RANTOUL VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR STUDY SESSION
OCTOBER 4, 2022

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 at 6:00 P.M. Mayor Smith called the proceeding to order.

Roll Call

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

Mayor Smith, and Trustees Crider, Wilkerson, Hall, Robertson and Johnson – 6

The following representatives of Village departments were also present:

Scott Eisenhauer, Administrator; Jolene Gensler, Comptroller; Debbie Sage, Human Relations; Tony Brown, Police Chief; Luke Humphrey, Recreation Director; Jake McCoy, Assistant Public Works Director; Chris Milliken, Zoning and Planning; David Wesner, Attorney; Tana Ward, Deputy Village Clerk and Janet Gray, Village Clerk.

Mayor's Presentation

A. The Mayor gave the oath of office to the new Police Officer Timothy Becket. Officer Becket was formerly with the Champaign County Sheriff's Department. He is originally from Philo.
B. Jayne DeLuce, President and CEO of Visit Champaign County gave a presentation on the economic impact of Tourism in the County.

Trustee Weathersby joined the meeting at 6:10 pm.

Approval of Agenda

Trustee Johnson moved to approve the agenda. Trustee Weathersby seconded the motion. On a roll call vote:

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

The motion carried 6-0.

Public Participation

Loise Haines thanked the committee members who worked on the Domestic Violence Event on October 3. She also thanked the Village departments that provided support and the Trustees that attended.

Items from Trustees

Trustee Crider

- Thanked everyone who came out for the Domestic Violence event on Monday.
- Thanked the Village for allowing her to attend the Illinois Municipal League (IML) Annual Conference last month.
- Asked what the next steps are in giving the citizens the utility credit that was voted on last month. The Administrator stated the software has been ordered. Once it is in place and has been tested then the ineligible properties will be removed. At that point the credits can be issued. The goal is to have these credits issued by the end of the year.
- C-Carts had a reduction in service due to a driver shortage. Trustee Crider asked if the Village was responsible for paying the full contract amount during the reduction in service. The Administrator said the Village was not responsible for paying the full amount.
- She thanked the Mayor for addressing some of the questions asked during Public Participation. She would like to see the date that a committee member is appointed and the expiration of their term listed on the Village web site.
- She asked when the Board would begin working on the budget for FY23-24. That process will begin in November with the Tax Levy.

Trustee Hall

- Thanked the Village and the residents for allowing him to attend the Illinois Municipal League Annual Conference again this year. He attended a meeting on Diversity, Equity and Inclusiveness (DEI). He would be interested in having a Village staff member dedicated to ensuring DEI in the Village; possible at the Director level.
- He would like to see how the Board can get the committee members more involve in attending meetings.

Trustee Robinson

- Asked how many more Police Officers the Village was going to hire. The Chief said the Department is at full staff of 31 with one additional officer. Trustee Robinson asked if some Officers could be used as Crossing Guards on Rt. 136.
- Asked where the funds went from the $8 million-dollar Certificates of Deposit that were cashed. The Administrator said he would be glad to provide information on the matured CDs. The funds were put into the Enterprise Funds.
- Would like to use ARPA funds to build a bathroom near the fields at the Sports Complex.

Trustee Weathersby

- Thanked the Mayor for the opportunity to attend the Illinois Municipal League in Chicago last month.
- Thanked the Administrator for attending the District 1 event. One citizen asked how the MFT funds were used. The local MFT is 5 cent a gallon regardless of the price of gas.

- Said that the citizens at the District 1 meeting were very pleased with the Police Department.

Items from Mayor

A. The Mayor stated there would be a groundbreaking Wednesday at 10:30 am for the new stores being built at the corner of Murray Road and Rt. 136.
B. The Mayor has two potential candidates for the vacancy on the Police Pension Board that has a term expiration of 2024. He will bring this appointment to the Board at the September 11 meeting.

Items from Clerk

A. Minutes of September 6, 2022 Regular Study Session
B. Minutes of September 13, 2022 Board Meeting
C. Minutes of September 19, 2022 Special Board Meeting
D. The Clerk thanked the Board, Mayor and Administrator for allowing the Clerk and Deputy Clerk to attend their annual training (Institute and Academy). The Deputy Clerk received scholarships which will pay for the registration and $500.00 toward hotel costs. The Clerk received a scholarship of $200.00 for registration.

These minutes as corrected will go to the Board for approval.

Items from Administration

The ARPA Funds (American Rescue Plan Act) must be allocated by December 2024. The Administrator asked some of the Departments to make presentations on projects where these funds could be used.

A. Downtown Project
Chris Milliken gave a presentation on the Downtown Streetscape and Plaza Project and reviewed the proposed used of the $3 million DCEO grant the Downtown group received. The proposed cost estimates were made in 2020 so the cost may have increased. The estimated total cost for upgrading the street scape, electric, water and wastewater infrastructure is $14 million. Over past five years the Village has approved six loans for properties downtown. There has been over $3 million private investments for new businesses.

B. Fire Station Upgrade
Chief Smith gave a presentation on the proposed upgrade to the Fire Station on Maplewood Drive. They have only one bathroom and no shower facilities in the station. The proposed upgrades would cost about $750,000.00.

C. Rantoul Police Department
Sgt. Reifsteck spoke regarding the 4 You Rantoul program at the Police Department. One of the programs she would like to implement is a Juvenile Fitness Program. She has investigated an exercise program where the instructor can interact with the young men. The estimated cost is $900.00 for a five-week program for a group of 2-3 youth. Another cost for the fitness program would be the cost of a forum pass. Her request is for $100,000.00. She is also looking for funds for transportation and emergency shelter.

D. Public Works
Assistant Public Works Director Jake McCoy gave a presentation on the Electric Systems Capital Improvement Plan. He reviewed the proposed 2025 Electric System Map.

The Mayor requested an 8-minute break at 8:15 pm.

The Mayor reconvened the meeting at 8:24 pm.

Assistant Public Works Director McCoy reviewed the Wastewater Treatment Facility Capital Improvement Plan which is a 20-year projection.

E. Recreation Department
Director Luke Humphrey gave a presentation on the Youth Center and Tuskegee Park. He reviewed the history of the Youth Center which was deeded to the Village in 1999/ 2000. Assistant Director Andy Graham discussed the current uses of the Youth Center.

The Administrator opened up the meeting for the Board to discuss the allocation of the remaining ARPA funds

Trustee Robinson asked what it would cost to build a restroom facility at the Sports Complex. The Recreation Director said he could get an estimate for him tomorrow.

The Administrator asked the Trustees for a list of projects and the amounts they would like allocated to them. He will compile that list in the next day or two and forward it to the Trustees.

Items from Human Resources

A. The September 2022 Village Applicant Demographics Report was included in the Board Packet.

Items from the Police Department

No items to report.

Items from Fire Department

A. Wednesday, October 5 through Saturday, October 8 both fire stations will be lit up in red.
B. October 12 from 6-8 pm, the Fire Department will host an open house in honor of Fire Prevention Week.

Items from the Comptroller

No items to report.

Items from Building Safety

No items to report.

Items from Community Development
No items to report.

Items from the Recreation
No items to report.

Items from Public Works

A. The Department asked for approval to rebuild the radiator on the CAT quick-start generator #11 at the East Substation at a cost of $36,849.54. There is only one vendor who can perform the repairs; MAAS Radiator, Inc. This project was included in the FY 2022-23 Budget.
B. The Department asked for approval to purchase a new Kubota SSV75 Skid Steer Loader for the Wastewater Treatment Plant from Birkey's Farm Store in the amount of $53,969.89. The skid loader approved in September did not meet the specs as a "high flow" unit and will not be purchased.

These items will go to the Board for approval.

Items from Counsel

- Midwest Prep has restarted making payments.
- CCK Hospitality loan was provided to an LLC and the LLC was involuntarily dissolved by the state of Illinois. The loan document has a clause that may allow the Village to pursue the members of the LLC.
- The equipment used as collateral for Happy Dog was seized and the Village will auction that equipment. Once that is done, we will file for the remaining amount due. The Attorney is working with staff to make sure he has all the documentation and numbers correct.

Closed Session

Trustee Hall moved to enter into closed session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (C) 2, to consider collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees. Trustee Wilkerson seconded the motion. On a Roll Call vote:

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

Motion carried 6-0.

The Board entered into Closed session at 9:28 pm.

The Board returned to Open session at 10:15 pm.

Meeting Adjourned

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 10:15 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 4, 2022 as the same appears on the records of the Village now in my custody and keeping.

Janet E. Gray, MMC
Village Clerk