

**Village of Dakota Board Meeting - Dakota Village Hall - 112 Main St Dakota, IL**

**Monday, April 1st, 2024**

**Called to Order 6:30 P.M.**

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

Board Members Absent – None

Clerk – McKenzie Holste

Public Attendees – Jeff Kiney

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**Approve Agenda**

- **A Motion made by Jeremy to approve the agenda for Monday, April 1st, 2024 seconded by Kaytlyn, all in favor, motion carried.**

**Approve Minutes**

- **A motion was made by Eric to approve the minutes for Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 seconded by Ken, all in favor, motion carried.**

**Approve Bills**

- **A Motion made by Eric to approve the bills for Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024 seconded by Jeremy, all in favor, motion carried.**

Review Financial Reports of All Accounts- Attached below.

Discussion was had about waiting on the loan schedule from the Wastewater Treatment Facility project. The engineering has been paid for, and so has the community planning portion.

Eric has requested monthly account balances.

The board needs to begin looking at the budget and project planning for 2024-2025.

3:38 PM  
03/04/24

Village of Dakota  
Current Bills

**Account Balances as of February 29, 2024 in Quick Books doesn't include checks that have come in February**

Account	Balance Total
Genral Fnd Saving CD(SBD)	\$33,401.98
General Fnd Saving CD(SBD)	\$32,274.39
General Fund CD (SBD)	\$65,810.35
General Fund CD (SBD)	\$43,802.84
GENERAL FUND 15MNTH CD	\$44,337.72
<b>Total of CD's</b>	<b>\$219,627.28</b>

Review Time Sheets- No discussion.

Resident Permits & Requests-

*140 W Main St Apartments and Zoning-* Daniel Stott, the new owner of 140 W Main St. was present to address the board about some discretion with the zoning of his new building. He and his wife purchased the building under the impression from the realtor that they would be able to make the entire building into apartments, however building is zoned commercial and at the December board meeting, the board discussed the status of the building remaining commercial to allow the opportunity for business in this town. Daniel presented the board in hopes that they can work together to come to an agreement because he does not believe the entire lower level being commercial will make sense financially. A lot of work will need to be done in order to convert the building back. Daniel hopes that the board will allow one apartment to stay on the lower level, and then they will work to bring a small business in for the other half. The board will be making their decision at the March 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.

*312 E. Davis St. Sewer Damages Repair Request-*After reaching out to the insurance, the town is not responsible for the damage repairs. It was advised that the homeowner reach out to their

insurance for coverage. The homeowner and his son were present to receive this information from the board. They are frustrated after receiving a 'no' from their insurance as well. Alisha will give the town's insurance contact information to the homeowner's insurance contact so that they can communicate directly with each other.

No other permits or requests at this time.

### **New Business**

Wastewater Treatment Plant Updates- \$190,000 is the cost quoted by Mark Kelsey for dredging the sewer pond. The American Relief funds only has \$63,000 to be used. The dredging included in the project would put the project over budget because it was not included in the sewer pond project. The board has several questions as to why this was not included in the project originally because they would need to dredge the pond either way.

The loan has not been granted at this moment; however, we need to get the ponds dredged and onto the fields as soon as possible. Alisha is in communication with Jill to see what we can do to ensure we can start the dredging even though a portion of the payment will come from the loan. Alisha will then bring an update to the next meeting in March.

\$164,000 has been paid out of our funds so far without the funds from the loan being deposited. This included community funding and engineering costs. Because of the loan forgiveness, we will get a percentage of this refunded.

Lead Line Service Project Update- Citizens should have received their form to fill out. Alisha posted about it on Facebook as well.

A.B.A.T.E. Proclamation for May 2024- This is for May to be motorcycle awareness month. A Brotherhood Aimed Towards Education is an organization that is working to spread awareness. In order to place signage along Route 75, they need approval from the board.

**A Motion made by Eric to approve the A.B.A.T.E Proclamation for May 2024 seconded by Ken, all in favor, motion carried.**

Liquor License Fees for 2024-2025- It is time for the liquor license to go out for this year. It is currently \$1,000 dollars. The board does not see a reason to increase or change these fees. Kenzie will get these sent out this month to the necessary businesses.

Discuss Ordinance Meeting to Develop the Following Ordinances: Raffle Ordinance, Illegal Dumping Ordinance, and Engine Braking- Chris Perra from the water/sewer company that we are looking into potentially using is able to meet with us on Thursday March 21<sup>st</sup>. The board decided to use that time to work on ordinances. We will then meet with Steve Olson on Monday March 25<sup>th</sup> and will continue ordinance work that night as well. Fees for water shut off and turn on will be added to these meetings as well.

Develop Job Duties for Maintenance Person- Eric has started a list of duties that the board would like the maintenance personnel to be responsible for. Jeremy added some items, and we will keep

this list to discuss more in detail at a later date. Eric also brought up the fact that it would be nice for our maintenance personnel to be present at the Monday night meetings to give a little run-down of how everything sits and if there is anything that they would need to bring up.

## **Old Business**

Village Maintenance Position- We have current maintenance people that hold the position; however, we will need to present them with the new job duties. Financially, the board needs to decide if sticking with part-time personnel is the best option or if it is worth looking into hiring someone full-time. The list of responsibilities would eliminate the janitor position because of the minimal work that is required. If the maintenance personnel attends board meetings, it would allow the board to address their expectations or projects needing to be handled and allow the personnel to report on the status of the tasks. By investing so much in our assets, the board would like to make sure things are being maintained and well kept.

Cell Phone for the Village Hall- Jon looked into the cost of a Verizon line. \$95 a month and then \$65 per additional line. This price includes fees and taxes. New service lines get a free phone included with the plan. Doesn't look like you can get the voicemails to the email. This could be looked into farther.

Annual Pool Fees- Ken got this updated and turned in for Melody to bill.

Old Clerk Desk- Alisha will get pictures taken and make sure that the giveaway is legal for us to do.

New Village Auditor- Bennings was used when the water tower was completed, and we do have a quote for them, but it is very expensive.

Water and Sewer Operator Options- Email the village or Alisha with all questions in regard to the two meetings coming up this month with Steve and Chris. More than likely we will ask both personnel the same questions to see the differences.

The cost of the company we are looking into is \$600 a month for both water and sewer. Currently we pay \$250 for sewer and \$1150 for water every month. The biggest concern is if the quality of work and maintenance level will remain the same if we went with the potential new company.

Wages Increase- Jon requested the annual pay for the clerk and treasurer from 2023 be brought to the next meeting so that the board can see what the pay would look like divided up monthly.

Discuss Option for Repairing or Replacing Village Hall- Jeremy has been working on getting some quotes and information. Ken has been brainstorming some building layouts and sizing. This project will need very detailed planning as it goes forward.

Survey North of Dakota Village and Sewer Pond- Matt did the sewer pond and came back for north of town. Currently the resident owns 2 sections of the area, and the village owns the streets

that are currently being farmed over. Alisha was unable to find where the town sold the parcels to see if we agreed to vacate the streets. The county has record of the sales. The board decided that we will leave it for now.

Sewer Pond Gate- Alisha reached out to Gills and they are okay with having a key to get in. The board brainstorms ideas about when to lock the gate, and how to go about a gate that would handle winter. Jeremy talked about the lock with little cards to unlock. It is very easy to activate and deactivate the cards.

Sewer Pond Signs- Alisha found some signs for the closing during the sewer pond construction. She also found some dumpster signage. She requested a budget to be able to order them.

**A Motion made by Eric to approve the ordering of a dumpster sign not to exceed \$45 seconded by Jeremy, all in favor, motion carried.**

Gravel Needed for Sewer Pond Drive- No quotes received yet. Helwig is to be sending one, and Jeremy is working on getting another one as well.

Easter Egg Hunt in the Park Planning- The Egg hunt is at 3 p.m. At 1 p.m. Kaytlyn will plan to be at the park for set up. Alisha has not heard back from the Bunny potential. Still looking for a bunny.

American Relief Funds- Tabled until dredging finance option is explored.

Televising Sewer Drains- Tabled for a later date.

Any Additional Old Business- Yard of the Month starting again in May. Post about it to Facebook in April to let the citizens know.

### **Board Member Committee Reports**

Sewer – Quote from Franks to suck out the solids from the sewer grates. \$2150 was the quote.

Eric reached out to IDOT for information on crosswalks for 75 to Caseys, engine braking, and a speed limit investigation. IDOT will conduct a study and if they believe the reduction of speed is necessary, they will change the signs and the village doesn't need to do anything.

The crosswalk across Route 75 would need engineer planning because of handicap regulations and etc. There is also no current sidewalk on that side of the street, therefore it would need to be a complete project. Every two years there is a grant for these types of projects, and the next deadline for this would be 2025. The signage IDOT will handle, and painting of the stripes would be on us. This is the same for all current crosswalks.

Engine braking is also an issue. There is a permit and documentation that needs to be completed. Eric handled filling out the documentation and staked out the signage locations. The village would need to pass an ordinance and the village is responsible for purchasing the signage. Eric printed off some examples to look at and review before our ordinance meeting later in the

month. As soon as the ordinance is created, the signs can be purchased and placed along the highway.

For sidewalk quotes, Santos Concrete is supposed to be turning in a quote, and LaBrie Concrete out of Rockford is coming to look as well for a quote. Jeremy also has Jake Apple coming out to quote the areas as well. The local companies have not returned their calls, therefore Eric reached out farther to people who would answer.

Eric reached out to the street people in Freeport to ask what they use for street lining. Our crosswalk was gone about 2 weeks after we had it done last time. It is a Sherwin Williams paint and glass beads that add texture. We would have to figure out how to apply the combination of the two, but Sherwin Williams may have contact information.

Water – Should be getting a quote soon for the alert system.

No quote from Kelsey yet for the pipe replacement.

Park & Community Center – Painting of the park bathrooms is done. Ken completed this project in the nice weather.

Village Property – Pump house doors will get painted sometime in April/May.

The board discussed getting fire hydrants painted, and there is a map in the hall of the current hydrants.

Streets and Sidewalks – Working on getting ahold of Helm for a quote on Main Street. Looking to keep it under the cost limit so that we do not need the extra expense of an engineer.

Trees & Signs – The invoice for the tree removal was sent to the village email during the meeting.

Stump removal quotes need the stumps staked first, so Ken will start working on that.

### **Public Comments**

None

### **Adjourn**

- **At 9:15 p.m. A motion was made by Eric to adjourn, seconded by Diane, all in favor, motion carried.**