’s report prior to the meeting.

A motion was made by Geppert; seconded by Hamon, to approve the treasurer’s report at presented. A vote was answered aye by Hamon, Wilson, Newbold, and Geppert.

Sandy reviewed the tax levy ordinance and gave a history of the property tax rate. She recommends increasing the tax levy to $235,000 which is under the 5%; no public hearing is needed. It was noted the ordinance number is 2019-08 not 2019-07.

A motion was made by Hamon; seconded by Geppert, to approve Ordinance 2019-08 for the Tax Levy. A vote was answered aye by Hamon, Wilson, Newbold, and Geppert.

CLERKS TIME
Nothing to report at this time.

MAYOR’s TIME
Mayor Klein asked for approval to purchase a Christmas gift for Attorney Dennis. The funds will come out of the special event account.

A motion was made by Hamon; seconded by Geppert, to approve Mayor Klein purchase a Christmas gift for Attorney Dennis from the special event account. A vote was answered aye by Hamon, Wilson, Newbold, and Geppert.

OTHER BUSINESS
Michelle went over the Village’s liability, property and work comp insurance renewal from Gallagher. The rate increased to $125,929 this year, which is a 4.3% overall increase. The main reason for the increase was the increase in pay for the EMT’s standby time. IPRF is offering a $2,147 safety grant for 2020.

A motion was made by Hamon; seconded by Newbold, to approve the insurance renewal with Gallagher for $125,929. A vote was answered aye by Hamon, Wilson, Newbold, and Geppert.

A motion was made by Hamon, seconded by Newbold, to enter into Executive Session at 7:52 p.m. regarding litigation, with Attorney Dennis, Sandy Stolte, Tyler Liefer and Leo Simburger present. A vote was answered aye by Newbold, Wilson, Hamon and Geppert.

A motion was made by Hamon, seconded by Newbold, to return to Regular Session at 8:25 p.m. A vote was answered aye by Hamon, Geppert, Newbold and Wilson.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Michelle Neff
Village Clerk

Richard Klein
Village President