

The regular meeting of the Elberta Village Council was held on Thursday, August 16, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Building, 401 First Street, Elberta.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at the beginning of the meeting.

Present: R. Manville, Bower, Jenks, L. Manville, Thorsen, Soper and Stapleton.

Absent: Holmes

Guests: Laura Manville, Ken Bonney, Dave Bower, Joyce Gatrell, Emily Votruba, Carolee Ness, Lois Schram, James Baker, Charlie Hendershott, Christine Walkons, Art Melendez, Connie Manke, Jennifer Wilkens, Cheryl Gross, Jon Drury, Scott Gest, Loy Putney and 2 unidentified people.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by L. Manville supported by Jenks to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on July 19, 2012. Yeas – 6.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Soper proposed to add on two items to the agenda: Credit card and Village Taxes.

Motion by Jenks supported by L. Manville to approve the proposed agenda with the two add-ons. Yeas – 6.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Cheryl Gross discussed the cars on the beach. She suggested that a barrier be put up to keep the cars off the beach.

Votruba discussed a Pay Pal account be set up to accept donations for the Historical Committee, P&R, the Beach Issue, etc.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Bonney discussed a letter from MDOT approving of the jurisdictional transfer of .95 miles of M-168 from MDOT to the Village of Elberta. He said that a request to add portions of several streets into the Village's local street system was also approved.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS:

L. Manville said the receipt report showed a total of \$117,344.32. Motion by L. Manville supported by Stapleton to approve the accounting checks in the amount of \$96,314.98 (there were not any checks for P&R or Solstice) and payroll in the amount of \$9,466.58 for a total of \$105,781.56. Yeas – 6.

Department heads were heard from.

DPW: Bonney discussed DPW activities. He said that he has started the Reliability Study with Gordie Fraser.

Water/Sewer: Jenks discussed the audit at BLUA.

P&R: Jen Wilkens reported on P&R. She discussed the Solstice and some of the expenses incurred at the 2011 festival. The maintenance of the LSS and the park was discussed.. Laura Manville said that the repairs and maintenance for the LSS was way over budget. She said that this was due to work on the LSS over the winter that was badly needed. Laura Manville suggested that profits from the Solstice be used only for the park. Wilkens thought that would be a good idea. Manke said that it would be a good idea to know what is expected of P&R. It was expressed that P&R wants to be friends with the Village and move forward.

Beach: Thorsen said the last beach clean up day will be on September 5th. Bonney said that he had had a conversation with Sand Products concerning the beach road. They are going to send him the GPS readings for the road which he said would be a great help in lining up the road.

Budget: Laura Manville said that she had talked to the Auditor and he said that the audit is almost done. She said that as soon as she gets it she will make sure that everyone has a copy.

Municipal Buildings: Thorsen said that he has enough siding to do one more wall at the LSS. Thorsen said that Noffsinger said that it wasn't necessary to get additional bids for the Library Building roof. It was the consensus that more bids should be sought. Soper questioned the ownership of the library building..

Master Plan: L.Manville said that the Planning Committee will start meeting again in September.

AGENDA:

1.D/A New Appointments – P&R Liaison and Trail Management Council .
Motion by Jenks supported by L.Manville to appoint Soper as P&R Liaison. Yeas – 6.

Motion by Jenks supported by Soper to appoint R.Manville to the Trail Management Council. Yeas – 6.

2. Employee Health Insurance. The employee insurance policy was discussed at length. Bower said that she was willing to go on Priority Medicare as a supplement to her Medicare. She would like to add a better dental coverage than what is offered by Priority. Bower said the better dental coverage would be comparable to her present BC/BS coverage. She said that her new rate would be \$151 per month which would include the extended dental coverage. Bower said this would save the Village approximately \$6200 per year. She asked that the coverage be a reimbursement to her as the coverage wasn't under a group policy and it would have to be her personal check to the insurance company. It was felt that the reimbursement check could be issued under the Village's health care and would continue to keep the Village under the cap. L.Manville pointed out to Bower that Bonney and Laura Manville would be making more as their fringe benefits would cost more than hers. She asked if that was ok with Bower. Bower said that she was agreeable with that.

Jenks asked Laura Manville if she would consider going on her husband's health insurance. Laura Manville said that she had checked on it but she didn't have survivor benefits.

The Council further discussed the health insurance. Motion by Jenks supported by L.Manville to approve the health care package for three employees with the figures as provided and with reimbursement to the Clerk for her portion of the health care package. Yeas – 6.

3.D/A P&R Credit Card. Soper asked the Council about what had happened to credit card issued to P&R. R.Manville said that according to the Village's auditor, the card had to be canceled. He said that was also according to the resolution for the credit card policy. The Council discussed that the resolution could be changed.

4.D/A Village Taxes. Soper pointed out that 50% of the Village taxes were going to two people in the Village. He said that he thought the residents should be made aware of this. Soper said that he had researched other Villages and they were not working the same amount of time as our village. R.Manville pointed out that the work load was different, that there was a lot of extra work. He suggested that they sit down and discuss it.

Establishing a pay pal account was also discussed at length. Votruba will research this.

Bower discussed her job. She said that when she and Laura Manville were elected in 1996, that the Office hours were already established as well as the benefits. Bower said that the previous Councils had given her and Laura Manville their raises. Bower also said that their jobs consisted of more duties than some of the neighboring villages. She said that the Village Office dealt with utility billing, the rental of the LSS, the conservancy property, etc.

Stapleton inquired about the need for a credit card for P&R. It was explained that it was sometimes difficult to purchase items/supplies by check. This was discussed at length. The use of a credit card will make it easier to make purchases and allow for better transparency. Motion by Stapleton supported by L.Manville to issue two credit cards to P&R, one to P&R President, Manke and one to Secretary, Wilkens, in accordance with P&R By-laws and with the credit cards to be kept at the Village Office and checked out when needed. Yeas – 6.

Public comment was heard.
Motion accepted to adjourn.

Sharyn Bower, Clerk
Village of Elberta