

REGULAR MEETING

July 23, 2024

The Village of Ashmore Board of Trustees met in regular session on July 23, 2024 at the Ashmore Municipal Office. Proper notice of the meeting was posted. President Kurt Crail called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Freezeland acknowledged that a quorum was physically present, and that there were no requests for electronic attendance. Freezeland took roll call attendance:

Trustees Present:

- Bill Edwards
- Thomas Grissom
- Dane Perdieu
- Terry Price
- Bryan Watson
- Cathy Welborn

Trustees Absent: None

Also Present:

- President Kurt Crail
- Clerk Jackie Freezeland
- Treasurer Kathy Childress
- Seth Flach of Milano & Grunloh Engineers, LLC (exited 6:15 p.m.)
- Chief Deputy Tyler Heleine of Coles County Sheriff's Department (exited 6:25 p.m.)

Guests

Seth Flach of Milano & Grunloh Engineers (MGE) gave updates on the Village's ongoing grant projects. His summary notes are attached. Flach answered questions and then exited at 6:15 p.m.

Tyler Heleine of the Coles County Sheriff's Department spoke about recent enforcement, which mostly included responding to accidents. He advised that the department intends to start enforcing non-highway vehicle regulations, including driving without a license, driving without a permit, and driving outside of corporate limits. Heleine advised that residents hesitate to report suspicious behavior, and as a result, it often takes officers longer to resolve cases. He emphasized that if someone is not sure whether to report something or not, then they should. Heleine answered questions and then exited at 6:25 p.m.

Reports, Approvals, and Claims

Freezeland gave an update about new and ongoing projects in the Municipal Office, including:

- Four elected positions are up for re-election this year; packets will be available August 20;
- Progress on landscaping at Serenity Corner;
- Landscaping border was installed at Serenity Corner, the Community Center, the maintenance building, and the east-side welcome sign; and
- The citywide rummage sale date has been set for Saturday, September 14.

Board Minutes dated June 25, 2024 were approved on a motion from Edwards, seconded by Welborn. In a roll call vote, all trustees voted aye.

The payables and payroll for July were passed around and approved by signatures.

Upon recommendation from Treasurer Childress, Grissom motioned to transfer \$2,000 from the General Fund to the Public Benefit Fund to cover upcoming expenses. Watson seconded the motion. In a roll call vote, all trustees voted aye; motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report for June 2024 was placed on file with the Clerk on a motion from Price, seconded by Welborn. In a roll call vote, all trustees voted aye.

Crail gave the following superintendent's report on behalf of Superintendent Johnson, who is out of town:

- All water samples are continuing to come back clean and EPA-compliant;
- Johnson is picking up the Grizzly Bars equipment from Missouri;
- Indiana Street will be oil and chipped in August using MFT funds;
- The water treatment plant passed its EPA inspection; and
- Mayor Crail will be leaving town on vacation in September, leaving Deputy President Bill Edwards in charge in his absence.

Unfinished Business

Ordinance #24-0528, An Ordinance Amending Title 6 "Public Ways and Property," Chapter 3 "Water Use and Service," Section 8 "Water Billing" to Amend Deadlines, was placed on file by recommendation of the Water Committee, and no second is required. In a roll call vote, all trustees voted aye.

Ordinance #24-0625, An Ordinance to Establish Appropriations for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 was passed on a motion from the Finance Committee (no second is required). In a roll call vote, all trustees voted aye.

There was no other unfinished business.

New Business

Resolution #24-0723A, A Resolution Supporting the Application for a Community Development Block Grant, was passed on a motion from Grissom, seconded by Perdieu. In a roll call vote, all trustees voted aye.

Resolution #24-0723B, A Resolution Supporting the Application for an Illinois Transportation Enhancement Grant, was passed on a motion from Price, seconded by Edwards. In a roll call vote, all trustees voted aye.

Resolution #24-0723C, A Resolution Supporting the Application for an Open Space Lands Acquisition & Development Grant, was passed on a motion from Perdieu, seconded by Watson. In a roll call vote, all trustees voted aye.

Resolution #24-0723D, A Resolution Supporting the Negotiations for an Interagency Agreement Between the Village of Ashmore and Embarras Area Water District, was passed on a motion from Watson, seconded by Perdieu. In a roll call vote, all trustees voted aye.

Resolution #24-0723E, A Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of Security Cameras, was passed on a motion from Edwards, seconded by Welborn. In a roll call vote, all trustees voted aye.

There was no other new business.

The meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m. on a motion by Edwards, seconded by Price. All trustees voted in favor. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 27, 2024.

Jackie Freezeland
Ashmore Village Clerk

VILLAGE OF ASHMORE

July 23, 2024

Unsewered IEPA Grant

The planning for the unsewered grant has been completed and approved by the IEPA. The first application for \$5 Million through the IEPA unsewered funding was not successful. We talked to Lanina Clark with the IEPA and she stated the NOFO will be out in July/August 2024. The Osage Nation required additional testing. This has been completed with the report sent to Osage Nation and a sign-off received.

Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP)

IDOT has approved the PDR. The NOFO is out and applications are due in September.

Safe Routes to School - SRTS

The 2023 Safe Routes to School application period was August 1, 2023 through October 2, 2023. A Public Meeting was held on August 22, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. This was not funded and Milano & Grunloh will follow up.

OSLAD

The village applied for an OSLAD (Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development) grant in August for park improvements at the Village of Ashmore Park. Sadly, the village's application was not selected for funding. The NOFO for the next round of applications has been released. Applications are due September 13th.

Storm Disaster Grant

The public hearing for this was held November 28th at 5:45 p.m. The application was submitted in early December. We have sent the budget certification to DCEO and have received the executed grant agreement back from DCEO. This money has been drawn down. Did the village get a check?

Water Tower Painting and Other Water Improvements

The Village is eligible for 45% Principal Forgiveness. Jake is working on quotes for the water tower and other water system upgrades.

2025 DCEO Public Infrastructure Grant

DCEO has announced they will be utilizing the 2020 census information for applications due in December 2024. The village is now eligible to apply for a public infrastructure grant and they are above 51% LMI; therefore, no income surveys are required. Please let our office know as soon as possible if the village is interested in applying for a public infrastructure grant.