

November 14, 2011

A Work Session meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Arthur, IL, was held on Monday, November 14, 2011, in the Village Board Room. Village President Matt Bernius called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Roll call was answered by Trustees Terry Clark, Larry Miller, JD Kuhns, and Iris Dicks. Trustees Karen Good and Dave Tiffan were absent.

Visitors' Comments

Visitors present were James Aikman, Dave Conlin, Sharon Daily, Jim Fleming, Linda Ingles, Jim and Patty Jurgens, Ron Kingery, Stephanie Wierman, and Bruce Wood. *JP and Sue Perrine*

Discussion items

- James Aikman presented information on the work being done to establish an Arthur Foundation. The Articles of Incorporation are almost finished, and the tax-exempt status is being completed. There was discussion regarding who should be on the Board of Directors. There were several comments about having seven Board members and a Village Trustee being one of them.
- President Bernius stated this past summer the Village spent over \$3,000 in overtime wages to water the flowers in the hanging baskets downtown. He would like to see a Beautification Committee developed to take care of these types of things, and the Village could subsidize it for a couple of years. The volunteers would be covered under the Village's liability insurance. There was an idea about finding a way to lower the baskets to water the flowers. There are other flower beds that need care, and the property where the railroad used to be on the Moultrie County side is now Village property and needs care. The possibility of an individual business sponsoring / caring for a bed / flower pot was discussed. A couple of Trustees will work on an idea of attaching a pipe to the poles with a soaker head at the top to water the baskets was discussed, and the Board will make a decision regarding the flowers at the first meeting in December.
- J. Aikman briefly reviewed a proposal regarding an employee at the Welcome Center. There was much discussion about the state of the Village's infrastructure and finances, how the state may take away some funding, and the Village's priorities. Some of the duties that were discussed are part of the job description of the Community Development Coordinator, and that position has taken more time than what was originally thought. The role of the Welcome Center volunteers and their training was discussed.

All items will continue to be discussed between the Village Board, the Arthur Area Association of Commerce, and the Arthur Area Economic Development Corporation.

Adjourn

President Bernius adjourned the meeting at 7:45pm.

APPROVED *R. Matt Bernius*
Village President

ATTEST *Jennifer M. Perrine*
Village Clerk

DATE *November 21, 2011*