

Happy New Year!!!

Minutes

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Village of Monticello

January 7th, 2014

7:00pm

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:04pm by Mayor Jenkins.

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call

Mayor Jenkins-Present

Carmen Rue-Present

Rochelle Massey-Present

Larissa Bennett-Present

James Matthews-Present

Also Present:

Alak Shah-Village Attorney

James Snowden-Code Enforcement Officer

Phil Klemmen-Water & Waste Water Superintendent

Anthony Eagan- Barton & Loguidice

Glenn Gidaly-Barton & Loguidice

Motion to Accept the Agenda

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Massey to accept the agenda with the following add-ons:

1. Discussion of the Waste Water Project & Water Project with Barton & Loguidice
2. Discussion of the Village Manger Position

Upon the call of the roll, all were in favor.

Approval of Minutes from the December 17th, 2013 Village Board Meeting

A motion was made by Trustee Massey with a second by Trustee Matthews to approve the minutes.

Upon the call of the roll, the vote went as follows:

Trustee Rue-abstain

Trustee Bennett-abstain

Trustee Matthews-yea

Trustee Massey-yea

Mayor Jenkins-yea

Resolution authorizing payment to EFC in the amount of \$8,000.00 from app#H.0200.410 for the State Revolving Fund Financing Agreement

A motion was made by Trustee Massey with a second by Trustee Matthews. Upon the call of the roll, all were in favor.

Resolution authorizing payment to R&R Pump & Control Services, LLP in the amount of \$10,012.00 from app# G.8120.233 for the emergency repairs of the Racetrack Pump Station and the Rte 42 Pump Station for the Sewer Department-Current account balance is \$19,620.75

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Bennett. Upon the call of the roll, all were in favor.

Discussion of the Waste Water Project - Barton & Loguidice

Anthony Eagan from Barton & Loguidice discussed the current status of the Waste Water Treatment Plant Project. He stated that at this time, EFC has made a decision and it is not in favor of loaning the Village additional monies at a low interest rate or any rate because they do not believe that the Village is in a position to afford the loan and its current state. However, after speaking with George Popp from Rural Development, there is a possibility of Rural Development loaning the Village the additional monies at a 3.5 percentage rate. There are a few problems that the Board needs to address; at this moment, the most pressing problem right now is that Rural Development needs a definite answer from the Village by this Friday, January 10th, 2014. It is important for the Board to know that none of the numbers have changed from what the bids came in at and the additional monies amount has not changed and remains at \$6.5 million dollars. No one knows if Rural Development can provide the additional full \$6.5 million dollars, but they hopefully can get us as close as possible. The Village can also look at scaling back some of the project cost by have some of the work done in house such as the paving of the parking lots and some of the minor construction projects, that were initially included in the original scope.

The other problem is that if the Village decides to stick to the \$15 million dollar grant and loan that was already awarded to the Village by Rural Development, the project would have to go back out to rebid, because the plans would have to be redrawn taking out some of the vital things which makes the plant run efficiently, such as the replacement of the roofing, new filters and parts, pumps, ect. Deciding to stick with the \$15 million dollars would definitely put the project in jeopardy, the Village must keep in mind that this project is set out for 18 months and was set to already have been started. To go back and do what it takes to get it down to the \$15 million dollars, will set the entire project back 3 months and all monies have to be spent by September 2015, which will not happen is we have to go back.

Time is definitely of the essence no matter what decision the Board makes. The Board has to move and move quickly. Remember, there will only be a \$0.67 increase per month to each taxpayer at the \$21.5 million. Also keep in mind with the EPT water agreement that has been completed and all of the other projects coming into the Village, that price will be spread across a wider span and will decrease for Village residents. There will also be impact fees and other fees that will also absorb some of that cost for the taxpayers. All in all a decision has to be made no matter what.

Trustee Rue commented that she feels the Village is not in any position to afford the additional \$6.5 million dollars and that we need to stick with the monies that have already been awarded. If EFC has said that they cannot award the additional monies and that the Village cannot afford it, then we need to take their advice and keep what we have and look down the line to make other improvements. Other grants and finances may be available through the State and Government as time goes on. She stated that she agrees with the attorney and we should take the legal advice that he gave.

Mayor Jenkins stated that no matter what the issues are going to remain in they are not fixed and only get worse. We cannot keep putting band-aids on these pumps and filters. We sit here week after week and pay for band-aids that have to be re-applied a month later. We are throwing so much money away that we can afford the additional monies, if we stop all of the constant repairs. All of these building are falling around us and past administrations watched all of this happening and did nothing about it. Now that it is at its worst, it's in our laps and we have to fix it. Some of these items has never been replaced and has been in need of repair, but past administrations refused to take initiative and correct these problems, now it is up to us to do it. Enough is enough, if we have to do, let's do it and do it right once and for all. That's how you save money and get the Village moving in the right direction. I say we sit and talk with the Treasurer and George Popp and see what financial options we have and then the Board meets and makes a decision. If we have to call an emergency meeting we will; we cannot afford to lose this project.

Discussion of the Waste Project -Barton & Loguidice

Anthony Eagan stated that he just would like to re-state that the Village did not lose anything on the Water Project; the State has not awarded anything to anyone because they are not even accepting applications at this time. The Board already voted a few months back to have the application written and to apply once the State is ready, which the application has already been written by us. We are just waiting for the State to open, which will be in April or May for this particular project, and we hope to be right at the top of the list. Once we actually submit the application, we will then keep the Board posted on what steps are next to take. The plans and all of those items have already been drawn and we are ready to move on our part.

Discussion of the Village Manger Position

Trustee Rue stated that the Village is in a very bad place right now and not having an experience and capable manager to make the right decisions is only making it worse for the Village. We need a manager that knows what needs to be done and how to bring business here so that's why I am making a motion to release Gordon Jenkins from the position as the Village Manager. The motion was second by Trustee Bennett. Upon the call of the roll, the vote went as follows:

Trustee Rue-yea
Trustee Bennett-yea
Trustee Matthews-nay
Trustee Massey-nay
Mayor Jenkins-nay

Executive Session- There was no Executive Session

Personnel-Time Accruals for Departments Heads
Concord Associates Water Service Agreement

Adjournment

A motion was made by Trustee Rue with a second by Trustee Bennett to close the meeting at 7:58pm. Upon the call of the roll, all present were in favor.

Submitted by:



Janine Gandy, Village Clerk