

Village of Creston Minutes Tuesday, August 2, 2022

President Byro called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Trustees Kerns, Hopkins, Katzman, Ward, and Williams were present. Trustee Hibshman was not present. Attorney Crull was present.

President Byro introduced the minutes and asked for additions or corrections. Trustee Kerns made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Trustee Katzman seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Minutes were approved.

Visitors & Communication – President Byro called for Visitors and Communications. There were none.

Attorney Crull stated that he did not have much to report. He stated that was working on a couple of house issues with Casper as well as a response to a subpoena. Regarding the landfill, a permit was filed with the EPA since the last meeting. He said he would keep track of when it is open for public comment and let the Village know.

Casper Manheim stated he had 2 things: one was dealing with inoperable vehicles at 509 W Cederholm St. The day of the meeting was the 10th day and he had not gotten a response. Casper was going to give a copy of the letter to Atty. Crull. When Casper drove by, there were 6 cars parked there, and one car in the ditch. Casper also went to the property on 303 E Depot St. He opened the door to the trailer and 2 turkeys ran out. The owners were home and Casper spoke with them and they were working on getting rid of the birds. He also found a pile of dirt and it turns out they had dug out the foundation. They need a permit to put in a new foundation, so they were planning to apply for one. There were some safety issues and Casper had them mark the area. Casper said he would keep checking in with them and make sure everything is being taken care of.

Kevin Bunge had back surgery and was not in attendance. He sent an email stating he was continuing work on the quiet zone project. He also stated that the water main extensions were done, and he was working on Well 3 rehab. There was no news on the downtown grant. Curt Ward spoke on the water line on S Transit St. Regarding the first house south of the tracks on the west side, there was a right of way along the tracks. Ogle County GIS shows that that right of way has been vacated. Kevin had been working on getting an easement. When the surveyor went to do the easement, he pulled the deed and nothing in the property owner's deed showed that she owned the right of way. They have gone back 3 deeds and they all said lot one and lot two, and nothing about the adjacent vacant right of way. Right now it is in limbo because we need to figure out whether or not she owns it, and whether or not it was ever vacated. Trustee Ward said the easiest way to figure it out is to pay a title company to do a title search. The right of way went all the way along the tracks, and it shows as vacated on Wing's property and Larry's garage is where the right of way used to be, but it doesn't show it vacated across Curtis Loyd's property. The IEPA permit can still be submitted, and it will take about 6 months to approve that.

Committee Reports

Finance - Trustee Hopkins had nothing.

Streets & Alleys – President Byro stated that the markings were in place at the corner of Cederholm and Main Streets to get the water line taken care of. Curtis Loyd said that they think that a tree root may have grown into the main and plugged it up. It drains, but it is slow. Queens was going to come and dig it up and Mr. Loyd was going to talk to Jay at RMU and see if they bring their truck so they could jet it once they determine what the problem is. They are going to break into the T to see what is going on and then have them jet it clean it out. If it is tree roots, then RMU won't auger it as the auger gets stuck in the tile. There is black galvanized, plastic corrugated pipe under the east side of Main St. He isn't sure what is on the west side. He said they wouldn't know until they dug it up. Mr. Loyd notified Mr. Allen, who lives on the corner, because they will need to remove a pine tree. Mr. Allen isn't concerned with the tree. He only cares about the bushes around his home. Mr. Loyd also let Mr. Elshoff know what they would be doing. Trustee Ward asked if pipe T's into pipe, and Mr. Loyd stated that was what it looked like when they looked at it previously. Trustee Ward suggested dropping a 2' diameter structure in there to combat the problem with the T. President Byro also talked about the bid from Queens for the repair on Main St. It increased another \$1000 by increasing from 4" to 6" lifts. Mr. Loyd said they were scheduled to come on 8/8/22 to do the repair. Mr. Loyd asked about disposing of what they dug up, and President Byro confirmed it should be taken to the landfill. Mr. Loyd also said he was planning to flush fire hydrants the following week. He stated it would take the whole week, an hour or so each day, to get them done. President Byro asked if Scott would help, and Mr. Loyd said he would talk to him about it. President Byro let Mr. Loyd know that there were new shirts and vests for the water department to wear and he would give them to Mr. Loyd after the meeting.

Water & Sewer – Trustee Kerns had nothing.

Health & Safety - Trustee Hibshman was not present.

Zoning & Planning – Trustee Katzman said he had nothing other than the library, and that information had been in the paper. President Byro stated that the Planning Commission needed to meet. There is a building being considered and the Planning Commission needs to meet regarding that building.

Subdivision - Trustee Williams said that the only thing he had was in relation to mowing. He stated that it was mowed in the front. Trustee Kerns stated that a couple of lots have gone up for sale. Trustee Ward stated that he noticed the Expedition was gone.

Old Business There was no Old Business.

New Business – President Byro asked Trustee Katzman to speak about the Booster Days fireworks. Trustee Katzman stated that since the previous meeting, he was told that the fireworks would cost about \$5000. President Byro asked how much the Board gave last year, and it was agreed that they gave \$2500 last year. President Byro asked if the Board wanted to give money for the fireworks this year. Trustee Kerns made a motion to give the Booster Club \$2700 for fireworks. Trustee Hopkins seconded the motion. President Byro asked for discussion. A roll call vote was taken. Katzman, Kerns, Hopkins, Ward, and Williams all voted yea. Trustee Hibshman was not present. President Byro stated that the liquor license was being taken care of, and Clerk Payton affirmed that based on how the liquor ordinance is written, a license has to be issued for each day because it isn't a Class A or Class B license.

Mark Hill has some concerns about drainage across the highway. He wants to sit down and talk with the Board and let everyone know what the issues are. Trustee Ward asked if it was on the north side of route 38. Trustee Kerns asked what they did last time, and President Byro stated that they didn't do much other than putting bigger tile in there. Trustee Williams stated that area is where the Village pumps their ground water. President Byro expressed concerns about what will happen with the library, and their retention pond. President Byro stated that Mr. Hill had drawings regarding the issue. Trustee Hopkins asked if Mr. Hill has a good idea what exists up there and if they plan to upgrade, is he trying to get the Village on board. President Byro stated that he thought so. There have always been issues with the water in that area, so we will have to talk to Mr. Hill and see how best to proceed.

President Byro spoke about the William Heal Memorial. It was going to be a 15-minute program held on August 20 during the Outdoor Market. President Byro asked anyone who could be there to be there, and he also suggested inviting people to attend.

Abandoned vehicles were discussed earlier in the meetings. Casper is working on that issue, and President Byro asked if there were any more. Trustees Ward, Kerns and Katzman all said there are a lot of abandoned vehicles around town. Trustee Kerns felt that if we are giving one resident letters, we should give everyone letters. Casper asked him to get addresses of any properties that have abandoned vehicles on them and he will look into them. Trustee Ward asked about where we were with problem properties. Atty Crull stated he was going to touch base with Casper on that after the meeting. Trustee Kerns stated that the back of Maxwell Lawrence's old house is bad. He stated that you don't want to walk back there. Someone else said it was Tommy Pillion's old house, and Mr. Loyd said he thought Tommy Pillion still owned it. President Byro said to get Casper addresses and Atty Crull said he would work with Casper on those.

President Byro brought up the IML Conference. President Byro stated that if anyone wants to go, they need to get signed up, and the Village will pay for it if someone wants to go. President Byro said he went last year but is not going this year. Atty Crull said that they deal with a lot of current issues that the Board deals with, so it is worth it to go.

Treasurer's Report – Trustee Katzman asked if the contractor who dealt with the trees in his alley billed for the service, as he did not finish. Jack Kerns ended up finishing the job. Mr. Loyd stated that he also did not finish with the trees at Woodlawn and Depot. Trustee Ward stated that we need to remind Northern Illinois Disposal that they must pick up loose items. In Rochelle, everything must be in the can. Here everything must be in the can if possible. NI Disposal only wanted to take 1 big item per week, but the Village said no. Trustee Ward felt that we needed to remind them that they need to pick up everything that is left that they can legally take. Trustee Williams made a motion to pay the bills. Trustee Ward seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken. Trustees Kerns, Katzman, Williams, Ward, and Hopkins all voted yes. Trustee Hibshman was not present.

President Byro said he had nothing else. Trustee Hopkins made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Ward seconded the motion. All voted in favor. President Byro adjourned the meeting at 7:29:49 pm.