

VILLAGE OF LYNDONVILLE

TRUSTEES MINUTES

October 7, 2019

5:30 PM

Trustees

Chris Hunter

Sarah Whittemore

Doug Conly

Heather Bollman

Press

Todd Wellington

Public

Justin Smith

1. Chris Hunter called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.
2. Adjustments to the Agenda: None
3. Minutes: Chris Hunter made a motion to approve the minutes from September 23, 2019. Sarah Whittemore seconded, and the motion carried 4-0.
4. Sign the Orders: The Board signed the orders.
5. Utility Partners Contract Discussion: The Municipal Administrator, Justin Smith provided the Board with a copy of Utility Partners contract to review. Mr. Smith explained that he had requested the contract in advance so that the Board had time to consider the new figure for the 2020 budget. The current contract will expire on March 31, 2020. Mr. Smith provided the service contract along with the new proposed contract terms so that the Board could see in detail what is covered by the contract, as several members were not on the Board at the time of the previous contract. Mr. Smith also provided documentation of a second option for having Utility Partners take over as the Operator of the Village of Lyndonville water system. The Board will review the contract and provide Mr. Smith with any questions which they might have for Utility Partners. Doug Conly had expressed concerns regarding the inclusion of a minimum increase. He felt any living expenses or increases would be covered by the CPI, and any further additional salary increases should be found through efficiencies within the company not through a minimum contract increase. His belief was that using CPI was the fairest way for all sides, regardless of whether the increase was high or modest to low. Mr. Smith concluded by saying he would pass along any questions or concerns to Utility Partners as they come in from the Board.
6. Dog Bags: After receiving a couple of phone calls about the dog waste bag dispensers being empty in the park it prompted Chris Hunter to request an agenda item to discuss whether providing dog waste bags still made sense for the Village. Mr. Hunter said he had heard from at least 3 individuals who had watched people go to the dispenser and reel out 10-20 bags to take with them instead of buying their own. Mr. Smith did say that he had witnessed a similar situation and provided some background information on the cost and last purchase of the dog waste bags. The Village spent \$237.00 on a case (30, 200 count rolls) of bags in May of 2017. In addition, the Public Works Supervisor informed Mr. Smith they still had ½ a case left. Mr. Smith stated that for plastic bags, it does seem like quite an expense, and there definitely are some individuals that take advantage of the situation, but the bags also provide a service that helps keep our public areas clean. Mr. Smith said the fact that we have not had to order bags for two years tells us one of two things; either it is not a large cost to provide the bags on a per year basis, or we are not doing a good job of keeping the dispensers full. When the office receives word that a dispenser is empty, we pass it along to the Village crew. The length of time that a dispenser sits empty before some calls is anyone's guess. Mr. Smith stated that he planned to ask that the summer mower keep 2-3 rolls in the truck and that they be checked each week while mowing, he felt this was a simple solution to that issue. Chris Hunter felt the other concern was that there were no disposal units with the dispensers. Mr. Smith said he would ask Susan Russell and Wendy Beattie if the disposal unit

was being abused at Shonyo Park with people stuffing trash into the unit. If they provided positive feedback than perhaps it would be smart to investigate installing dispensers.

7. Class Action Notice Opiate Litigation: The District Court of the Northern District of Ohio has certified a voluntary negotiation class for all U.S. Counties, Cities, and local Governments. This results from many counties and cities across the U.S. suing manufacturers, distributors, and retailers seeking reimbursement for monies spent dealing with the opioid crisis. The Class includes all U.S. Counties, Cities, and local Governments regardless of whether they have filed a lawsuit or not. If a settlement is reached the Village would be bound to the settlement if one is reached in the future. The paperwork is likely the only opportunity to remove the Village from the Class Action. The purpose of the Negotiating class is to provide the group with maximum negotiating power. Mr. Smith requested an opinion from Hanne Trudeau the Town and Villages' Municipal Attorney, and she recommended staying the class action as we were unlikely to file our own lawsuit. Chris Hunter made a motion for the Village to remain in the class action and not opt out. Doug Conly seconded and the motion to remain in the class action carried 4-0.
8. Other:
 - A. Justin Smith handed out some potential new forms to consider using for access, underground utility, stormwater, overhead utility projects within the road right of way. Mr. Smith will wait for any comments or suggestions from the board.
 - B. Justin Smith provided the Board with copies of the written VIN Identification process. Chief Harris put the document together to formalize the procedure.
 - C. Justin Smith provided Chris Hunter with a piece of mail which was addressed to Mr. Hunter from FEMA.
 - D. Justin Smith provided a few answers to questions from Sarah Whittemore about Board procedure.

Having no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:27 PM.