

**Village of North Henderson
Trustees Meeting
January 13,2022
6:30 pm at Floral Hall**

President Carol Rogers called the Village of North Henderson Trustee Meeting to order at 6:30 pm with the roll call.

ROLL CALL

Present: Trustee's Diane Brown and Karin Simkins

Also Present: President Carol Rogers, Treasurer Gary Whitcomb and Clerk Melody Hall

Visiting: Kevan Cooper

Absent: Trustee's Angie Chandlee, John Hoefer, Charles Schultz and Cheryl Stevens

President Rogers stated we do not have a quorum so we can only discuss issues on the agenda but there can be no voting.

MINUTES;

Due to no voting the minutes were not approve. They will be at the February 10,2022 meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Due to no voting the treasurer's report was not approved. It will be at the February 10,2022 meeting.

BILLS

President Rogers stated the bills that are always approved could be paid in order to avoid any late penalties.

OLD BUSINESS

Looser Flake

President Rogers stated there is 11 towns/villages that have applied for the Looser Flake Grant. If the grant goes through North Henderson will receive a little more than \$18,000.00. President Rogers stated at last months meeting it was discussed using the grant to replace the lights at the softball field. Since she needed a bid for the paperwork she has Treasurer Whitcomb get a bid from Ameran. President Rogers stated Treasurer Whitcomb got the bid and it was for \$176,000.00 dollars. Since the paperwork had to be midnight New Years Eve, she had to make a quick decision. She made some calls to see if the grant could be used for the bathrooms at the softball field. President Rogers never got an answer so she spoke to Kyle from Mercer County Better Together and he suggested using it at the Village Park.

President Rogers did some checking and found some real nice playground equipment for half off. at \$34,000.00. The village would have to pay around \$8,000.00. The equipment includes; slides, monkey bars, mulch and black railroad ties. President Rogers continued to state they would ship it for free and install it. The gentleman who she spoke to gave her a new price with a larger discount so the equipment will be less than the sale price. She spoke to Trustee Chandlee and she agreed that would work. She has 30 days to order it and Looser Flake should be deciding in the next couple weeks.

NEW BUSINESS

Kevan Cooper – Bruner, Cooper and Zook

President Rogers introduced Kevan Cooper from Bruner, Cooper and Zook. He was there to explain ways the American Relief Fund can be used and how other towns/villages are using the funds.

Mr. Cooper stated the money could be used water & sewer project, infrastructure and broadband; it can be used to for a bonus to employees that worked through the pandemic. Mr. Cooper continued to state most of it is tied into the COVID. Mr. Cooper stated the City of Knoxville is using the funds along with another loan to build a new city hall, reason they needed a bigger area to hold meetings.

Mr. Cooper explained the difference between the Rebuild Illinois (RBI) Fund and the American Relief Plan Act Fund. (ARPA). The RBI fund is the money that has been deposited in the Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) account and is to be used for maintenance on the roads, sidewalks and bridges. Mr. Cooper continued to explain anything that you would normally use the MFT fund for anything you would use the RBI funds. And suggests using is because if not the village will lose it. The RBI funds are for public health items related to the COVID.

Mr. Cooper stated the ARPA funds could be used for replacing water meters, looping or replacing water mains, even digging wells or anything that may have been a violation/warning from the EPA. Beginning this year the EPA will require all violations such as digging a new well to be done. They will require a time line as to when it will be done and if not done they can sue you to have it done along with any fines.

President Rogers stated the board has been talking about digging another well but did not know the cost or even where to put the well. Mr. Cooper stated it would be more than the \$23,000.00. With the drilling pipe lines and other equipment it would be more like \$100,000.00 or more. Mr. Cooper stated even looping the meters would cost more than the \$23,000.00 after about a block or so. Mr. Cooper stated it would run about \$35.00 a foot with using the required 6" pipe and other equipment. The cost does not include the hydrant and all of it's needed equipment. By looping the mains if there was to be water main break only a section of the town would have to be shut off not the whole town, also it would help with the circulation and pressure.

Mr. Cooper stated some of the villages are using the ARPA funds along with grants/loans from the Illinois EPA. He explained about the Principal Forgiveness Loan. It's a loan to where only a small percentage, if any, would be paid back. Unfortunately the Village of North Henderson does not qualify for it. The grant comes from the federal EPA not the state and based on a medium household income is higher than the states average and the unemployment rate is lower then the states average. The village does qualify for a 1.11% interest rate loan on a 20-year loan. Mr. Cooper stated if the village wanted to get a loan to add to the ARPA funds they may qualify for a CDAP grant.

Trustee Simkins asked Mr. Cooper what he would recommend the village use the ARPA funds for. Mr. Cooper answered improvements on the water plant, a small section in town that needed looped, as many hydrants and valves that need replaced or changing out the meters.

Clerk Hall asked Mr. Cooper what Bruner, Cooper and Zook would do for the village if they were to loop the mains. Mr. Cooper answered they would a survey; make sure where all the utilities are located. They will do up an estimate bring it before the board, work with the contractors and EPA, get any necessary permits. They would oversee everything from beginning to end.

American Relief Plan Act Funds

With being unable to vote there was no discussion or decision as to what the board wanted to use the ARPA funds for. This will be done at the February meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment

ADJOURNMENT

The Village of North Henderson Trustee Meeting for January 13,2022 adjourned at 7:30pm with the next meeting set for Thursday February 10,2022 at 6:30pm at the Floral Hall

Melody Hall
Village Clerk

Carol Rogers
Village President



Village Seal