# Village of Ashland

# Meeting Minutes

 11-08-2023

Village President Mau called the meeting to order with roll call at 6:00 pm. All members were present except Jacob Gardner. Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Invocation was provided by David McHenry.

Minutes of the previous meeting and special board meeting were reviewed. David Wilken made a motion to accept the minutes; seconded by Nancy Kyrouac. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Vanessa Doellman presented the treasurer’s report. No changes were needed with all line items in good shape. Motion by Nathan Grieme to accept the treasurer’s report. Seconded by David Wilken. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Bills were presented with no correction. Motion to approve the bills by David Wilken, seconded by Nathan Grieme.

Public Works report given by Will Harris. Police report was given by Chief Marty Fanning.

The tax levy for 2024-2025 was presented by Vanessa Doellman for approval. Money was figured going into the General Fund at the max rate of .306 and the remainder of the money going into the Special Tax Funds. Nathan Grieme made a motion to approve the tax levy for the 2024 -2025 tax year, seconded by Richard Turner. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Our new backhoe is in. Originally we had decided to finance through West Central Bank at a rate of 7.75%. Then, after talking to John Deere Financial, we can go through them and the rate will be 6.9%. The cost of the new backhoe is $147,800.00. We received a trade-in of $74,500.00 and we had a Martin Max credit of $7,200.00 which left a balance of $66,102.64. We made a down payment of $26,102.64 with 60% coming from streets and 40% coming from water. The balance of $40,000.00 will be financed. After discussion a motion was made by David Wilken, seconded by Nancy Kyrouac to finance the $40,000.00 on the new backhoe through John Deere Financial. Motion carried by roll call vote.

The annual dispatching fee from Cass County has increased $335.30 with the new total is $ 8,621.16 Nancy Kyrouac made a motion to approve the dispatching fees from Cass County. Motion seconded by Kim Scholes. Motion carried by roll call vote.

President Mau reported that the Park Committee met and recommends that we purchase 6 trees. 2 ½” caliber. 10-12 ft tall. One year warranty. Mike Turner’s prices were higher $309.00 for each tree + planting and staking for $1,300.00 for a total of $3,154.00. Renee Jokisch Tree Service trees were $325.00 each plus $40.00 per tree to stake and mulch for a total of $2,190.00.

President Mau mentioned that both pavilions at James park need new roofs and one at the lake. Village employees will do the work. Supplies will be purchased now for metal roofing and replaced in the spring. Estimated cost for the repair is about $6,250.00. A dumpster will need to be ordered at the time of repair to handle the shingles they remove. Also there was discussion to remove the stage at West Park and put in a small pavilion that would hold two picnic tables. The ADA rules will be discussed with an engineer from Benton’s regarding the location of the new special needs swing and sidewalk. Attention will have to be given to the small pavilions at the lakes. They are in bad shape and will probably need to come down. Dave Hays mentioned that we should put together a 5 year plan and submit to DECO and then we are notified when a grant is available. Nancy Kyrouac made a motion to approve the purchase of the trees through Renee Jokisch, seconded by Richard Turner. Motion carried by roll call vote. David Wilken made a motion to approve the purchase the roofing supplies not to exceed $6500.00, seconded by Kim Scholes. Motion carried by roll call vote.

President Mau was approached by a resident regarding sidewalk repair – recommends that we use TIF monies to repair the bad sidewalks. If the sidewalk is adjacent to the TIF district then TIF monies can be used.

Halloween Parade/party was a huge success.

Motion to adjourn by Richard Turner, seconded by Kim Scholes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted

Vanessa Doellman sitting in for

Pamela Gardner, Clerk