

MINUTES OF A REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE MAYOR  
AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF HARTFORD,  
MADISON COUNTY, ILLINOIS HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL,  
HARTFORD, ILLINOIS AT 6:30 P.M. ON THE  
20<sup>th</sup> Day of February 2018

1. Mayor Hickerson called the Village Board to order at 6:30 PM.
2. Roll Call of Board Members
  - A. On roll call, the following trustees were present: Clinton Caldwell, Robert Cheatham, Heather Flanigan, Chris Fulkerson, Jamie Harrop and Michelle Prickett.
  - B. Also present were: Village Attorney Chris Donohoo, Fire Chief Bill Owens, Police Chief Brandon Flanigan, Michael Goode, Christina Hayes, Treasurer Sue Budde and Village Clerk Chessie Brame.
3. Pledge to the Flag
4. Establishment of a quorum
5. Approval of the Minutes: 2/6/2018
  - A. On motion of Caldwell, seconded by Harrop, it was voted to approve the 2/6/2018 minutes as recorded by the clerk. Ayes: Caldwell, Cheatham, Flanigan, Fulkerson, Harrop and Prickett. Nays: None. Motion unanimous.
6. Report from Village Clerk: Nothing to report.
7. Report from Mayor Hickerson
  - A. Joe Bullard gave a presentation on the usage of the Tower for activities. Mr. Bullard mentioned that he had been discussing ideas with the Mayor and wanted to present these ideas to the Board. He would like to start the process by having food truck festivals at the Tower. Mr. Bullard discussed the idea with some food trucks, who suggested having 3 to 4 food truck events per year. He would like to help turn the Tower into a profitable situation so Mr. Bullard suggested establishing a winery at the Tower. He discussed checking into liquor licenses, the possibility of having another establishment use their liquor license and what the State laws would require. He also discussed having events at the Tower such as, weddings, private parties, car shows, flea markets, farmers markets, corporate events, etc. Mr. Bullard suggested that the Village could rent the Tower to him and he would sub-lease to vendors for those activities. He discussed the idea of splitting profits, 50% going to the Village and the rest going towards the operation Mr. Bullard has put together. He would advertise the events as at the "Tower" rather than using the words Confluence Tower. He asked that the Village help produce effort to push the events. Trustee Caldwell commented on past events held at the Tower. He mentioned people came to the events, but not many went into the Tower. Mr. Bullard suggested starting out with 5 food trucks and building up. The food trucks are self contained and will provide certificates of insurance. He said that there needs to be a beer/wine garden but thinks that a winery would be a great mainstay for the Tower. The attorney will have to check on what insurances and licenses the Village would need to be covered for that. Mr. Bullard mentioned that the Tower is a unique place for weddings, and recently there was a proposal at the Tower. Mr. Bullard has not done this before but has lots of ideas and sees the different opportunities that would be available. He would like to do more research and discuss factors such as traffic and security with the local law enforcement. Mr. Bullard would like for the activities to run April-October, with his start up goal for this year being May 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - B. On motion of Prickett, seconded by Fulkerson, it was voted to approve Moran Economic Development to pursue extending TIF #1 for an additional 12 years at the approximate cost of \$7,000. Ayes: Caldwell, Cheatham, Flanigan, Fulkerson, Harrop and Prickett. Nays: None. Motion unanimous.
  - C. The Village has 4 years remaining on the George Alarm contract at the Tower. Last year our cost was \$1,558.37 and we have paid \$8,855.13 since August of 2010. The Board was asked if they want to continue with the contract or buyout the remaining 4 years of the contract for \$1,576. IMLRMA does not mandate that we have a security system at the Tower.

On motion of Caldwell, seconded by Fulkerson, it was voted to buyout the remaining 4 years of the George Alarm contract at the Tower for \$1,576. Ayes: Caldwell, Cheatham, Flanigan, Fulkerson, Harrop and Prickett. Nays: None. Motion unanimous.

- D. There was no need to go into Executive session at that time.
- E. Mayor Hickerson mentioned that Chessie and Sue have been doing a lot of work checking on phone lines; finding unused phone lines that were being paid for. He mentioned that the Village was paying for 5 lines at the Tower, but were only using 2. They are still working on the issue but have been able to save approximately \$3,000 a year by cutting down on the phone bills. Those are the kind of things the Village is trying to eliminate, expenses that we shouldn't be paying for.

8. Report from Attorney, Chris Donohoo
  - The house at 104 W. Cherry is going out for bids to be demolished. The county takes care of that so the attorney is just waiting for confirmation from Ameren. He also mentioned that the owner of the Virgin property on E. 5<sup>th</sup> St. said he doesn't want to use a realtor to sell the house so if anyone is interested in buying the house to let the attorney know. If the house doesn't sell, the Village will have to file an order to demolish the property.
9. Report from Village Engineer (Absent): Nothing to report.
10. Report from Fire Department, Chief Bill Owens
  - Chief Owens would like to pursue a grant from Phillips 66, requesting \$25,000 to update the rescue fire truck.
11. Report from Police Department, Chief Brandon Flanigan
  - Chief Flanigan informed the Board that Officer Asbury will be having surgery on his wrist and will be out 3-4 weeks and Officer Timmins is at DARE school for 2 weeks. Officer Geil and Chief Flanigan will be working a lot of hours until the other officers return. Trustee Prickett asked if the part-time officers have offered to work. Chief Flanigan mentioned that the part-time officers have requested not to work midnight shifts.
12. Report from Public Works Department, Doug Preston (Absent): Nothing to report.

**Report from Committees:**

13. **Safety Committee (Harrop, Cheatham, Prickett):** Nothing to report.
14. **Ordinance Committee (Prickett, Harrop, Caldwell)**
  - Trustee Prickett gave the hiring policy ordinance to the attorney to review for the next meeting.
15. **Public Works Committee (Fulkerson, Flanigan, Cheatham):** Nothing to report.
16. **Public Utilities Committee (Cheatham, Caldwell, Fulkerson):** Nothing to report.
17. **Parks & Recreation Committee (Caldwell, Fulkerson, Flanigan)**
  - Trustee Caldwell wanted to pass along a message from resident Bart Pickett, thanking the Police and Fire Departments for their response to his aid.
18. **Finance & Public Buildings (Flanigan, Prickett, Harrop):** Nothing to report.
19. Allowable claims against the Village
  - A. Trustee Flanigan advised that the Village had vendor claims of \$25,681.21, plus payroll claims of \$33,674.17, for total claims of \$59,355.38. On motion of Flanigan, seconded by Caldwell, it was voted to pay the allowable claims against the Village in the total amount of \$59,355.38. Ayes: Caldwell, Cheatham, Flanigan, Fulkerson, Harrop and Prickett. Nays: None. Motion unanimous.
20. There were no comments from the citizens.
21. New Business from the Board

- Mayor Hickerson mentioned that the house next to Village Hall was for sale. He also added that the Board will be voting on the addendum for the Labor agreement at the next meeting.
- Trustee Fulkerson asked if the Fire Department can look at getting their property rezoned to include the property/garage they now have on W. Date, instead of Ameren coming out to install a new service to the property. The attorney mentioned that they may have to have an engineer survey the property first. It might be better to contact Ameren first and see what they would charge and what they would say about the situation.

22. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM.

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James F. Hickerson  
Village President

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Village Clerk, Chessie M. Brame