

Village of Big Rock



Regular Board Meeting/Committee of the Whole

Tuesday, April 9th, 2024 at 7:00 PM

Park District Building

7 SOUTH 405 MADISON AVE

BIG ROCK, IL 60511

CALL TO ORDER

President Matt Fitzpatrick called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

President MATT FITZPATRICK

Trustee TIM MAY, Trustee MARK LYNCH, Trustee JOE WALSH,

Trustee KELLY MAY, Trustee KATHY METZGER

ALSO PRESENT:

Village Treasurer BRIAN PHILLIPS, Village Clerk LINDSEY ZAMBRANO,

Village Attorney JOHN ZEMENEK

ABSENT:

Trustee TED MCCANNON

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Fitzpatrick led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

President Fitzpatrick asked for a moment of silence in honor of our Armed Forces and their Allies.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Tom Siwicki of Sikich presented the findings from the 2022/2023 Fiscal Year Financial Audit. He walked through the budget, discussing each area of the audit standards and responsibilities. Mr. Siwicki outlined some of the facts and figures from the report as well as some of the deficiencies in processes that the Village may have. Overall, the audit found the Village practices to be in good standing.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Bills for April 9th, 2024

Approval of the March 26th, 2024 Village Board Minutes

Motion to approve Consent Agenda: Trustee Mark Lynch; Second: Trustee Joe Walsh

Role Call Vote: 5-0 (Y= Yay, N= Nay, A= Absent)

Tim May- Y Ted McCannon- A Mark Lynch- Y Joe Walsh- Y Kelly May- Y Kathy Metzger- Y

RECESS TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Motion to recess to the Committee of the Whole:

Motion: **Trustee Kathy Metzger**, Second: **Trustee Kelly May** **Voice Vote: 5-0**, Time: 7:12 pm

PRESIDENT FITZPATRICK

President Fitzpatrick outlined that **BLA** officials are starting wetland deliberation surveying the flora and fauna of Welch Creek for an upcoming ROUTE 30 storm sewer project scheduled for a late fall start.

Although they were installed to industry recommended standards, everyone agreed that the stop sign warning signs were installed too close to the new lighted stop signs. **President Fitzpatrick** will arrange for the changes.

DRAINAGE COMMITTEE REPORT

STREET MAINTENANCE REPORT

MARIE STREET is the next upcoming paving project planned for this year. The Board discussed the bid process, and different ways the Village could implement the bid. A road that will be included in paving along with **MARIE STREET** will be the **JONES-JERICHO** junction. **Trustee Lynch** advocated for the dead-end area of **LINCOLN**, currently gravel. A few other minor projects were discussed if the budget allowed.

DEPT. OF BUILDING/SAFETY/ZONING REPORT

Schollmeyer Landscaping is planning to apply for re-zoning of their property from **RE** zone to **B-1**. They are planning to expand their business with a greenhouse and outside sales retail. **John Zemenak** said that current guidelines for **B-1** are that if there is a retail component, they are allowed to store outside landscaping.

After **President Fitzpatrick** gave an update on **B&F Code Construction Services** recent report, Board discussion ensued on recent violations and performance of the hired service. It was agreed among the Board that they are not doing enough to enforce obvious violations and have not followed up in the appropriate time allowed by ordinance on current property code violations. The Board verbally agreed that they would like to go in another direction. They discussed other companies that may be a better fit for the Village.

FINANCIAL REPORT

\$3800 was reimbursed to the Village from **USIC**, because an excess of locates were charged for the same location and reason.

FY Budget Discussion 2024-2025

President Fitzpatrick outlined aspects of the budget. He noted that the budget is tighter this year due to grant repayment allowances. He described how grant money was being utilized by the Village, and what standards and processes it had to follow. He discussed different allocations for projects such as snowplowing, **MARIE STREET** paving, and **HINCKLEY ROAD** Bridge Engineering. He engaged the Board's input on projects to add and their opinion on appropriate budget amounts on a few items. **President Fitzpatrick** would like to allocate for additional drainage installation on **LINCOLN AVE**. The Board discussed landscaping needs and project priorities. **Trustee T. May** advocated that the Village use the remainder of the road budget for preventative road maintenance like sealing cracks. Mosquito abatement treatment was debated, but ultimately decided to keep it on this year, as we have had a wet spring.

President Fitzpatrick expressed that in his opinion, **Tenerelli SSA#2** should be reduced to zero, because they are the only residents of the Village that pay for their own drainage issues. It was explained through the recollections of multiple Board members that **SSA#2** was originally set up as a 1/3 Village, 1/3 resident, 1/3 Kane County to cover costs of installing a drainage system in this neighborhood. The Village loaned the residents their portion 1/3, and the **SSA** was set up to pay it back. That was some years ago, and since then the loan has been paid back and extra money has been used for further upgrades to **Tenerelli Subdivision** drainage

issues. Members of the Board discussed that SSA#2 should be abolished for the next year, and the remainder utilized for any additional drainage projects needed. The tax levy schedule has already been submitted for 2024, so this will be up for future vote in the coming months for implementation in 2025.

The 24/25 budget will have a public hearing, and all the proper notifications have been planned.

COMMUNITY REPORT

215 GALENA called in the **Sewer Plant Manager** with an emergency issue when their sump discharged into their step system (village septic). The resident will be informed of the Ordinance guidelines, regulations they must follow and fines they may endure when utilizing the Village STEP system. Sump pumps are not allowed to discharge into any STEP system tank.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Trustee Metzger would like the Board to receive a check register along with the Bill list each month. She stated it may help her clarify what is coming in and out, as it is sometimes confusing. **Treasurer Phillips** agreed to gather more details as requested, and advised that the majority of the payments on some accounts are e-payments, with no check detail. **Trustee Metzger** also requested more detailed itemized invoices. **Treasurer Phillips** and **Clerk Zambrano** will work together to gather more detailed invoices from vendors if not already provided.

Trustee Walsh inquired about the finishing schedule for the DAUBERMAN ROAD bridge. **President Fitzpatrick** relayed it wasn't scheduled to finish until late summer/ early fall 2025.

Trustee Lynch reminded the Village staff and Board that we should formally reach out to **Kane County Sheriff** that new stop signs have been installed.

Trustee Tim May asked if we should outsource our permit process to our code management service. A conversation ensued about potential positives and negatives of outsourcing this task, but was tabled for further discussion.

VILLAGE EMPLOYEES

None.

RECONVENE THE REGULAR VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

Motion to reconvene the Regular Board Meeting:
Motion: **Trustee Lynch**, Second: **Trustee K. May** Voice Vote: 5-0

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn: **Trustee Joe Walsh**, Second: **Trustee Kathy Metzger** Voice vote: 5-0

Time: 8:18 pm