

MINUTES OF A REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE MAYOR
AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF HARTFORD,
MADISON COUNTY, ILLINOIS HELD ON ZOOM
AT 6:30 P.M. ON THE
5th Day of January 2021


1. Mayor Hickerson called the Village Board to order at 6:30 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call of Board Members
 - A. On roll call, the following Board Members were present: Clinton Caldwell, Chris Fulkerson, Jamie Harrop, Kristie Luebbert, Michelle Prickett, and William Robertson.
 - B. Also present were: Village Attorney Chris Donohoo, Village Clerk Emme Flanigan, Village Treasurer Chessie Brame, and Police Chief Brandon Flanigan.
4. Establishment of a quorum
5. Approval of the Minutes: 12/15/2020
 - A. On motion of Caldwell, seconded by Harrop, it was voted to approve the 12/15/2020 minutes as recorded by the clerk. Ayes: Caldwell, Fulkerson, Harrop, Luebbert, Prickett, and Robertson. Nays: None. Motion unanimous.
6. Report from Village Clerk: Nothing to report.
7. Report from Mayor Hickerson
 - A. Mayor Hickerson asked what the Board's thoughts were on suspending water shut offs and asking customers to make payment arrangements. The Mayor said that when he put this on the Agenda there were about 15 people that hadn't paid their bill but that number is now down to 7. One of the people who have not paid owe \$345, another that owes \$387 that said they will pay tomorrow, one that owes \$603, one that owes \$228, and one that owed \$1,900 a couple of months ago because they had a water leak. The last person mentioned has been making payments and are now down to \$1,230. Trustee Fulkerson asked if any of them can be shut off legally right now due to Covid. Trustee Luebbert said at Wood River's last meeting they decided to not do shut offs right now. Attorney Donohoo told Trustee Fulkerson that he doesn't know for sure if it's legal or not but that he does know other municipalities are airing on the side of caution and choosing not to do shut offs. Trustee Caldwell, Trustee Robertson, and Trustee Luebbert said as long as they are making a good-faith effort to pay their bill, they shouldn't be shut off. Trustee Prickett said not all of them are trying to make that effort and that some of them are simply not paying. The Mayor said the people not paying their bill are the same ones that always have a problem paying their bill. Mayor Hickerson expressed his concern that the list may begin growing if people know they won't be getting shut off. The Mayor said the totals he read off are not including the bill the citizens received a couple of days ago. Trustee Luebbert asked if any phone calls have been made to these specific people to request a payment from them. Mayor Hickerson said phone calls have been made and Doug Preston typed up a letter and put it on their doors. Trustee Robertson said Attorney Donohoo should look into it before any decisions are made. Attorney Donohoo said he would look into it and get back to the Board right away.
 - B. Mayor Hickerson informed the Board of the damage caused by Sanders when one of their employees dumped trash from their truck that was on fire onto the parking lot in front of the Community Center. The fire spread to the roof of the building and caused damage to the roof and the inside of the building. A new roof has since been installed. Glen Sanders has been on top of everything and has gotten a second contractor to go to the building and check the damages inside. Mayor Hickerson said he also had an adjuster go look at it. Repair work will likely be started next week. The Mayor said he would like to scrap out some old printers and a copier that have been in the storage rooms at the Community Center for years. Mayor Hickerson also asked if Chief Flanigan would go look in the police storage room in this building and see what can be thrown out.
8. Report from Attorney, Chris Donohoo
 - Attorney Donohoo informed the Board that court is still cancelled and that if anyone contacts them regarding ordinances, they should send them to him.

9. Report from Village Engineer (Absent): Nothing to report.
10. Report from Public Works Department, Doug Preston (Absent): Nothing to report.
11. Report from Fire Department, Chief Jarrod Horyn (Absent)
 - Trustee Fulkerson informed the Board that the department is trying to locate a couple pediatric pulse oximeters because over the past year there have been a few calls for kids and it is difficult to use the standard pulse oximeters on them.
 - Trustee Fulkerson also informed the Board that the department takes care of the AED's for the village for the gym, village hall, and the tower. The pads in all three AED's are expired or are about to expire. Trustee Fulkerson said that due to Covid, he doesn't see a need in replacing the pads for the gym or the tower until it is decided to open them back up. Trustee Prickett asked Trustee Fulkerson how much those cost because she believes it would be a good idea to have it at the library. Trustee Fulkerson said he will have Kerri Fulkerson look into it and get back with Trustee Prickett. Mayor Hickerson said he believes the fire extinguishers at the gym could be replaced. Trustee Fulkerson said they should be getting close to the time to replace them but typically the department will replace every extinguisher in the village at the same time.
12. Report from Police Department, Chief Brandon Flanigan
 - Chief Flanigan informed the Board that for the year of 2020, the department had 2,401 calls of service and made 465 arrests. Of those arrests, there were 77 felony arrests, 91 misdemeanor arrests, 23 warrant arrests, 56 ordinance violation arrests, and 218 traffic citations written.

Report from Committees:

13. **Safety Committee (Fulkerson, Caldwell, Luebbert)**
 - Trustee Fulkerson asked Chief Flanigan to update the Board on where the new Part-time Officers are at in the hiring process. Chief Flanigan said he spoke with both of them yesterday and they are both going on Thursday to get fitted for their uniforms and vests. Chief Flanigan also said in order to be a law enforcement officer in the state of Illinois and be certified now, you are required to be approved by the Illinois Training and Standards Board. Part of that certification is a fingerprint based FBI background check in addition to the background check that the village does. Due to Covid, there are not many employees at the FBI available to do these so it is taking a little longer than usual. Chief Flanigan said as soon as he gets those reports back the officers should start working.
 - Trustee Fulkerson asked Clerk Flanigan for an update on the new Fire Fighter's paperwork and where he is at in the hiring process. Clerk Flanigan said he came in on Friday to get all his paperwork and be sworn in.
14. **Ordinance Committee (Robertson, Luebbert, Harrop):** Nothing to report.
15. **Public Works Committee (Harrop, Fulkerson, Robertson):** Nothing to report.
16. **Public Utilities Committee (Caldwell, Robertson, Prickett)**
 - Mayor Hickerson informed the Board that Mike Daniels will be back to work tomorrow.
17. **Parks & Recreation Committee (Luebbert, Prickett, Caldwell):** Nothing to report.
18. **Finance & Public Buildings (Prickett, Harrop, Fulkerson):** Nothing to report.
19. Allowable claims against the Village
 - A. Clerk Flanigan reported vendor claims of \$107,809.93, plus payroll claims of \$69,861.23, for total claims of \$177,671.16. On motion of Harrop, seconded by Robertson, it was voted to pay the allowable claims against the village in the total amount of \$177,671.16. Ayes: Caldwell, Fulkerson, Harrop, Luebbert, Prickett, and Robertson. Nays: None. Motion unanimous.
20. There were no citizen comments.
21. Unfinished Business from the Board
 - Trustee Robertson informed the Board that Hartford is now up to 97 Covid cases.
 - Trustee Luebbert asked if Chief Flanigan could put the 2020 totals on the department's Facebook page so the public can see that Covid isn't stopping them from getting work done. Chief Flanigan said he would put the totals on there.
22. There was no new business from the Board.
23. The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.


Emme M. Flanigan, Village Clerk


James F. Hickerson, Village President