The RANTOUL VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR STUDY SESSION
October 5, 2021

LOUIS B. SCHELLING MEMORIAL BOARD ROOM
RANTOUL MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 333 S. TANNER, RANTOUL, IL

A Regular Study Session of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Rantoul was held at 6:00 P.M. Mayor Smith called the proceeding to order at 6:00 P.M.

Roll Call
The Clerk called the roll, finding the following members present:

Mayor Smith, and Trustees Crider, Wilkerson, Hall, Robertson, Weathersby and Johnson – 7

The following representatives of Village departments were also present:

Scott Eisenhauer, Administrator; Debbie Sage, Human Relations; Tony Brown, Police Chief; Corky Vericker, Interim Airport Manager; Chris Milliken, Urban Planning Manager; Jake McCoy, Assistant Public Works Director; David Wesner, Attorney and Janet Gray, Village Clerk

Approval of Agenda
Trustee Crider moved to approve the agenda. Trustee Hall seconded the motion. On a roll call vote:

YEAS: Crider, Wilkerson, Hall, Robertson, Weathersby and Johnson - 6.
NAYS: None – 0.

The motion carried 6-0.

Public Participation
Mr. Wendell Goldston addressed the board concerning the cost of rides on C-Carts for senior citizens. He proposed a voucher that would allow them to go between Rantoul and Champaign at no cost.

Chris Powers expressed frustration that he felt all the development was being done on the west side of town and none on the east side. He was not in favor of giving an established restaurant a zero-interest loan.

Items from Mayor
Jayne DeLuce, Executive Director of Visit Champaign County gave a presentation on their annual report. She stated that the new Director of Illinois Tourism had recently toured several sites in Rantoul including Taylor Studios, Hardy's Reindeer Ranch and the Sports Complex.

Items from Trustees

A. Trustee Johnson asked about the Bike Path Extension on Maplewood Drive to Crane Dr. The Assistant Public Works Director responded that this would be designed and built next summer (2022).
B. Trustee Weathersby asked about the lighting behind a clothing store on South Maplewood. The Assistant Public Works Director said he would look into it but that most of the lighting behind the stores were security lights paid for by the establishments at a cost of $15.00 per month.
C. Trustee Hall asked about the sale of vacant lots approved by the Board. The Administrator said that two of the properties had sold. The other property received a bid but the bidder needs to clear up other debt with the Village before the sale can be completed.
D. Trustee Johnson asked about the campers and port-a-potty behind the vacant lot on Rt. 136. The Administrator stated the property was privately owned but that the Village would look into the situation.
E. Trustee Robinson asked if the Village could look into providing vouchers for senior citizens riding C-Carts. The Administrator said he could look into this. Currently no funds are budgeted for this program.
F. Trustee Weathersby said that the Regional Plan Commission has some Transportation Programs. She will look into them.
G. Trustee Hall said he would also like the Village to look into the bus vouchers.
H. Trustee Hall said he had attended the Domestic Violence Awareness Rally. He thanked the planners and said it was an excellent program.

Items from Clerk

A. Minutes of Study Session on September 7, 2021
B. Minutes of Board Meeting on September 14, 2021

These minutes will go to the Board for approval.

Items from Administration

A. The Administrator presented a one-year extension to the agreement with C-Carts to provided bus service in Rantoul and to and from Champaign. The agreement runs from November 2021 to October 2022 with a monthly payment of $9,652.00 which is a 3% increase over last year. The contract also includes a proration of the monthly fee if there is an interruption of service. This item will go to the Board for approval.
B. The Administration presented an Ordinance amending Chapter 20 which would allow for Craft Grower Marijuana Businesses in the Village. This would be for an indoor operation and would prohibit retail dispensing of the product. Dane Ehler and Blake Schilb gave a presentation of their plans and answered questions from the Board. The consensus of the Board was to postpone this until November to allow for input from the citizens.

C. Traffic flow on Rt. 136 has increased with the new Sports Center and other businesses on Rt. 136. The Village is requesting that IDOT reduce the speed limit between Murray Road and Myers Street to 35 MPH. This change would require a Resolution of Support from the Village. This item will go to the Board for approval.
D. Bergson, LLC has applied for a $40,000.00 loan at 3.25% from a local bank to develop more space for a restaurant at 109 E. Sangamon Ave. They are requesting the Village pay the interest on this loan of approximately $80.00 to $100.00 a month. In June the Village approved the payment of interest on loans issued by a local banking facility that would meet the EDA Loan Program requirements because there are no funds available from the Village for these loan requests. There are sufficient funds in the Economic Development fund to meet this request.

Items from Comptroller
No Items to Report.

Items from Human Resources
A. Presented the applicant demographics reports.

Items from Police Department
A. The Police Department would like to purchase new flooring for the main level and basement to replace the flooring installed during the original construction. They are asking approval to purchase the flooring from Carpet Weavers at a cost of $25,580.00. This item will go to the Board for approval

Items from Fire Department
No Items to Report.

Items from Building Safety
No items to report.

Items from Community Development
A. The Village has a buyer for 501 & 505 Condit Drive. The company will relocate their business from Champaign and will produce compost in one building and have a research and development laboratory in the other. The Village has requested that the FFA release the property for sale. Until that action is completed, the buyer will make a down payment of $5,000.00 and lease the property from the Village. The amount of the sale is $240,000.00. This item will go to the Board for approval.

Items from the Recreation
No items to report.

Items from Public Works
No items to report.

Items from Counsel
Mr. Wesner said he has a hearing on Wednesday the 6th and more next week. He will give an update after those hearings.

Items for Closed Session
Trustee Hall made a motion to enter into closed session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (C) 6, to consider setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body. Trustee Crider seconded the motion. On a roll call vote:

YEAS: Hall, Robertson, Weathersby, Johnson, Crider, and Wilkerson– 6.
NAYS: None – 0.

The motion carried 6-0.

The Mayor requested a five minute break at 8:18 pm.

The Village Board went into Closed Session at 8:26 pm.

The Village Board returned to Open Session at 8:38 pm.

The Mayor encouraged the Board to stop by Hangar 2 and see the changes in the building.

Meeting Adjourned
The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet E. Gray, MMC
Village Clerk

Approved

Charles Smith
Village President

ATTEST:

Janet E. Gray, MMC
Village Clerk

I, Janet E. Gray, Village Clerk of the Village of Rantoul, Illinois, do hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Study Session of the Board of Trustees held October 5, 2021 as the same appears on the records of the Village now in my custody and keeping.

Janet E. Gray, MMC
Village Clerk