

**Village of Flanagan
January 21, 2025
Meeting Minutes**

Called to Order by Dave Iverson
Pledge of Allegiance
Absent – All Village Trustees Present

Approval of December 17, 2024, Meeting Minutes

Motion to Approve Minutes by Terry Sullivan, 2nd by Reid Bressner

Treasurer's Report and Approval of Bills

November 2024 Sales Tax \$6,892.06

December 2024 Motor Fuel Tax \$3,792.65

Question was raised wanting to know who Epic Insurance was. They are the new insurance company providing coverage during events.

Motion to Approve – Kristy Dodge, 2nd by Kim Wargo – Roll Call – Yes.

Comments from Persons Present

Boys and Girls Club - Jessica Howard, Chief Operation Officer of Boys and Girls Club, Livingston County, was present. Ms. Howard advised they have 9 clubs in Livingston County and in Ford County. This spring they will be opening a new intergenerational center in Fairbury. They are no longer in Flanagan and wanted to share with VOF they are in the process of looking for a location. The Boys and Girls Club was previously at the high school, but the school could not provide a room for them this year. As soon as they find a location in Flanagan, the staff is ready and trained and allocated to be in Flanagan. The grant they were under was a 21st Century Learning Grant, which was a multi-year grant, which helped them get established in Flanagan. This grant was originally for grades 9-12, however, there was not much interest due to sports and other activities. Ms. Howard stated they went back and asked for the remaining monies of the grant to be used for K-12 students, which was approved for the remainder of the school year. It costs \$4000 per year for each student. At this time, it is free for students in Flanagan, normally they charge a \$30 application fee. The club cannot afford a building, but they bring the staff, the safety, the insurance and all what the boys and girls club brings. The 3 pillars they use Academic Excellence, Character and Leadership and Healthy Lifestyles. All youth are provided snacks and at one location provide dinner, through a program provided by the State of Illinois. There are 9 weeks of summer camp this year and if possible, they would have one in Flanagan. The youth can participate for up to 15 hours of after-school programming every week and are open until 6PM. They do provide some transportation to other locations as well. Ms. Howard stated the club provides a robotics program where they compete in a national competition. They are currently underway to compete again this year. They can help individuals map out programs for their future in college. She would like to build a community advisory committee for Flanagan, to help keep it sustainable in Flanagan. Ms. Howard stated they do not need much space, need only 4 walls, reliable heat, bathrooms. They bring their own snacks, their own equipment,

programming, some room to get up and move around, nothing big just needs to get started. Ratio is 1-20, if going on field trips it its 1-9, really space just the size of a classroom.

Police Report

No officer present – activity log was reviewed.

Employees Report

Marc stated several days of snow removal, in process red dump truck broke down, as well as tractor for sidewalks, they have since been fixed. Removed Santa house and decorations and once we get better weather, tree and remaining decorations will be taken down. City employees were complimented on snow removal.

Motion to Move to item #4 (Noon Whistle) under New Business

Motion by Jason Montello, 2nd by Terry Sullivan

Noon Whistle - Mrs. Kim Cox stated she had 129 written signatures on petitions, there were currently 550 online signatures. Dave asked to look at the signatures. He advised Mrs. Cox that the petitions could not be accepted because they do not meet the Statutes for Petitions in the State of Illinois and provided guidelines. Dave advised the attorney just advised him today and sent the Statutes to him. It was recommended to redo petitions and get it on a ballot, which was met with resistance. Mrs. Cox stated the people want it answered today. Mrs. Cox stated she could not find the October Agenda, the only one that could be found was December. Dave advised he would look into why the October agenda could not be found. Kristy Dodge made a motion to reinstate the whistle, with a 2nd by Terry Sullivan. Dave asked if we were reinstating all or just one. Dave proposed we just do the downtown whistle and not use the one on Lincoln Street and at the school. There were other comments asking why no one appeared not wanting the whistle, that the only people coming to the meeting are the residents that want to keep it. Was asked why we wanted just one instead of all 3. It was advised that one whistle would cause less disruption to residents. Various comments were received in favor of keeping the noon whistle. It was determined to keep all 3 whistles.

Kristy Dodge made a motion to reinstation all three with 2nd by Terry Sullivan. All board members voted Yay to reinstate the noon whistle with no Nays.

President's Comments

Sheriff Roundtable – No meeting

Community Building – no closing date, Nebraska attorney and VOF attorney working out minor details on the sales contract, hopefully next couple days will be done. Doug Erickson, Nebraska Supervisor, noted that their attorney provided wrong information to our attorney, which has since been corrected.

Streets and Alley's – Nothing

Personnel Committee – Nothing

Zoning Board – Nothing

Flanagan Fest

Mrs. Kori Folkerts spoke. She stated there will be minor adjustments made on Saturday, during the day of the festival. Everything will be at the park during daytime hours. The vendor shows and possibly a band will be at the park during the day. There will be three bands, one on Friday and two on Saturday. A new donation tier for individuals who donate over \$1000. Sending out donation letters, between 200-230 letters going out to various surrounding businesses. Mrs. Folkerts stated Flanagan Fest has never had to ask the VOF for funds and has not had to cut anything back, has always received enough donations. Flanagan Fest is looking for volunteers to help again this year.

FIT Team

No meeting. Kim did thank Frank for taking down Christmas tree ornaments and lights.

Open Business

Court Street Easement – The owner, has opted out of the sale of the property, however we do have a signed contract, therefore, VOF attorney looking into our options.

Park Equipment – No updates

New Business

HVAC Replacement – table it at this time, as it is working fine.

Yard of the Month – Nothing to update, need to test voting on SMS.

Developmental Property – Mr. Adam Dontz, GLCEDC, was present and talked about property connected to VOF Flanagan. There are currently 8 parcels that connect to VOF. Mr. Dontz stated that TIF could be a great tool. What it takes to put in streets, sewer, and water, is very costly. The new community center will help promote the VOF. He suggests setting up a workshop on the project stating the VOF is willing to look at TIF dollars to reduce the costs of street/sewer/water, to help make development more attractive. Get a package together and contact developers and present to them to make it worth their investment. Mr. Dontz recommended having a TIF consultant come in and explain the process.

Liquor License Renewal – American Legion Post #456

Motion to Approve Class D liquor license by Jason Montello, 2nd by Kristy Dodge

Credit Card – Kristy stated there was an issue with the debit card and the new core processor that bank is using with the insurance being on autopay and the debit card. The card was cancelled and there was an issue with making a new debit card with no name, Kristy stated to just use a credit card. With a debit card the money is being taken directly from the bank funds where VOF would be paying a bill to the credit card company. This would help by seeing how much is spent on this card and would provide greater

accountability since we are using public funds. Kristy is to check out different credit cards. This credit card will not affect other accounts that have a debit card.

Ordinance 25-01 – Amending Chapter 73: parking schedule – the changes were made because of all the cars that were parked on the street and VOF had to plow around them. This amendment also includes specific areas, which were never included before. Snow fall amount was changed from 2 inches to 1 inch. The parking restrictions in the subdivisions will be for all times. There is also parking information for Jensen Estates for snow removal as well. The violations are enforceable by the Sheriff's Department. The Sheriff's Department will be called, and the vehicle will be towed. This will not go in effect until the signs go up.

Motion to Approve Ordinance 25-01, Amending Chapter 73, parking schedule by Terry Sullivan, 2nd by Reid Bressner, Roll Call – Yes

Establishment of New Committee – the current FIT team will now be known as Santa's Social Crew. VOF will still have a FIT team, however, will be under new leadership. Dave would like to recommend Roseanna to chair the FIT team. It was determined to table how much money to give the new committee (Santa's Social Crew), to wait for new ideas and people can prepare.

Board Salary – attorney has not worked on this. The last time there was an increase in pay was 2009.

Seal Coating - Marc submitted a proposal to get a layer of seal coat on certain streets in town. Edwards Street has an area and the east block of South Street and the west side of South Street and center of Washington Street. Marc asked if he could get some bids for 2100 feet long by 20 feet wide and 930 feet long by 17 feet wide of seal coat. Marc provided a map of the areas that he feels needs a layer of seal coat. MFT money and general fund money can be used, however with MFT money, an engineer would have to be used.

Motion to Go into Close Session by Jason Montello, 2nd by Kristy Dodge

Motion to Go back into Open Session by Terry Sullivan, 2nd by Reid Bressner

Motion to approve the hourly pay range of \$20-\$25 for new hire – Kim Wargo, 2nd by Steve Humke. Roll Call Yes.

Jason also wants to stipulate that the personal committee has the authority to hire the new individual.

The Board authorizes the Personnel Committee to use their discretion to flex the hiring pay between \$20-\$25 per hour based on their interview and qualification and give them authority to hire said individual.

Motion by Jason Montello, 2nd by Terry Sullivan

Motion to Adjourn – Kim Wargo, 2nd by Steve Humke