

Village of Sheffield  
Village Board Mtg  
November 13, 2023  
6:30 pm

Determining that a quorum was present, President Mary Lanham called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 pm and directed Ries to call the roll.

**Roll Call**

PRESENT: Adams, DeVoss, Pratt, Price, Lanham

ABSENT: Corwin, Yepsen

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comment - President Lanham welcomed Mary Ann Cernovich to address the board during Public Comment. Cernovich was representing Sheffield Village Hall Alliance (SVHA). She reported the group recently hired a firm to perform a feasibility study. They are currently in the condition assessment phase. SVHA continues to be concerned with the Bell Tower and Village efforts to prevent further damage. Lanham informed Cernovich the Village is waiting for a quote for the work. President Lanham addressed the public concerning a comment made at the October 2023 meeting regarding Village engineers and the Main Street Project Handicap Parking situation. Lanham read the following response from Chamlin & Associates Engineer Dan Draper -

*Mayor Lanham, It is our understanding that a citizen has expressed concerns regarding the design of the Main Street project. In our line of business this is common. We find that most of the time these concerns stem from a lack of understanding of the parameters that govern our designs. Some of these parameters include existing topography, government regulations, design standards, monetary constraints, and needs of our clients.*

*On this project, the sloping grade of Main Street and the varying building elevations presented numerous challenges in creating a design within the project budget which meets American Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements and IDOT design standards. The final design met those parameters while creating accessible routes to the downtown businesses; replacing deteriorated sidewalk, curbs, and roadway surface; improving lighting; and improving overall aesthetics of the corridor.*

*One specific concern that we will address is handicap parking. Prior to construction there were no ADA compliant parking spaces in the project corridor. It is true there were spaces with handicap parking signs, but these spaces did not meet ADA requirements for width or slope. Due to the existing terrain, it was not feasible to provide ADA compliant spaces on Main Street itself. Instead, two ADA compliant spaces were constructed on Atkinson Street. From those parking spaces there are accessible routes to the downtown businesses. Creating additional parking areas in vacant lots was not in the scope of this improvement.*

*We appreciate the opportunity to address these concerns and look forward to working with the Village to improve and grow your community.*

President Lanham also noted the Village is investigating possible solutions for Brick slickness in Spring 2024 when the weather warms.

**Board Reports:** Police Report reviewed. Clerk reported an addition to the previously submitted bill sheet and a new column on the Treasurer's Report to indicate Grant money received. Public Works report reviewed. Lanham asked that Superintendent Lanxon update the board on the current situation at the South Lift Station. Lanxon reported there have been no alarms in the last 30 days. Lanxon met with Gasvoda tech to make sure everyone is

on the same page and on the right track. We are currently waiting for a vacuum pump for the backup pump. The Village is ready for the snow season with equipment and salt.

**Discussion/Action Items:**

DeVoss, seconded by Pratt, made a motion to **approve the October 10, 2023 regular meeting minutes.** Motion Carried 4-0

Pratt, seconded by Adams, made a motion to **approve payment of regular bills and payroll for November 13, 2023.**

Roll Call:

AYES: Adams, DeVoss, Pratt, Price,

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Corwin, Yepsen MOTION CARRIED 4-0

Adamst, seconded by Price, made a motion to **approve payment of TIF bills for November 13, 2023.**

Roll Call:

AYES: Adams, DeVoss, Price, Lanham

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Corwin, Yepsen MOTION CARRIED 4-0-1

Pratt, seconded by DeVoss, made a motion to **approve the renewal of the TEST, contract for both Water and Waste Water Treatment Plant Operator** There was brief discussion of making sure there was wording requiring TEST to notify someone at the Village when on site prior to the roll call

Roll Call:

AYES: Adams, DeVoss, Pratt, Price,

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Corwin, Yepsen MOTION CARRIED 4-0

Lanham informed the board the draft copy of Ordinance for the 2023 Neighborhood Redevelopment Grant in Sheffield from Economic Development was not ready to review. No Action Taken.

The board discussed the possible purchase of a Gas Monitor as requested by Supt Lanxon. DeVoss, seconded by Price, made a motion to **approve the purchase of the Ventis MX4 Gas Monitor, O2 LEL H2S CO, Industrial Scientific - VTS-K1231101101 gas monitor Lanxon recommended.**

Roll Call:

AYES: Adams, DeVoss, Pratt, Price

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Corwin, Yepsen MOTION CARRIED 4-0

The board discussed the possible purchase of a new desktop computer to replace the 11 year old model as requested by Supt Lanxon. Pratt, seconded by Price, made a motion to **approve the purchase of a new desktop for the office to allow for an upgrade on the five year equipment** and move the office computer to the Public Works building.

Roll Call:

AYES: Adams, DeVoss, Pratt, Price

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Corwin, Yepsen MOTION CARRIED 4-0

The board discussed the possible purchase of a refurbished taser as requested by Sheffield Police Department. Pratt, seconded by Price, made a motion to **approve the purchase of a refurbished taser not to exceed \$700 for use in the Sheffield Police Dept.**

Roll Call:

AYES: Adams, DeVoss, Pratt, Price

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Corwin, Yepsen MOTION CARRIED 4-0

President Lanham initiated discussion regarding roof bids for Village Buildings-Library and Community Center/Village Offices After review of 4 different contractors quotes the board chose local contractor DeReu Construction. Pratt, seconded by Price, made a motion to **approve the quote from DeReu Construction for roof replacement at Sheffield Public Library and Sheffield CommunityCenter/Village Offices.**

Roll Call:

AYES: Adams, DeVoss, Pratt, Price

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Corwin, Yepsen MOTION CARRIED 4-0

Discussion of low fund balance in the Sewer account and possible solutions. Ries informed the board the latest rate study would not be complete until February/March 2024. This study will give a good overview of where utility rates should be. Trustees willing to wait to review the rate study before making any decisions regarding alteration in rate schedule for water and sewer.

Lanham asked for a motion to enter into closed session for appointment, employment, compensation, performance or dismissal of public employees Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (c). Pratt seconded by Adams, made a motion to **enter into Executive Session at 7:42 pm**

Roll Call:

AYES: Adams, DeVoss, Pratt, Price,

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Corwin, Yepsen MOTION CARRIED 4-0

Pratt, seconded by DeVoss made a motion to **close Executive Session at 8:10 pm**

Roll Call:

AYES: Adams, DeVoss, Pratt, Price

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Corwin, Yepsen MOTION CARRIED 4-0

#### **Roll Call at 8:10 pm in regular session**

PRESENT: Adams, DeVoss, Pratt, Price, Lanham

ABSENT: Corwin, Yepsen

Also present Clerk Ries

**Adjournment:** Pratt, seconded by DeVoss made a **motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10pm** MOTION CARRIED 4-0.