

VILLAGE OF SOLDIERS GROVE, CRAWFORD COUNTY, WISCONSIN

Minutes of a Regular Board Meeting held August 6, 2024.

Meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Roll Call: Present: Shayne Chapman, Steve George, Vicki Campbell, Howard Arndt, and Harrison Heilman.

Public Input: Diane Coleman asked about mosquitoes, Mike stated that they sprayed last Friday, the bugs are so bad this year that the spray is not even touching them. Phil Carey introduced himself, stating that they only live here part of the year here, he spoke about his concerns regarding the flooding in the back yards of Pine Street and the drainage issue on the South end of 3rd Street. During the last flash flood, he had 3 feet of water in the back yard, stating that he believes the levy was shaved down. George and Chapman both stated that the levy was not shaved down, that where Carey believes it was shaved is actually where the levy ends. Carey also talked about the willow thicket and brush surrounding the Baker Creek that is causing the flooding in the back yards, George agreed with him on the issue, but since that is all private property and not Village land, there is nothing the Village can do, it is up to the property owners. Stated he reached out to the Core of Engineers and Wisconsin Representatives regarding the issues as he does not agree with what the Village Attorney had responded, "The owners would be responsible to repair the dike. Unless there's an easement involving the village, or the village otherwise has some kind of lawful control or ownership of the dike, the village wouldn't be the party to repair the dike. If the village had assumed that responsibility in the past, there could be an issue though. Otherwise, it's going to be on the owners. You're also correct with the stream restoration or maintenance not being on Village here and also something DNR has to permit. Regarding the Abandonment of 3rd Street: For a resident to initiate discontinuance of a street, *all* the owners of land abutting the street must agree and sign on to same petition to discontinue. So, the street can't be abandoned at the request/petition of just one resident. The other way to discontinue a street is on the village's initiative, if the village believes discontinuance is in the public's interest. It takes a public hearing. The action would have to pass with 2/3's majority vote (if the neighbor maintains objection). I can spell out this procedure in detail if it becomes relevant. In summary, if the neighbor objects to abandoning the road and if the village isn't seeing it as in public's interest to abandon, then it remains a street even if the resident in question wants it abandoned." Carey stated the Core responded but they do not help individuals so it would be up to the Village to reach out to them. George stated he has reached out to the DNR regarding cleaning Baker Creek, and since it is considered a Class B creek, there is not much anyone can do. Carey is asking for Village to reach out to the Core and bypass the DNR completely regarding the dike and brush issues.

3rd Street(South): Carey stated that he is no longer asking for the south end of the street to be abandoned by the Village any longer. He is asking for the drainage issue to be fixed so he can put his addition on his home. Chapman stated that the previous owner would not allow the Village to go in and fix the drainage issue. The tube is not on Village property. Heilman stated maybe it would be in the Village's best interest to just vacate the street. Chapman stated to have Delta 3 investigate the issue to see what can be done.

Proposed 2024 WWTF Upgrade: motion by Heilman, second by George to approve Resolution 2024-03- Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of up to \$86,387 Sewerage System Revenue Bonds, Series 2024, and Providing for other details and covenants with Respect thereto, and Approval of related \$287,000 Financial Assistance Agreement. All present aye, motion carried.

Motion by Heilman, second by Chapman to approve DNR CWF bond related documents. All present aye, motion carried.

Motion by Chapman, second by Heilman to approve DNR CWF financial assistance agreement. All present aye, motion carried.

Motion by Arndt, second by George to approve picnic license for Lion's Club/Driftless Area Art Fest. All present aye, motion carried.

Fire department: Meeting is tomorrow August 7. Working on a fall fundraiser gun raffle. Will know more about that at the next meeting. On August 19 we will be holding an Electronic Vehicle Safety class, surrounding fire departments have been invited to join in on the class.

Public Works: Been mowing, sprayed bugs, sprayed weeds again, cleaned up the storm damage from the storm that hit a few days ago, had a person removed from the shelter as they were living behind the cooking pit.

Motion by George, second by Heilman to approve minutes of the July 9th, 2024 meeting. All present aye, motion carried.

Motion by Heilman, second by Arndt to approve bills General \$10,976.07, Fire \$1,723.84, Sewer \$3,354.16, Water \$419.42, and Library \$6,774.62. All present aye, motion carried.

Motion by Heilman, second by George to adjourn meeting at 7:15 pm. All present aye, motion carried.

Kaitlyn R. Ott