

REGULAR MEETING

September 24, 2024

The Village of Ashmore Board of Trustees met in regular session on September 24, 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.

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

Trustees Present:

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

Also Present:

- President Kurt Crail
- Clerk Jackie Freezeland
- Treasurer Kathy Childress
- Superintendent Jake Johnson (exited 6:29 p.m.)
- Lee Beckman of Milano & Grunloh Engineers, LLC (entered 6:07, exited 6:20 p.m.)

Trustees Absent: Dane Perdieu

Guests

Lee Beckman of Milano & Grunloh Engineers (MGE) entered the meeting at 6:07 p.m. and gave updates on the Village's ongoing grant projects. His summary notes are attached (Addendum A). Beckman requested more community support letters to include with the ITEP grant, but they will need to be collected quickly as the application will be turned in this Monday, September 30. Beckman answered questions and then exited at 6:20 p.m.

Reports, Approvals, and Claims

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

- There will not be an ordinance this year for water rate increases, because last year's ordinance included terms for two consecutive years;
- Several ordinance violation citations were heard on September 11 along with a follow-up hearing for a property cleanup completed in February;
- The citywide Rummage Sale was September 14 and brought a lot of visitors and traffic to town;
- The Community Cleanup Day was September 21, and there was a steady stream of residents taking advantage of it; the dumpster and electronics stations were completely full, several people dropped off pharmaceuticals, and there is currently a tire mountain at the park waiting for the recycling company to haul away; and
- The Coles County Health Department has asked for the Village's cooperation in providing a list of residential and business addresses in town as they work to identify homes that do not have compliant septic systems in place.

Board Minutes dated August 27, 2024 were approved on a motion from Edwards, seconded by Welborn. In a roll call vote, all trustees present voted aye.

Upon recommendation from Treasurer Childress, Grissom motioned to transfer \$5,000 from the General Fund to the Water Fund to cover upcoming expenses. Price seconded the motion. In a roll call vote, all trustees present voted aye; motion carried.

Upon recommendation from the Treasurer, Watson motioned to transfer \$6,000 from the General Fund to the Public Benefit Fund to cover upcoming expenses. Welborn seconded the motion. In a roll call vote, all trustees present voted aye; motion carried.

One of the Village CD's is maturing on October 2. Upon recommendation from the Treasurer, Welborn motioned to roll the balance into a 12-month CD with an annual percentage yield of 3.75% with signers to remain the same as they are on the current CD. Watson seconded the motion. In a roll call vote, all trustees present voted aye; motion carried.

The payables and payroll for September were passed around and approved by signature.

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

Superintendent Jake Johnson gave updates on public works projects, including:

- Water samples were delayed for the month, still waiting for results but he does not anticipate any issues;
- A drainage issue caused a sinkhole on S. Indiana St., and it is partially repaired;
- A new sign is being installed at the Maintenance Building; and
- Public Works are tying up loose ends around town and will be focusing on the park over the next two weeks to prepare for the festival.

Johnson entertained questions and then exited the meeting at 6:29 p.m.

Closed Session

The Board entered into closed session at 6:29 p.m. to discuss pending, probable, and imminent legal matters in accordance with 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) on a motion from Edwards, seconded by Welborn. All trustees present voted aye in a roll call vote.

The Board resumed open session at 6:45 p.m. on a motion from Watson, seconded by Welborn. All trustees present voted aye in a roll call vote.

Unfinished Business

There was no other unfinished business.

New Business

Resolution #24-0924A, A Resolution Establishing the Trick or Treat Hours for Halloween 2024, was passed on a motion from Welborn, seconded by Price. In a roll call vote, all trustees present voted aye.

No motion was made regarding Resolution #24-0924B, A Resolution to Purchase a Radar Speed Sign for Oakland Rd. Two trustees visited the edge of town where the sign would be installed and determined that the traffic was not particularly troublesome along that route given that all traffic must come to a stop at the Oakland/Ashmore intersection. Trustees intend to revisit the matter after applying for another Safe Route to School Grant, which might include a radar speed sign in its scope, and when the matter is revisited, it will be for a different location.

Ordinance #24-0924, An Ordinance Levying Taxes for the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (“FY2025”) for the Village of Ashmore, Coles County, Illinois, was placed on file for public inspection on a motion from Watson, seconded by Welborn. In a roll call vote, all trustees present voted aye.

There was no other new business.

The meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m. on a motion by Edwards, seconded by Price. All trustees present voted in favor. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 24, 2024.

Jackie Freezeland
Ashmore Village Clerk

Addendum A: Lee Beckman Notes

**VILLAGE OF ASHMORE
September 24, 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. The NOFO will for 2024 has not been posted yet.

The Village is eligible for 45% Principal Forgiveness. The IEPA responded requesting some additional information before issuing the PEID. We are working on this.

Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP)

IDOT has approved the PDR. The NOFO is out and applications are due September 30th, 2024. The application is in progress and will be submitted next Monday.

Safe Routes to School - SRTS

The 2023 Safe Routes to School application period was August 1, 2023, through October 2, 2023. The application was not funded. If the village would like to reapply, please reach out to M&G.

OSLAD

The application was submitted on September 13th.

Storm Disaster Grant

We will need to schedule a close out public hearing.

2025 DCEO Public Infrastructure Grant

The Village is applying for a DCEO CDBG PI Grant for Water Main Replacement. The village is above 51% LMI; therefore, no income surveys are required. Applications are due December 4th, 2024. See attached estimate and project map.