

VILLAGE OF BRIMFIELD
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES
September 11, 2023

President Fishel called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 pm with roll call attendance. A. Porter-present, Meinders-present, Gilles-present, B. Porter-present, Schaub-present, Arbogast-present. Attorneys Johnson, Superintendent Challacombe and Clerk Johnson were also present.

The minutes of August 14, 2023 regular meeting were presented for approval. Meinders made a motion, seconded by Gilles to approve minutes. Motion carried 6 to 0.

The August Treasurer's report was presented for filing, B. Porter made the motion, seconded by Meinders. Motion carried 6 to 0.

The August 2023 bills were present for payment with a motion by B. Porter, seconded by A. Porter. Roll call vote: Arbogast-yes, Schaub-yes, B. Porter-yes, Gilles-yes, Meinders-yes, A. Porter-yes. Motion approved 6 to 0.

Annual Tax Levy Ordinance 2023-3 in the amount of \$97854.00 was presented for approval. It is an increase of 51.3 percent from the previous year. The increase can be attributed to police protection raising the amount from \$100 to \$21000. The audit and social security amounts were increased to match the actual expended amounts. B. Porter made the motion seconded by Gilles to approve the ordinance. Roll call vote: B. Porter-yes, Schaub-yes, Arbogast-yes, Gilles-yes, Meinders-yes, and A. Porter-yes. Motion approved 6 to 0.

105 E. Calhoun Street – will be addressed in executive session.

New Business:

Guyer Log Cabin Insurance-it was noted that the value of the log cabin is not included with the Village Hall property where it is located. The Village will request an estimated value amount from the Brimfield Historical Society that maintains it and donated it to the Village. A quote for the coverage will be obtained from the insurance company and presented for approval. The Historical Society will be required to cover the contents.

408 E. Knoxville Street has been working on removing excess vehicles.

The Rural Route 150 Water District presented a proposal to the Village Board requesting:

The Rural Route 150 Water District (the "District") asks the Village of Brimfield (the Village) Board of Trustees (the "Board") to authorize the attorneys, engineers, and representatives employed by the Village to work with the District's attorneys, engineers, and representative to explore the possibility of the District constructing a water main connecting the Village's water system to the former "Farmers' Table restaurant" property (located at 17426 W. Route 150, Brimfield, IL 61517, PIN 07-19-300-013), which has been donated to OSF Healthcare System, (the "Main").

In general, the District proposes as follows (1) that the District would pay for construction of the Main, (2) that the Main would be owned by the District and possibly leased back to the Village, (3) that the District would receive any “tap on “ fees paid by properties tapping onto the Main, (4) and that the Village would sell water to residents of the Village who hooked onto the Main at the usual rates charged by the Village to other residents, and (5) that the Village agree to negotiate with the District to sell water to the District in the future at competitive rates, providing that the Village has excess water available for sale when the District asks to negotiate.

Janaki Nair, representing the District, read the proposal to the Board. She stated that the District was not requesting an agreement or decision on the proposed project at this time just for the Board to agree to the proposal. She asked that the Board take a vote. President Fishel stated that the same proposal was presented and voted on at the January 9, 2023 meeting. He read the following excerpt from those minutes:

Meinders made the motion seconded by Dye to approve the request by 150 Water District to allow the Village Engineer to continue to confer with the District’s engineer and provide a complete mapping and additional information of the Village’s system. Roll call vote: B. Porter-no, Dye-yes, Arbogast-no, A. Porter-no, Meinders-no, and Gilles-no. The motion failed with 1 yay and 5 nays.

Ms. Nair stated that she was not aware of that action or previous vote. The Board was asked what more could be done to move the project forward. President Fishel stated that Village ordinances state that the Village must own all water mains. David Donaldson, of the District, stated that in their plan the Village would “eventually” own the main. That was not explained further. Trustee Gilles questioned why OSF representatives were not reaching out to the Board requesting the proposed water main construction. He stated he was uncomfortable with another water district doing business within the Village water district. Ms. Nair stated the Rural Route 150 Water District was partnering with OSF and that they feel it is step one of a bigger project, a win-win for the community. No further action was taken by the Board.

Repair of the Park playground equipment was discussed. A plexiglass piece that was broken needs to be replaced. Trustee Schaub has been investigating the replacement, costs, and resources. B. Porter made the motion seconded by Arbogast to approve up to \$1000 to purchase the needed equipment. Roll call vote: Arbogast-yes, Schaub-yes, B. Porter-yes, A. Porter-yes, Meinders-yes, and Gilles-yes. Motion approved 6 to 0.

Tree replacement for Village trees that were removed due to storm damage or disease was discussed. The conversation was that trees at the park should be replaced but putting trees in the right of ways may need a closer look. Trustee Schaub said he would investigate costs and options of tree varieties and bring it to the Board in October.

A draft of a letter regarding the CO2 pipeline was presented for review and revisions. President Fishel asked the Trustees to have any alterations to Clerk Johnson on Friday.

At 7:57 pm President Fishel asked for a motion to enter executive session to discuss probable litigation regarding property issues. Gilles made the motion seconded by Schaub roll call vote; Arbogast-yes, Schaub-yes, B. Porter-yes, Gilles-yes, Meinders-yes, and A. Porter-yes.

Open meeting was resumed at 8:15 pm. A list of compliance hearings was presented for approval with shut offs as necessary. A. Porter made the motion, seconded by Arbogast. Motion carried 6 to 0.

Having no further business, President Fishel asked for a motion to adjourn, B. Porter made the motion, seconded by Arbogast. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Next Board of Trustees Meeting is Monday, October 2, 2023 at 7:00 pm in the Village Hall.