

Village of Homer
Regular Meeting of Trustees
March 13, 2023
7:00pm

Those present: Trustees: Guy James, Skip James, Ray Ryerson, Mike Johnson, Herb Lacey, and John Dodd, Mayor/Board President, Jim White, Clerk, Sharon Jeffers, Treasurer, Cindy Pruitt, Chief of Police, John Rouse, Maintenance/Water, Ryan Byerley, Sewer, Tom Parrish, Zoning, Dave Hermes, residents, Roger Faulkner, Ray Cunningham, Christine Cunningham, and Ron Humphrey.

Public Comment: Ray Cunningham spoke for the Historical Society. He stated they would like to place a Heritage Trail Marker on the Historical Society downtown lawn and would like the boards permission. The board is fine with that and ask him to get with Ryan/ Maintenance for placement.

Board Comment: Herb Lacey suggest that we place a historical marker on the brick road. Jim White reminded board that we would be having a budget meeting tomorrow night. He also reported that Mr. Hawkins has rescinded his RFP for the three Village Properties.

Minutes: Mike Johnson motioned to approve all minutes as presented, seconded by Ray Ryerson, all in favor, motion approved.

Village Bills: Guy James motioned to pay Village bills as presented, seconded by Skip James, roll call vote: Guy James, yes, Skip James, yes, Ray Ryerson, yes, Mike Johnson, yes, Herb Lacey, yes, and John Dodd, yes, motion approved.

Water HVAC system tabled.

Sewer repairs: Mike Johnson motioned to approve repairs to sewer blowers not to exceed \$2000.00 for parts and labor and to be paid from sewer equipment, seconded by Guy James, roll call vote: Guy James, yes, Skip James, yes, Ray Ryerson, yes, Mike Johnson, yes, Herb Lacey, yes, and John Dodd, yes, motion approved.

Fireworks Contract: Skip James motioned to enter into contract with J&M Displays in the amount of \$13,500.00 for July 4th fireworks, seconded by Mike Johnson, roll call vote: Guy James, yes, Skip James, yes, Ray Ryerson, yes, Mike Johnson, yes, Herb Lacey, yes, and John Dodd, yes, motion approved.

Monthly Reports: Guy James motioned to approve all monthly reports as presented, seconded by Ray Ryerson, all in favor, motion approved.

- Treasurer reported that her report is an estimate not 100% accurate
- Police reported that there is a court case scheduled for 702 S Main St
- Water reported that the tower will be cleaned in April and we will have to use old tower
- Zoning, it was mentioned that we should not charge for handicap ramp permits

Solar Farm update: Jim White reported that that he will be going to the County Zoning board of appeals on Thursday, March 16th. He will still report that the Village is not in favor, and if it does pass we would like sound barriers, greenery, and a map of the drain tiles. They want to move the 5 poles back near the ball diamond and keep the road next to the Village Hall property.

Water planning project: Ray Ryerson motioned to approve Water planning project dated December 6, 2022 by Farnsworth Group, seconded by Skip James, roll call vote: Guy James, no, Skip James, yes, Ray Ryerson, yes, Mike Johnson, no, Herb Lacey, yes, and John Dodd, yes, motion approved.

An update was given on the railroad water main project. We could speed up the permit process for \$9000.00 extra but the board does not want to do that. The engineer is working on the permit.

Stump Grinder: Guy James motioned to approve rental of stump grinder for one week, not to exceed \$1,200.00, seconded by Skip James, roll call vote: Guy James, yes, Skip James, yes, Ray Ryerson, yes, Mike Johnson, yes, Herb Lacey, yes, and John Dodd, yes, motion approved.

Core Aerator: Mike Johnson motioned to rent a core aerator not to exceed \$800.00 seconded by Guy James, roll call vote: Guy James, yes, Skip James, yes, Ray Ryerson, yes, Mike Johnson, yes, Herb Lacey, yes, and John Dodd, yes, motion approved.

Ordinance 03132023A: Mike Johnson motioned to pass ordinance 03132023A, entering into intergovernmental TIF agreement with South Homer Township for \$15,000.00 in TIF funds, seconded by John Dodd, roll call vote: Guy James, recuse, Skip James, recuse, Ray Ryerson, recuse, Mike Johnson, yes, Herb Lacey, yes, John Dodd, yes, and Jim White, yes, motion approved.

Ordinance 03132023B: Skip James motioned to pass ordinance 03132023B, entering into intergovernmental TIF agreement with Homer Fire Protection District for \$15,000.00 in TIF funds, seconded by John Dodd, roll call vote: Guy James, recuse, Skip James, yes, Ray Ryerson, recuse, Mike Johnson, recuse, Herb Lacey, yes, John Dodd, yes, and Jim White, yes, motion approved.

Ordinance 03132023C: Mike Johnson motioned to pass ordinance 03132023C, entering into intergovernmental TIF agreement with Heritage District 8 for \$20,000.00 in TIF funds, seconded by Skip James, roll call vote: Guy James, recuse, Skip James, yes, Ray Ryerson, recuse, Mike Johnson, yes, Herb Lacey, yes, John Dodd, yes, and Jim White, yes, motion approved.

Terminix: Mike Johnson motioned to enter into contract with Terminix in the amount of \$2,450.00 for install, and an annual fee of \$590.00 for Village Hall termite protection, seconded by Ray Ryerson, roll call vote: Guy James, yes, Skip James, yes, Ray Ryerson, yes, Mike Johnson, yes, Herb Lacey, yes, and John Dodd, yes, motion approved.

Tornado siren upgrades: Herb Lacey motioned to upgrade tornado sirens to a wireless system in the amount of \$7,140.00, seconded by Skip James, roll call vote: Guy James, yes, Skip James, yes, Ray Ryerson, yes, Mike Johnson, yes, Herb Lacey, yes, and John Dodd, yes, motion approved.

Adjourn: Mike Johnson motioned to adjourn, seconded by Ray Ryerson, all in favor, motion approved.
Adjourn: 8:28pm

Posted: Sharon Jeffers, Village Clerk

Village of Homer
Budget/Water Meeting
Tuesday, March 14, 2023
6:00pm

Those present: Trustees: Mike Johnson, Herb Lacey, John Dodd, Guy James, Skip James, and Ray Ryerson, Mayor/Board President, Jim White, Clerk, Sharon Jeffers, Treasurer, Cindy Pruitt, Maintenance/Water, Ryan Byerley, and Sewer, Tom Parrish.

The budget was reviewed for FY25.

General Fund: Removed Village Hall repairs, insurance, left Village Hall repairs the same, proposed projects are new water fountain, remove and repair water fountain area in west wing, new clerk desk area, and termite protection from Terminix. We raised abandoned property to \$5000 for possible clean up of properties due to ordinance issues, audit service to \$5000, postage to \$1800, utilities to \$10,000, street lights to \$10,000, internet to \$2100, esda internet to \$2100, and fuel to \$20,000. We lowered heavy equipment rental to \$2000, projects funds to \$10,000, and Police car fund to \$5000. We have added a sidewalk line item for \$5000.

Police: We lowered salaries to \$60,000, vehicle maintenance to \$2500, training to \$100, insurance to \$2500, operational materials to \$2000, and public relations to \$500. We raised metcad to \$9000, and internet to \$900.

Recreation: Revenues was consolidated to July 4, Christmas in Homer, Interest, and Property tax. Fireworks was raised to \$13,500, July 4 raised to \$22,000, Christmas, to \$500, and other programs, \$200.

TIF: Heritage Ranch was raised to \$13,000. We lowered engineering to \$20,000, water tower maint program to \$6,000, interest expense to \$4,200, fire dept, south Homer township was lowered to \$7500, and Heritage School lowered to \$15,000, and grants lowered to \$10,000.

Goad fund: Village improvements lowered to \$75,000, audit raised to \$1500, engineering removed. Budget balanced.

GAR: internment revenues was lowered to \$7000. We raised equipment repair to \$1500, and tree removal to \$5000. We will need to purchase battery tenders for the equipment. We lowered interment prep to \$500, grounds maint to \$5000 and equipment to \$2500.

Sewer: We lowered equipment repair to \$2500, equipment plant to \$15,000, testing to \$3000, and dept maintenance to \$15,000. We raised tools to \$2500, need to purchase a ganter system and tool box, auditor to \$3400, utilities to \$45,000, and fuel to \$1500. Also noted that that Tom Parrish's salary will raise to \$20,000 annually when he receives his license.

Water: Water line repair will stay the same to help pay for lead line service inventory. We raised auditor to \$ 3400, telephone to \$1500, testing to \$7000, chemicals to \$22,000, well maintenance to \$15,000, fire hydrants to \$6000, and fuel to \$6000. We lowered water tower maintenance to \$17,000.

The treasurer will prepare a budget for ARPA and Business district in which she recommends we let build up before we start spending.

It was recommended to leave all funds at Prospect Bank

Water and sewer rates were discussed. The recommended rates beginning May 2023 are as follows:

Water minimum: Raise to \$25, Water Maintenance to \$11, and per thousand to \$11

Sewer minimum: raise to \$ 40, and per thousand to \$8

Total minimum bill for water sewer will be \$76 (current rate is \$63)

Mike Johnson motioned to adjourn, seconded by Ray Ryerson, all in favor, motion approved.

Adjourn 8:13pm

Posted: Sharon Jeffers, Clerk

**Homer Recreation Board
Village Hall
Thurs, March. 23, 2023**

Members present: Sharon Jeffers, Kim Dalle, Rachel Denmark, Perry Dable, Tammy Boen, and Case Phillips

Called to order: 6:30pm

Freedom & Music Festival

- Sponsorships are coming in slowly but we need to follow up with last year's that we have not heard from and those that have verbally committed
- Reviewed vendors that have booked for the festival and others that we need to follow up with. Need to start advertising heavily for more vendors
- Handful of food trucks are confirmed, looking for a pizza vendor
- Sharon researched Bingo license: it is \$200/year fee for unlimited pre-scheduled dates or a single \$50 fee for one time event. Board agreed to start with one time event fee to start with and gauge community interest for continuing to offer throughout the year. Would be a great fundraiser but would need to have committed bingo masters listed and available for community bingos.
- Brandon Shaffer updated Sharon that Awesome Machines have committed 3 inflatables (bounce house, obstacle course, and rock wall) with a steep discount in exchange as a listed sponsor
- Looking to use Kemper for potty houses if they would be interested in donating/sponsoring the use of them
- Kim offered her business (Front Porch Creations) as a sponsor by assisting in a fundraiser. She proposed that she would print 500 koozies with the festival logo and board can begin selling them at the May vendor event and year round. She would split cost with board as part of her donation. Board agreed unanimously to take her up on her offer.
- Board discussed wearing worker logo t-shirts at festival and Kim is able to print those. She will get back to us on color availability and what would work best with sublimation
- Sharon talked with some car show enthusiasts and suggested we charge a small \$10 entry fee and that entrants appreciate receiving trophies. Kim's husband will create trophies and we will have a top 10 that a select few judges will determine and announce winners. We will need to ask some locals to take on that position
- Tents will be booked soon
- Will be selecting alcohol offerings for the beer tent soon

Vendor Event

- Kim has been working on the Vendor event that's set for Sat May 6. Have had a few vendors reach out and book but we all will need to share and help advertise event to gather more vendors. Possibly invite a food truck to join to add appeal.

New Business

- Share facebook posts about May's vendor event and invite vendors to participate
- Order Bingo supplies and apply for one time use license
- Members please reach out to potential festival sponsors and give them an ask letter, let group know who you've talked to or secured
- Members please share the vendor application forms and tag businesses on Facebook to get the word out
- Members please like/share Facebook posts and event page about the festival to drum up attention

Adjourned: 7:15pm

Next meeting: Thursday April 6 @ 6:30pm at Village Hall

Homer Community Library Board Minutes

February 14, 2023

Present: Jill Weathers, Mary Kay Anderson, Joey Rice, Becci Powers, Troy Schiff, Christine Cunningham library director, Alice Kirby assistant librarian, Tiffany Paul from Friends of the Library.

Public – Casey Phillips

Absent: Chris Thompson, Chantelle Thompson.

Minutes: No corrections, Becci moved to accept the minutes. Joey seconded. Motion carried.

Friends of the Library: May 9, 2023, is the best day to do flower sales. We are checking on hosting a murder mystery. Amazon Smiles is no longer supporting organizations. Someone introduced them to Inky.org for help in supporting local authors.

Treasurer's Report: Grand total is \$120,011.65, which is a net loss of \$4,271.32.

Joey moved to pay Visa Debit Charges of \$782.63. Troy seconded. Motion carried.

Troy moved to pay Baker and Taylor \$255.86, Becci seconded. Motion carried.

Bills to note: IL Dept. of Revenue \$124.36. Puzey & Wright \$450.00. US Treasury \$1802.01. IL Dept. Employment Security \$32.18

Librarian's Report: She is presenting a class on Intro to Genealogy Feb. 21st at 6:30 pm, and an Intro to Ancestry.com class on Feb. 23, at 6:30 pm. A Thank You note will be sent to Homer Historical Society for providing one year subscription to Ancestry.com of \$1230. They may consider renewing next year if it is well used.

All patron computers are up and being well used, and all yearbooks are loaded.

Christine's library computer was changed from a Mac to a PC.

The library is doing Black History Month, highlighting local black notables.

Friends of the library donated totes for the Children's Easy Readers.

The Library is planning for Read Across America Day for Dr. Seuss.

OLD BUSINESS:

Trustee: Casey is planning to be a trustee, and is also planning to be the secretary. There was discussion on when Casey should come in as board trustee.

Monical's Date: Tuesday, May 23. Send flyers home with students May 12th?

IHLS Certification: needs to be done by end of March. Christine needs to do an Interlibrary Loan Traffic Survey for this.

Freshman Orientation: is Wednesday, March 8, 2023, at 6 pm. Christine is planning to go.

Cleaning: Each board member is asked to come for 2 hours to help. There is a list.

Budget: Check on mailers in the Marketing section in the budget. Discussion of possibility of being a township library or a district library in the future to help our budget.

Next month we will vote on the budget using closed session discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

Conference for the library director "Reaching Toward South Conference" April 14, 2023. Early bird fee is \$90.

Plan for Spring Break. President's Day will have a matinee. Christine and Alice will do some Spring Programming and will do a few matinees.

National Library Week: April 23-29, titled "There's More to the Story." Christine is planning an intro to using the online catalog informational piece.

Danville Garden's Day: 20% off day. Mary Kay will contact Cindy Happ about this.

Adjourn: Mary Kay moved to adjourn the meeting, Becci seconded. Motion carried.

Submitted by Mary Kay Anderson