

February 21, 2024

Village Council Meeting

Attendance:

John Tomlinson

Doug Hodgson

Christopher Weber

Jason Robichaux

Herbert Yardley

The roll was called, and a quorum was determined.

The minutes from the December 5, 2024, council meeting and the December 18, 2024, special council meeting were reviewed. Motion made by Mr. Hodgson and seconded by Mr. Robichaux to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Tomlinson discussed the annual audit report completed by Keefe McCullough with the council. They provide an opinion on the village's financial presentation. The Village was compliant in all aspects of the audit. We had an increase in net funds of \$184,000 over the prior year. Motion made by Mr. Yardley and seconded by Mr. Hodgson to approve the audited financial statements. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Tomlinson reviewed the accounts payable for January and February. All the bills were ordinary and necessary. Motion made by Mr. Hodgson and seconded by Mr. Weber to approve the January and February accounts payable. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Tomlinson discussed the January financial statement. He explained the four different Village cash accounts and gave balances for each. Total cash on hand at the end of January was \$3,139,000. We have received most of our ad valorem funds for the year. Most residents pay early to get the discounted rate. Building permit receipts are already \$115,000 and are budgeted for \$150,000. Expenses are in line with the budget. Year to date we have a \$1,000,000 surplus of revenues over expenses but that will decrease and flip around by the end of the year. Mr. Yardley discussed the relationship with the owners of the plaza with the Chief and Mr. Tomlinson and discussed their ad valorem tax base. Mr. Tomlinson clarified questions from Mr. Weber regarding the budget process and property values. Motion made by Mr. Yardley and seconded by Mr. Hodgson to approve the January 31, 2024, financial statement. Motion passed unanimously.

Police Report:

Chief O'Brien stated we have had part time officers covering for three of our officers that are out on medical leave. We are hoping to have two of them return by mid-March. The officers have been utilizing the speed recording device and running radar. Most drivers are within the normal speed limit range.

Code Compliance Report:

Nothing to report this month.

Public comments opened:

Mr. Bill Harter of 17 Saranac Rd. discussed the conflict regarding use of the Beach Club lot on Winona for use by dog owners. He asked for clarification of the village ordinance regarding controlling your dog on your property and means of restraint. Owners were allowing their dogs to run loose on the lot as it was fenced and gated. The Beach Club has since removed the gates and is requiring dogs to be leashed on the property. Mr. Harter questioned Chief O'Brien about statements made to residents regarding the use of leashes for the dogs while on the lot and the use of the dog pens or fencing to control the dogs. Mr. Jeff Nelson of 36 Cayuga Rd. also discussed this issue stating the Beach Club wants the police to enforce the rules on the lot and site violators. There are restrictive covenants governing the use of the lot. Both Mr. Harter and Mr. Nelson were told by Alex Soto as president of the Beach Club to come to the council to discuss clarification and possible amendment to this ordinance. Mr. Harter stated the ordinance enforcement should be the same on resident property as it is for the Beach Club property. Mr. Harter noted the property is zoned R-1, which he stated includes parks and churches. Mr. Hodgson and Mr. Yardley both stated this was a Beach Club issue and that the Beach Club should come to the council if they wish to see changes to the ordinance.

New Business:

Mr. Tomlinson asked the council to consider the engagement letter for Hinkle Richter & Rhine. They are our bookkeepers who prepare our financial statements and reconcile our accounts. They do an excellent job for us. Mr. Swartz read the resolution 2024-01 by title only approving the engagement letter for Hinkle, Richter, and Rhine for the fiscal year 2023-2024. Motion made by Mr. Yardley and seconded by Mr. Hodgson to approve the engagement letter and resolution. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Tomlinson discussed our accounts with the council. The sweep account at Centennial is FDIC insured and earns approximately 3.5% interest. Municipalities are limited by state law as to where they can invest funds. Large municipalities have investment firms that manage funds, but smaller municipalities have fewer vehicles for investments. Currently we have funds in Florida Prime and Florida Municipal Investment Trust. Mr. Hodgson stated these funds are not volatile and are a safe space for funds. Mr. Tomlinson transferred \$10,000 into the Florida Prime account this month but we need to update our information with them as soon as possible. Mr. Swartz read Resolution 2024-02 by title only authorizing appropriate Village personnel to transfer funds to the Florida Prime account. Motion made by Mr. Robichaux and seconded by Mr. Hodgson to approve the resolution. Motion passed unanimously.

The March meeting date will be Wednesday, March 20, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

Adjourn.

