

The regular meeting of the Village of Divernon Board of Trustees was held at the Village Hall on Wednesday October 12, 2022. Mayor Jim Copelin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Clerk Gail Hedges called roll: Craig Busch “Here”. Joe Bukantos “Here”, Chuck Apgar “Here”, Dianne Brenning “Here”, and Larry Baer “Here”. Tyler Bramley was absent. Also present were Superintendent Rhodes and Chief Martin.

A motion was made by Busch seconded by Apgar to approve the minutes of September 28, 2022. The motion passed 5-0.

Baer made a motion seconded by Brenning to approve the bills with the addition of Frontier in the amount of \$580. 48. The motion passed 5-0.

*Visitors*

Jeff Yaskin was present and asked questions about the Village building codes.

*Public Works:*

Superintendent Rhodes reported the Leak Survey was completed and no major issues were identified. Ditches and grates have been cleared. The new public works truck is being picked up this week.

*Police:*

Chief Martin reported the digiticket agreement had been received. Busch made a motion to approve the use of digiticket seconded by Baer. The motion passed 5-0. The discussion on the purchase of medical supplies for the vehicles and tactical gear for the officers was tabled until the next board meeting.

*Committee Reports: Economic Dev., Zoning, TIF, Building Permits:*

Apgar reported that funding is available for electric vehicle charging stations across Illinois. More research on the subject is needed. Nextsite will encourage new business coming to Divernon to consider charging stations.

*Public Utilities Water, Gas and Sewer*

Nothing to report.

*Finance, Personnel, GIS:*

Baer made a motion seconded by Brenning to approve the 2022 Tax Levy ordinance. The motion passed 5-0. Electric aggregation, currently provided by Home Field Energy, will expire the end of November 2022. Energy Harbor will be the new aggregation company. Every household should expect to see an average increase of \$60.00 a month under the new company which is still cheaper than Ameren. Because the Energy Harbor contract does not go into effect until February 2023, the electricity during the months of December and January will be provided by Ameren. Discussion on the annual gas rate will take place at the next meeting.

*Public Safety, Health and Safety:*

Discussion on garbage collection took place. The Village currently has a contract with Republic which expires in April 2024. Busch discussed the possibility of putting a permanent pathway along the back of the McMurray ball field to allow for ease of walking, riding bicycles or golf carts to or from Hi Acres to State Street. Discussion followed.

*Public Works, Streets, Alleys and Sidewalks:*

Nothing to report.

*Village Communication/Building, Grounds and Lights, Parks, Recreation:*

Nothing to report.

*Old Business:*

Apgar made a motion seconded by Baer to approve the purchase of new tires for the Tahoe in the amount of \$742.00 from Herman's Garage. The motion passed 5-0. A discussion took place on the uses of business development funds. More research is needed. The next Village Newsletter will be out in early November.

*New Business:*

Busch made a motion to amend the Planning Commission (Zoning Board) Ordinance stating the Planning Commission shall meet once a quarter to discuss any pending business. If there is no pending business, the body must still meet at least twice a year. The motion was seconded by Apgar and passed 5-0. Hedges reported election candidacy packets are available at the Village Hall. Board vacancies include Clerk for a 2-year term and three Trustees for a 4-year term.

Baer made a motion to go into executive session at 7:46 p.m. Busch made a motion to return to regular session at 8:01 p.m. No action was required.

The meeting ended with a motion by Baer at 8:02 p.m. p.m.

Jim Copelin  
Mayor

Gail Hedges  
Village Clerk