

REGULAR MEETING

August 27, 2024

The Village of Ashmore Board of Trustees met in regular session on August 27, 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 noted that Cathy Welborn requested to attend the meeting electronically while she is home recovering from a medical procedure, which is in accordance with the Ashmore Rules of Remote Attendance. None of the Trustees motioned to oppose. Freezeland took roll call attendance:

Trustees Present:

- Bill Edwards
- Thomas Grissom
- Dane Perdieu
- Terry Price
- Bryan Watson
- Cathy Welborn
(Electronic attendance by phone)

Also Present:

- President Kurt Crail
- Clerk Jackie Freezeland
- Treasurer Kathy Childress
- Superintendent Jake Johnson (entered 6:18 p.m.)
- Lee Beckman of Milano & Grunloh Engineers, LLC (exited 6:14 p.m.)

Trustees Absent: None

Guests

Lee Beckman of Milano & Grunloh Engineers (MGE) gave updates on the Village's ongoing grant projects. His summary notes are attached (Addendum A). Beckman answered questions and then exited at 6:14 p.m.

Reports, Approvals, and Claims

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

- Several ordinance violation citations will be heard on September 11 along with a follow-up hearing for a property cleanup completed in February;
- Nine water customers continued to use the old online payment portal for their water payments, and letters were mailed to them to redirect them to the new portal;
- Seven water customers received water leak adjustments this month;
- The new water billing deadlines will take effect with the billing cycle due in October, and notification is being printed on all bills and late notices as well as being posted online;
- Ashmore's Trap-Neuter-Release program is in progress; ten cats were caught last Friday and another round of cats will be trapped and fixed this coming Friday;
- 2024's second mosquito abatement is scheduled for tomorrow, August 28; and
- Election packets are now available for anyone interested in running for Trustee.

Jake Johnson entered the meeting at 6:18 p.m. and gave updates on Village utility, park, street/bridge, and public works projects, including:

- Water samples continue to test clean;

- Volunteers from EIU visited Ashmore on August 17 for a very successful Jump Start event;
- MFT funded oil and chipping was completed on S. Indiana St.;
- An emergent event at the water plant resulted in a new high-service pump being installed with urgent recommendations to replace the second one very soon; a grant from Ameren will help to cover the replacement costs and the Village might consider using ARPA funds for any remaining out-of-pocket costs; and
- Cybersecurity policies have been discussed again for the water plant as domestic and foreign terrorists continue to create new ways to wreak havoc on small communities.

Board Minutes dated July 23, 2024 were approved on a motion from Watson, seconded by Grissom. In a roll call vote, all trustees voted aye.

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

One of the Village CD's is maturing on September 14. Upon recommendation from Treasurer Childress, Edwards motioned to roll the balance into a 12-month CD with an annual percentage yield of 4.37% with signers to remain the same as they are on the current CD. Price seconded the motion. In a roll call vote, all trustees voted aye; motion carried.

The Treasurer's Report for July 2024 was placed on file with the Clerk on a motion from Price, seconded by Perdieu. In a roll call vote, all trustees voted aye, except Welborn who abstained because she did not have access to the report.

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, which was placed on file at the July 23 meeting was passed on a recommendation of the Water Committee, and no second is required. In a roll call vote, all trustees voted aye.

There was no other unfinished business.

New Business

Mayor Crail read and signed a proclamation recognizing September 2024 as National Recovery Month in Ashmore, Illinois.

Resolution #24-0827A, A Resolution Supporting the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) Cycle 16-2024 Grant Application, was passed on a motion from Grissom, seconded by Edwards. In a roll call vote, all trustees voted aye.

Resolution #24-0723B, A Resolution Declaring Certain Real Property and Improvements Thereon as Being Dangerous and Unsafe (309 E Charleston Road, Ashmore, Illinois) was passed on a motion from Grissom, seconded by Price. 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 Welborn. All trustees voted in favor. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 24, 2024.

Jackie Freezeland
Ashmore Village Clerk

VILLAGE OF ASHMORE

August 27, 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 September 30th, 2024. The application is in progress.

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

A public meeting is being held tonight to discuss the FY 2025 OSLAD application. The Village of Ashmore was placed on the Distressed Communities list, allowing them to receive 100% grant funding for the project. Applications are due September 13th.

Storm Disaster Grant

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

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.