MINUTES

Of a Regular Meeting of the

VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

October 4, 2023

A regular meeting of the Village Board of Piper City was brought to order at the Community Building on October 4, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. with Trustee Fuoss presiding. Trustees Fuoss, Houck, Mogged, Cotter, and Bertrand responded to roll call. Mayor Orr and Trustee Berry were absent.

The minutes from the regular meeting held September 6, 2023, were presented to the Board for their approval. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Mogged and seconded by Houck. On a voice vote all trustees voted aye and the motion was carried.

The financial report for September showing a balance on hand in all funds of $1,041,246.38 as of September 30, 2023, and was presented to the Board for their approval. A motion was made by Mogged and seconded by Cotter to approve the financial report and to transfer $6,000 from Utility Fund to Garbage Fund. On a voice vote all trustees voted aye and the report was approved.

A list of payroll and bills were presented to the Board for their consideration. Motion by

Cotter and seconded by Bertrand that the village clerk issue warrants on the village treasurer to named claimants. On a voice vote all trustees voted aye and the motion was carried. The list of payroll and bills is attached to these minutes and made a part hereof by reference.

Under public comments, Gery Brown reported to the board that he has sold the Beech St. property (former Niles property) and he asked the board to give the owner the same opportunity for fixing it up as they had with Brown. He also questioned the lis pendes on the property. Fuoss explained that the village already had a demolition order on the property before the board agreed to give Brown an opportunity to fix up the property. Fuoss noted that the accommodation for Brown did not extend to anyone else. Fuoss directed Brown to have the new owner contact Mayor Orr about the situation prior to the closing of the sale. Residents Brent and Ariel Brucker shared their concerns about their neighbors encroaching upon their property lines. The board suggested that they have their property surveyed for line accuracy and noted that the board members would view the property for ordinance violations. Amanda Condon and Lynn Berryhill requested permission to use Peoria St. on Saturday, October 28, 2023, at 5:00pm for the 17th Annual Thrill the World dance. They also asked to use the Community Building for dress rehearsal and staging that same day. Both requests were granted by the board. Resident Bryan Zorn introduced himself as a prospective candidate for a Code Officer position. Fuoss explained the job responsibilities and board members asked questions. A decision to hire was tabled until the full board is present for discussion.

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Under old business, the board explained to Gery Brown that they intend to move forward with the demolition order for the Beech St. property.

Under new business, Trustee Fuoss tabled the discussion of the purchase of the Beech St. property to expedite the demolition until Mayor Orr receives additional information from Brown and the potential buyer of the property.

Mogged made a motion to solicit bids for village owned property at 15 W. Market and a portion of lot west of and adjacent to 202 S. Lansdale and Houck seconded. On a voice vote all trustees voted aye and the motion carried.

The board decided to table the discussion of hiring an additional Code Enforcement Officer until next month’s meeting.

Under Code Enforcement update, Trustee Fuoss reported that the Pritchett garage had been taken down by the property owners. The village is waiting for an asbestos inspection on the Stites property before demolition can begin.

Trustee Fuoss noted that a water study will need to be conducted to determine if the village will need to raise its’ water and garbage rates. It was noted that a status update is due from Boomgarden Trash Hauling regarding the village’s concerns at the last contract renewal.

Under trustee reports, Fuoss shared a thank you from Sue Read for the recent work done at the basketball court at Branch Park. The court was donated by the Rob Read family in memory of their son. Fuoss noted that it’s encouraging to see the new park equipment installed and being used by the kids. Trustee Houck noted the Pozos’ property has an excess number of vehicles parked everywhere. McCoy informed the board that there some water meters are not reading correctly and she reported this to Mayor Orr and Mike Evely.

Motion for adjournment was made by Houck and seconded by Bertrand. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Rhonda McCoy, Village Clerk