

Village of Ashland
Board Meeting Minutes

01-08-2025

Village President Mau called the meeting to order with roll call at 6:00 pm. All members were present with the exception of Richard Turner. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes of the previous meeting and Special meeting were presented. Nancy Kyrouac mentioned that she was present at the regular board meeting but David Wilken was absent. Motion by David Wilken to approve the minutes with the change noted, seconded by Jacob Gardner. *passed by roll call vote.*

Cameron from Benton & Associates was present to ask permission to advertising the lift station project starting 1/17/2025. Proposing to advertise in the newspaper next Friday with estimates at 1.15 million. Tom Veith, Village Attorney ask if prevailing wage was being used. David or Cameron from Bentons will do an opening and reading on February 19, 2025 at 2:pm at Village Hall in Ashland, IL. A site plan was presented showing a proposed connection to a new force main, new wet well next to the existing one, new pumps, new valve vault. Screen will be placed in existing wet well to try to remove solids, which will be dumped in dumpster. Existing well will be filled with fillable sand to prevent sink holes. Old generator removed and new generator put in. All electrical panels will be on the wall. Submersible pumps can be removed thru hatch. Above grade valve vault and control panel. Screens are greased every 3 years or so. There is an overflow function that bypasses itself if it fails. The existing beam will be removed, sanded and painted and put up new columns to reposition it. The valve vault will be painted premium green color. New force main from lift station to plant and a new valve meter situation so Will won't worry in middle of night that psu is not overflowing and will automatically send flow to the legume. Hoping for notice to proceed in April 2025. 12 months to get done.

Vanessa Doellman, Treasurer presented her report. January 7, 2025 we transferred money from DCEO to Waterworks O&M; \$28,196.00. Vanessa recommends moving money from Line item 1103 Repairs and Maintenance to 1102 Equipment Purchased for \$25,000.00. Coming up in future is the Appropriations Meeting, will discuss at the next meeting. Motion to accept the treasurer's report by Jacob Gardner, seconded by Nancy Kyrouac. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Bills were presented for payment. Since the board meeting is so early, we have several that we did not get. David Wilken moved to accept the bills with the payment of the Ameren bill up to \$6,300.00 and Cass Rural Water bill up to \$8,000.00. Seconded by Nathan Grieme. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Will Harris, Public Works director presented his report.

Marty Fanning, Police Chief presented his report.

Proposed Demolition. We are responsible to find out if there is asbestos in the building at 100 W. Editor St. Parkland Environmental in Springfield will do an assessment of the building. They will charge \$400.00 to \$1,250.00 for the assessment.

Tom Veith wanted to mention that John Gardner, Professional Excavating has done demo work for the Village and does phenomenal work, but because of the amount of public funds that will be spent, we need to get a second proposal. Tom explained the process that we have taken is an expedited version. The time we can commence to start demolition was Dec. 27, 2024. The only people we had to send notices to were the owners and the tax buyers. We then have 120 days after we sent out notices to get started with demolition, which is March 21, 2025. If someone objects before March 21, 2025 then we would have to go to court. The State of IL has a lien on this property which is somebody with the same name but not the same person. We can do a formal solicitation of bids or by 2/3 vote, waive the bidding process, which is what Tom Veith will recommend to the board. Shireman Farms did one in the city of Virginia. So we will have to wait for the asbestos quote to come in. President Mau is hoping to have a decision ready to start at the February meeting.

Cass Communications is working on the fiber optics in the Village. Rise Broadband has shown interest in installing fiber optics in the Village and will be at the board meeting in February. They are out of Rockford. They are starting in Williamsville, Athens, Petersburg, Tallula, Pleasant Plains then Ashland. He said it will be cheaper; they use glass fiber – Cass does the same thing. They work with Ameren and install the service on Ameren poles to bring to homes cheaper. President Mau ask if we have to let them in town. President Mau talked to Cass Communications; if we have more questions they would come to a board meeting.

Christmas in the Village went fine. Had approximately 70.

Thank you to Will and guys for pushing the snow. They did a great job.

ARPA funds got spent. We went over about \$1000.00 that the Village may have to spend.

David Wilken said be prepared for an OSHA inspection.

Around the Bend Bar is closed. They were remodeling the kitchen and had a massive water leak. He is keeping his liquor license up-to-date, but if someone was interested in buying the bar he would probably sell.

Meeting adjourned at 6:52pm

Respectfully Submitted

Pamela Gardner, Clerk

