

Village of Sheffield
Village Board Mtg
August 12, 2024
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: Corwin, DeVoss, Pratt,,Yepsen, Lanham

ABSENT: Adams (arrived 6:48 pm), Price

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

President Lanham welcomed everyone and opened the public hearing for the OSLAD grant to provide information about the Villages grant application and to answer any questions regarding the possible development of the old school property in the 600 block of South East Street-where the baseball diamonds are located. Phase 1 for the all season park would include a walking path, new restrooms/concession, weight equipment, ninja course, pollination station, children's playground with Pavilion and resurfacing of the existing pickleball court. Those in attendance commented as follows: Nice addition for Sheffield - When would we know if we get it- When would phase 2 happen - Sheffield really needs these additions and upgrades for our elderly and young children - how can we help? Closed OSLAD Public Hearing at 6:40 pm.

Proceeded to open ITEP Public Hearing at 6:40pm. Lanham gave an overview of the grant -

Program Details - 2024 ITEP Grant Program -

The maximum ITEP award per project is capped at \$3 million (2024), including match assistance, if eligible.

Any unused ITEP funds remaining after project completion will be returned to the program.

Application deadline September 30, 2024

Project Description

This is the second time the Village of Sheffield has applied for this grant-previously Fall 2022. The Village believes a sidewalk and new lighting to match existing business district lighting placed along the Highway (Railroad St) connecting the east side at Adams Street of the Village to the west Reed Street will benefit both residents and businesses. The improvements in the 100 block of North Main Street will be a quality addition to safely connect the North side of the Village and provide better pedestrian access to the business district

Public Hearing closed and Lanham continued with the Monthly meeting.

No Public Comment.

Board Reports: Lanham welcomed Samantha Casey, auditor with Hopkins & Associates. Casey handed out FY24 audit and gave a brief overview. Police Report -Not available. Treasurer's and Office Report - Water/Sewer funds dipping low due to water treatment plant and excess flow lagoon projects. Public works report as presented - Lagoon work to start next week. Trustees directed Lanxon to remove the large billboard panel with the organization logos and present new options for design/display as the current structure is rotted and barely staying upright.

Discussion/Action Items:

Pratt, seconded by DeVoss, made a motion to **approve the July 8, 2024 regular meeting minutes and July 30, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes** . Motion Carried 5-0.

Pratt, seconded by Yepsen, made a motion to **approve the August 12, 2024 regular bills and payroll.**

Roll Call:

AYES: Adams, Corwin, DeVoss, Pratt, Yepsen

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Price MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Adams, seconded by Corwin, made a motion to **approve the August 12, 2024 TIF Bills.**

Roll Call:

AYES: Adams, Corwin, DeVoss, Yepsen, Lanham

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Pratt

ABSENT: Price MOTION CARRIED 5-0-1

Lanham opened discussion only regarding a recent invitation she received from the Neponset Mayor concerning the possibility of a Co-op police officer acquired through Bureau County with Buda, Neponset and Sheffield sharing the costs of the officer. The other two towns currently have no policing. The Villages would want one officer, not several on a rotation. Each year's costs would be split between the interested communities. The board discussed the opportunity and agreed the main focus should be what is right for Sheffield. Board to discuss again at September meeting.

Lanham presented a new option for Village Attorney. She asked the board to consider retaining Jacob Frost, Spring Valley. Frost is willing to attend every other monthly meeting and has privileges in Bureau County. The trustees will consider this discussion only agenda item and discuss in September, as this will require moving the monthly regular meeting to the 2nd Tuesday of each month, 6pm.

Trustees agreed to continue purchasing new trees for the Village right of way/road side to replenish trees taken down in the last several years. Yepsen, seconded by Pratt, made a motion to **allocate \$6,500 towards new trees and planting by Hornbakers or Taylor's Way - whichever can offer the most trees/service for the \$6,500 when clerk contacts them.**

Roll Call:

AYES: Adams, Corwin, DeVoss, Pratt, Yepsen

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Price MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Lanham asked the Clerk to give an overview of the utility bill requested to be written off per ordinance, as the property is no longer owned by the account holder. The account is for a vacant (7 plus years) building resulting from late fees and surcharges each billing. Yepsen, seconded by Pratt, made a motion to **approve writing off balance of account #1015 - 319 E North St balances after removing penalty charges accrued.**

Roll Call:

AYES: Adams, Corwin, DeVoss, Pratt, Yepsen

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Price MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Lanham presented a rezone request for 445 W Railroad St - B-1 to R-2. The Sheffield trustees agreed to revert to the Bureau County board as they have jurisdiction over Sheffield zoning. No action taken.

DeVoss, seconded by Corwin, made a motion to **authorize Clerk Ries to transfer General Funds to water or sewer as a loan, as necessary in future months, if the water or sewer bank balance becomes too low-Transfer to be shown on monthly bill sheet.**

Roll Call:

AYES: Adams, Corwin, DeVoss, Pratt, Yepsen

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Price MOTION CARRIED 5-0

Adjournment: Yepsen, seconded by Pratt, made a **motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 pm.** MOTION CARRIED 5-0.