

Village of Dakota Board Meeting

Date – Monday, February 20th, 2023, 6:30 PM

Dakota Village Hall – 112 Main St, Dakota, IL

Village Board Members Attending – Eric Lizer, Alisha Lizer, Jeremy Knox, Ken Vrazsity, Kaytlyn Vrazsity, Diane Clay, Jon Riley

Treasurer – Melody Sweet

Clerk – Jennifer Knox

Community Guests – Jeff Kinney, The Volunteer; Scott Helms, Steph. County Board Chairman

Approve Agenda

- **Motion made by Eric to approve agenda, seconded by Jeremy, motion carried.**

New Items

- State Bank of Davis CD Renewal
 - CD renewal due on 2/28
 - We can continue with State Bank of Davis or we can call around for best rates. Banks were closed so Alisha could not get rates.
 - Scott Helms was able to provide the following for approximate current rates: shorter term rates are higher than longer term rates. 12 months would be 4.5%, 18 months would be 4.35%, 24 months would be 4.05% and 36 months would be 3.85 to 9%
 - Currently the CD is \$64,000.
 - Jon is willing to call this week and get information to Melody.
 - **Motion by Eric to accept the best CD rates offered per 2 yr based on Jon's finding, seconded by Jeremy, motion carried.**
- Set Yearly Calendar
 - Calendar dates for village board meetings was not previously set for 2023.
 - Mar, April, May, Aug, Oct, Nov all normal with no interruptions due to holidays, events. Will be 1st Monday of the month. The following months have been moved to different day or week:
 - June 12th
 - July 10th
 - Sept 5th
 - Dec 6th

Old Items

- IML Accommodations

- No one provided amounts for hotel suggestions. Jeremy said he can provide a code for a discounted rate.
- **Motion made by Jon to approve mileage, expenses and hotel accommodations for two nights for up to \$160 for April 18th and 19th for IML meetings in Springfield, seconded by Ken, motion carried.**
- Easter Planning Date
 - Community planning meeting date moved to 3/2 at 5:30pm
 - Alisha will create a flyer.
 - Jeff Kinney will let Alisha know dates that will work for some of his softball girls to help.

Ordinance Items

- Discuss Possible Development for Urban Chicken Ordinance
 - Many places going to a yearly permit. Permits and renewals would need to follow guidelines and have inspections.
 - Initial application can be one amount and have the renewal rate be a lower amount
 - Initially have a certain number of chickens for the first year
 - Provide rules such as property lines, how and where chickens are kept.
 - Alisha read through several ordinances from cities, town around the country to provide ideas for board members to think about.
 - Could limit number of permits in the first few years.
 - Need to make sure ordinance is accessible for residents so they understand
 - Neighbor notification could be done before approving permit.
 - Nothing found for Illinois regarding filing for department of agricultural.
 - Public is invited to meetings and when we post agenda, we can add extra note stating chickens will be discussed to make sure anyone interested can attend.
 - Board will review paperwork previously distributed and find 10 points to discuss at next meeting.
 - The majority agrees this is something to continue further discussions. Kaytlyn is unsure but feels it should be on a trial basis.
 - Fees: Need to think about the cost of letters, going to do inspections, calls to police, etc. This is why some cities have gone to a flat fee each year.
 - Possibly a lottery for the first year or so for those that would like to have chickens. Limit to 5 homes.
 - Need to have open inspections to review coops.
 - Proposal would be \$20 fee each year and up to 3-4 chickens; possibly apply for more if bigger family and space.
 - Layers and not fryers
 - We will discuss at the March main board meeting. At next ordinance meeting, 2nd meeting of March, will get more detailed to hopefully get going by Spring.
- Discuss Fence Ordinance 5-4-5
 - Discussion moved to next meeting for time to review ordinance.
- Review and Approve Printed Copy of Ordinance 1-11-5, Compensation of Officers
 - Moved to next meeting for time to review ordinance.

Public Comments

- Scott Helms, Stephenson County Board Chairman introduced himself to board.
- Alisha asked Scott about multi-complex apartments that are not taking care of buildings. How do we handle? Do we pass new ordinance? Scott suggested building code which we do have but there isn't an inspector. Alisha suggested Dakota and surrounding small towns pool together to get one inspector. Scott mentioned the landlord registration being a great idea.
- Regarding chickens, Scott said the more we charge, we will get people that are more serious.
- Scott mentioned Cedarville doesn't allow chickens but when they were discussing they agreed they could not be inside.
- Scott said Freeport found a loophole for maintaining a property, they can attach to the tax bill. He said reach out to Wayne Duckman with Community Development Office in Freeport.
- Scott is part of the Land Bank which is a board that will decide whether to take possession of the abandoned properties.

Adjourn

- **Motion made by Eric to adjourn, seconded by Ken, motion carried.**

Village Clerk – Jennifer Knox

Time Ended – 7:45PM