

March 21, 2011

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Arthur, IL was held on Monday, March 21, 2011. President Matt Bernius called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call was answered by Trustees, Terry Clark, Karen Good, Larry Miller, Mike McWilliams, and Iris Dicks. Trustee J. D. Kuhns arrived during the meeting. Village Clerk Jennifer Perrine was absent.

Approval of Previous meeting minutes

The regular meeting minutes of March 7, 2011, the Work Session meeting minutes of March 14, 2011, and the Street & Alley Committee meeting minutes of March 16, 2011 were all approved as presented.

President Comments and Announcements

President Bernius commented that the Palmer Street Bridge project is progressing and will begin the first part of April. He has also been fielding some telephone calls regarding leaf burning. He encouraged the board members to take a hard look at this issue. He expressed his thanks to all the committees for their hard work and working together in the past few weeks meeting with their perspective committees and employees regarding the upcoming budget. He also spoke to Representative Chapin Rose regarding the railroad property. This matter will not be resolved anytime soon. It is tied up in litigation. Representative Rose also expressed to President Bernius that he would like to bring some constituents to Arthur to look at the Palmer Street Bridge project.

Treasurer's Report

Village Comptroller Sue Perrine reviewed the financial documents for the month ending February 2011. Telecommunications Tax received in March is once again less than anticipated. Sales Tax money received in March was approximately \$2,000 less than last year at this time (for the liability month of December). She also informed the Board that she had spoken with Consolidated Communications. The Village should have been exempt from Federal Excise Taxes as well as IL Sales Tax. In the past the Village had been paying the Federal Taxes. This matter has now been resolved. S. Perrine also informed the Board that she had received notification from the USDA office regarding financial reports will be due soon. They hold our Sewer Bond. S. Perrine, J. Watkins, J. Mercer, and B. Potthast met with Tick-Tock Energy personnel on March 15 to go over some of the Village lighting and electric needs. Tick-Tock Energy will put together a report and will present to the Board at a future meeting.

Trustees Report

- I. Dicks stated she had attended some of the other committee meetings and that they were very beneficial to her. She appreciated having employees pick up sticks and limbs twice a month and also the availability of the landscape dump site.
- K. Good passed out a report showing expenses pertaining to watering the flowers downtown.
- T. Clark said there would be a Finance Committee meeting next Monday on March 28 at 7 p.m. to go over the upcoming fiscal year budget

Police Chief's Report – None

Village Attorney's Report

Robert Crossman said the FEMA floodplain ordinance would be ready by the next board meeting. The closing for Lot 6 in Meadowview Subdivision should also be complete by then.

Visitor's Comments – None

Old Business – None

New Business

- Jim Fleming and Bob Doan were in attendance representing the Arthur Area Economic Development Corporation. J. Fleming passed out a brochure and a copy of their budget. He stated the biggest goal of the AAEDC was to hire a community development coordinator. Bob Doan was hired as of June 1, 2010 and his office is located in the Village Welcome Center. J. Fleming went over their income and expense items. He hopes that the Village will continue with their support. B. Doan spoke about his new position. M. McWilliams asked B. Doan what his goals were for the upcoming year. B. Doan stated his top three goals were: 1) Revolving loan fund for low interest loans, 2) Progress

Tank and Gasland – to get one or both businesses up and going, and 3) Getting our name – Arthur and the AAEDC – out there. T. Clark made the motion to support the AAEDC with \$15,000. I. Dicks seconded. All Trustees voted YEA.

- Tim Singer and Dave Conlin, representatives from the Arthur Rotary Club, were present. T. Singer passed out programs from last year's fireworks display. A letter from the Rotary Club had been included with the Board's agenda packets. He spoke of the impact this one day event has on our town. T. Singer stated the Rotary Club is requesting a monetary donation of \$5,000 from the Village this year. He also expressed his thanks to our police department and other law enforcement agencies for help with traffic control and the village employees for use of their barricades.

President Bernius commented on the Village's financial situation. He said it may appear the Village has extra funding this year, but in reality we do not. Several projects had to be put on hold because of lack of funding. He reminded those present that all departments have made cuts, especially in the number of jobs retained, salaries, and benefits. We need to do some major infrastructure projects in the upcoming years. We also run the risk of losing funding from the State. Tough decisions had to be made last year and reminded the Board that we still have outstanding debt to be paid off. T. Clark felt the fireworks were one of the most prominent and positive events held in town and expressed support should be shown. L. Miller questioned how money can be spent on a special event when we are hard pressed to find money to pay our other bills. We need to climb out of the hole first before considering donations. M. McWilliams stated we faced tough decisions last year. He felt we need to be more sensible and support the needs and services of the community and taxpayers first. We still have projects of our own to do, and we are not putting any money in the bank. I. Dicks supported the fireworks but thinks we have infrastructure needs. Letting people go was hard last year. We need to be cautious. K. Good agreed with all and mentioned the \$5,000 could go against our loan to the Water & Sewer Fund. J.D. Kuhns agreed. He felt the needs of our infrastructure should come first. He thought the board should stay the course. T. Clark recommended tabling this donation request until after the finance meeting in order to review the budget before making a decision.

- The Post Prom Committee from Arthur High School sent a letter requesting a donation. Discussion followed regarding our budget and how this event is not held in Arthur and that the funds would not be spent in our community. K. Good made the motion to deny the donation request from the Post Prom Committee. Seconded by I. Dicks. All Trustees voted YEA.

Approve Expenditures

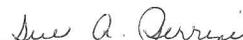
T. Clark made the motion to approve expenditures in the amount of \$26,816.97. K. Good seconded. All Trustees voted YEA.

T. Clark made the motion to approve February expenditures not yet approved in the amount of \$13,984.38. K. Good seconded. All Trustees voted YEA.

Adjourn

President Bernius adjourned the meeting at 7:59 p.m.

APPROVED 
Village President

ATTEST 
Village Deputy Clerk

DATE April 4, 2011