

**Thayer Village Board Meeting  
Village Hall  
October 10, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m.  
Approved Minutes**

The Thayer Village Board met in regular session, Monday, October 10, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall.

**Call to Order** – Rob McMahan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Board Members Present: Steve Crouch, Rob McMahan, Mac McGlothlin, Terry McGlothlin, Kera Pusch, Kelly Shores, Bobbie Trojack

Board Members Absent: Ron Smith

Staff Present: Kaitlin Sullivan, John Ulery

Guests: Bob Crouch, Joe Hogan-Otter Lake Water Commission, Jeff Millburg, Laura Sommerfeld-Otter Lake Water Commission

Otter Lake Water Commission – Joe Hogan, General Manager attended to speak about having Otter Lake handle the water billing process. They do some contract billing for some of the smaller communities. They would handle the billing, give an online option for pay, option for auto pay and break down the fee accordingly. The city worker would still do the meter reads and send to them. They would convert to their software, print, and mail bills. They give three notices before cutting off water - first would be the billing card, then overdue notice, then phone call. Customers can come to the office or call with questions or issues. They would send work orders to John. They charge \$1.45 per bill, postage at current rate, .15 per phone call – depending on how many late calls are made. Per customer for late notices, and per customer per phone call. They would initially send out a letter giving them their options. It would give their phone number also. There is a 24-hour box, and they are open 8-4:30. They are located on county line road where the big water tank is. Kaitlin asked if they provide a report for audits. Laura Sommerfeld said they provide print outs and work with the auditors to provide what they need. Kera asked if there is an escalation how would that work. If the Village would agree to an arrangement or if there were a dispute, we would have a contact person. They would work with them and put a note in their profile. They do not provide service such as disconnecting a meter, turning off the water. Contracts are one-year term and will be ongoing unless the Village or Otter Lake provides a two-week notice to terminate the contract. Those that do auto payments there is no processing fee, but if they call and pay over the phone with a debit or credit card there is a 2.50 minimum plus percentage, and if by check it would be \$1.95. They do not use Utility Pay. They use Invoice Cloud, and it is a flat processing fee that they don't even see. They would like a couple months of a mock trial. Rob said it would be after the first of the year. If we decide to move forward, they will come back with a draft contract.

**MINUTES**

The draft written minutes from the September 11, 2023, meeting were distributed. *Mac made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Kera seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

**EXPENSE PAYABLES**

A written report was distributed. *Bobbie made a motion to accept the expense payables as submitted. Steve seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### Building & Grounds – Mac McGlothlin

Building has been rented. The mower is broken down again. Rob said he spoke to the dealer, and he suggested he go speak to the service department. He hasn't done that yet but will.

### Building & Zoning – Steve Crouch

No report.

### Finance – Kera Pusch

She reviewed the August reconciliations with nothing noted and has received the September reports.

A grant meeting was held Wednesday. The process is moving along for the water lines. There are flags in people's yards that need to stay in place for the next couple weeks. We need to discuss other grant ideas. Some suggestions were repaving the roads, redoing the park. If we are project ready it will be quicker if we are prepared.

We are getting a plan for the Motor Fuel Tax so that we can use those funds for next year. Kaitlin said a plan must be developed by July 2025 for Build Illinois. They said we should have a plan in place by the first quarter of next year. Kelly said they also discussed where the storm sewers are located and discussed possibly moving them.

### Police & Personnel – Mac McGlothlin

Mac has met with all personnel. Everything seems to be going ok.

### Health & Welfare – Bobbie Trojack

She spoke to Chief Cronister, and he is working on the list of 29. He had hoped to have all citations written by tonight.

### Streets & Alleys – Kelly Shores

No report.

### Utilities – Ron Smith

No report.

Water Report – John read and submitted a written report.

Police Report - Chief Cronister was not in attendance.

*Kelly made a motion to approve the committee reports. Kera seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

## **Requests to Address the Board**

Hal Pitchford received a warning for garbage and trash. The police officer told him to come to the village hall. Mac confirmed with Chief Cronister that it was written at the bottom of each notice to come to the meeting if they want to contest. He said it was cleaned up so the citation should be void.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Tree that Tami Brumfield reported at last meeting – John has requested bids to have it taken down.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Trunk or Treat – Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup> from 5-7 on Main Street. Rob will pick up hot dogs and cook them before the event. We also need candy for the police officer. ***Mac made a motion that we give \$150 to the police officer for candy. Kera seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*** Rob said he would pick it up.

Haunted House at the Community Building – Kera said the Bearups are doing a haunted house at the community center. It will be October 29<sup>th</sup> from 6-10pm and the 30<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> from 6-9pm. It is free but they do accept donations at the door. ***Steve made a motion that we donate \$100. Kelly seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

Kelly said we have more storage containers/pods coming into town. We need to develop an ordinance on this that puts a time frame on it. Rob will talk to Roger about getting that for the next meeting.

Soup and Chili Dinner will be November 4<sup>th</sup> from 3-6pm.

Viriden Christmas Parade is December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Santa will come to town on December 15<sup>th</sup>.

Route 66 – 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2026. Kera is working on getting help in getting the road repaved.

Kera suggested doing a Citizen of the Year award when Santa comes to town. After discussion, it was decided that would be better at a community event.

Community Clean up – Kera thanked everyone for their help. The event went well. She said Auburn Township wants to work with us on this.

Water – There was much discussion regarding going with a new software or working with Otter Lake. ***Kelly made a motion to go forward with Otter Lake.*** Subject was tabled.

***Steve made a motion to adjourn. Kera seconded. Motion carried unanimously.***

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 12, 2023 @ 7pm.