

Village of North Henderson
Trustee Meeting
March 9, 2023
6:30pm at Floral Hall

President Carol Rogers called the Village of North Henderson Trustee Meeting for March 9, 2023 to order at 6:30pm with a roll call.

ROLL CALL:

Present; Trustees Michelle Adams, Diane Brown, Angie Chandlee and Cheryl Stevens
Also Present; President Carol Rogers, Treasurer Gary Whitcomb and Clerk Melody Hall
Visiting: Don Adams, Brandon Phillips, April Loveridge, Rod Leffler, Melanie, Leffler and Daryl Stropes
Absent Trustees Karin Simkins and Charles Schultz

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Trustee Chandlee mentioned she had a concern about the dog pooh at the park. She commented it was between the ball court and the new park equipment. She feels as though people should clean it up if they are going to have their animals in the park and the village should not be responsible for it.

MINUTES:

Trustee Brown made a motion to accept the minutes, 2nd by Trustee Adams. All in favor motion carried

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Trustee Brown made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, 2nd by Trustee Stevens. All in favor, motion carried.

BILLS:

President Rogers stated we just received a bill on the amount of \$1492.93 from Johnson's Plumbing, for the work he did at 204 Main Street. They were behind on the water bill and their shut off was in the driveway under four to six feet of gravel. When he went to dig it up he had to rent equipment because of phone lines right over it. Along with ^{raising} the shut off it has been put in a box with all the plumbing to make access easier to get to.

President Rogers stated there are three checks that were written to the Christmas decorating contest winners they were missed in the January meeting

Trustee Brown made a motion to pay the bills with the addition, 2nd by Trustee Stevens. All in favor, Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

President Rogers explained due to several people coming to the meeting to discuss the chicken issue she moved public comment to the beginning of the meeting. She then explained they each have five minutes and there should be no interruptions.

April Loveridge was the first to speak, asking the board to change the ordinance about farm animals. She would like to see an exemption for chickens and roosters. Ms. Loveridge stated several reasons to have chickens in the village. One being for FFA projects, by not allowing poultry it limits the child as to what they can do. They eggs or even the meat from the chicken can be sold to the neighbors or elderly that are unable to go to the grocery store which also helps the child have a little extra money. Ms. Loveridge also stated if the yard is maintained there is no odor, as far as predators there should not be any more then there is now. By having a rooster it keeps the flock from fighting, it will help to keep out small predators. As far as their noise it's no different then someone revving an engine at 6:00 in the morning you get use to it. Ms. Loveridge stated she started a petition and has six signatures plus two she printed off of Facebook. They are not only people who want chickens but also those who don't want them but don't mind if others do. She commented there is a lot of interest in the village about having chickens and she can get more signatures.

Daryl Stropes agreed with Ms. Loveridge but he also had some benefits of having chickens and roosters in town. Mr. Stropes stated they eat insects, makes good composite for gardens and teaches children responsibility. Mr. Stropes purposed that they would put a limit on how many chickens they should allow. If allowed it should only be one per member of the household with one rooster per family.

Rod Leffler stated they could get more signatures if that is what the board needs. He asked how many was needed. President Rogers answered she is not exactly sure of the percentage but with 180 people at least a third.

President Rogers stated nothing will be decided at this meeting, it will be discussed brought back for the next meeting then if anything is decided the changes will need to be put in the ordinance and voted on in the following meeting. President Rogers asked the board if they had any suggestions or comments. Trustee Brown stated she had been looking on line at various places that do allow chickens and they all have requirements such as: a pen, which can be inspected at anytime, a permit because the pen can be considered as a structure. President Rogers stated she had done some research on areas around the village that allows chickens:

New Windsor- allows six chickens, no roosters, must have more than one acre of land and a fully enclosed pen
Galesburg – allows chickens and roosters but they have a restrictions on the size of the pen
Aledo – can have up to 15 chickens no roosters must be in a pen

President Rogers stated most places she researched if chickens they are not allowed to run free. Trustee Adams asked if chickens are allowed are they going to allow other fowl. Trustee Chandlee suggested that the property could be inspected at any time to see how the coop is being kept up. President Rogers answered that will be determined when the ordinance is rewritten. President Rogers commented as a board we need to listen to what the residents of the village want. That is why she wants a petition to see how many in town want or wouldn't mind having chickens in town. President Rogers stated, as a board they are not to go by what they think but what those is town would like to see.

This matter was tabled until next month when the petition can be brought in.

OLD BUSINESS

Mowing Bids:

President Rogers opened and read off the following bids & information on the mowing bids

Ken Estes – Alpha \$440.00 Ballpark
 \$440.00 Village Park
 \$240.00 Water House
 \$ 80.00 Village Office/ Garage
 \$1120.00 All Parcels

Will trim each mowing

Phillips Tree & Lawn Care – New Windsor \$175.00 Ball Park
 \$ 80.00 Village Park
 \$ 40.00 Water House
 \$ 35.00 Village Office/Garage
 \$330.00 All Parcels

Will weed eat every mowing, mid summer every 2 weeks. Trash will be picked up and disposed. Grass clippings will be blown away. Trim trees if needed at a separate cost.

Lawn Envy – Lynn Center \$184.00 Ball Park
 \$ 86.25 Village Park
 \$ 51.75 Water House
 \$ 63.25 Village Office/Garage
 \$ 335.00 All Parcels

If the village has the infield and outfield fences sprayed the mowing cost will be \$320.00 but in the fall the cost will go back up if the fences are not resprayed. Will pickup debris, litter branches etc. trim around all areas except the rock pile behind the dumpster due to being a hazard. If fuel prices rise to \$4.00 will increase a \$0.50 per gallon to the invoice, uses 6.5 gallon so \$3.25 will be added.

President Rogers stated Ken Estes would be removed due to the high cost. Also Brandon Phillips from Phillips Tree & Lawn Care is present if the board has any questions. Trustee Chandlee asked Mr. Phillips if he could do any spraying for the ball diamond. Mr. Phillips answered he is licensed to spray chemicals and they would be a no chemical type. Mr. Phillips commented that he has 25 years experience and he works for Wright Tree Service who contracts with Ameran so he can do any type of tree work. President Rogers asked if the tree work would be at an additional cost. Mr. Phillips answered yes that it would depend on the job. Trustee Chandlee asked if that would include stump removal. Mr. Phillips answered yes but he would have to rent a chipper.

Trustee Brown made a motion to use Lawn Envy, 2nd by Trustee Adams. All in favor. There were 3 yah and 1 nah. Motion carried by majority.

Trustee Chandlee asked Mr. Phillips if he would be interested in letting the board call him for tree service. Mr. Phillips answered yes.

Kevin Cooper – Bruner, Cooper & Zook

President Rogers stated Mr. Cooper could not be present due to a double booking but he did a ride around with Treasurer Whitcomb. Treasurer Whitcomb stated they looked over the streets and Mr. Cooper feels they all need to be done; there are a few areas where they are really bad. He will be giving the board a proposal. Treasurer Whitcomb stated Mr. Cooper also made a list of signs the village needs or have replaced and he will include that in his proposal.

This matter was tabled until next month.

Mercer County Events.

President Rogers reminded the board that Mercer County is going to have an event somewhat like the Spoon River Drive and invited North Henderson to be involved. They are paying for everything; it is the last Saturday in June. It could be like what the village had last year. President Rogers stated she spoke to Vicki McMullin and she is willing to help but did not want to be in charge. Trustee Chandlee stated she would be willing to help. President Rogers suggested the board think about what they would like to do and bring their suggestions to the next meeting. Trustee Chandlee asked if President Rogers knew what type of budget they have given the village. President Rogers answered she would find out.

NEW BUSINESS

Live Stock Ordinance

President Rogers stated this was covered in the Public Comment

Softball Diamond

President Rogers stated the Alexis Recreational Council wants to use the ball diamond again this year. She did inform them there is work that needs to be done on the restrooms due to a frozen pipe. President Rogers continued to state they have a contract with Pepsi this year so they will have a cooler in the concession stand and all of their stuff will be stored in there. Trustee Chandlee commented she would like someone to discuss with the council about the upkeep in the infield, she isn't sure if they can find someone to do it again this year. President Rogers stated the council will also be providing a dumpster again this year.

Village Park Fence

President Rogers stated Kaylee Nalley spoke to her about putting a fence up between their property and the park. President Rogers continued to state she informed her the board discussed it last year and it was decided they did not want to do it since the fence had to go the whole length of the park and really did not solve the problem. Mrs. Nalley stated they would put the fence up but the property line is at an angle and they want the fence to go straight across so some of the fence would be on the village's property. She is worried that if the board allowed it that down the road a new board may make them remove the fence. She would like to have something in writing stating the village board agrees to the fence and will not seek action to have them remove the fence. There were several questions such as the type of fence, and who maintains the fence. President Rogers asked Clerk Hall to call the lawyer and find out what the agreement should say.

Clean Up Day

President Rogers asked the board if they wanted to have the clean up days again this year. Trustee Brown asked if the village could use the same company again this year. Clerk Hall stated she spoke to Joe from Midwestern Harvester Trash Removal and he is willing to do it for the same amount and around the same time. Clerk Hall stated it was \$1000.00 and this year it would be Saturday June 3rd.

Trustee Chandlee made a motion to have the clean up day, 2nd by Trustee Brown All in favor, motion carried

Easter Events

President Rogers stated Clerk Hall spoke to Alexis about their Easter Egg Hunt Donations and they told her they were not going to have it this year. President Rogers asked the board if they wanted to have one or do anything for Easter. After a short discussion it was decided to have an Easter Egg Hunt. It will be held on Saturday April 1, 2023 at the softball field. Ages 0-3rd grade would be at 9:00am and 4th – 6:00th grade would be at 8:00pm. Any donations were to be made to the North Henderson Park District.

ADJOURNMENT

President Rogers stated if there are no more comments or business she would entertain a motion to adjourn.

Trustee Brown made a motion to adjourn, 2nd by Trustee Stevens. All in favor, motion carried

The Village of North Henderson Trustee Meeting for March 9, 2023 adjourned at 7:59pm with the next meeting scheduled for April 13, 2023 at 6:30pm at Floral Hall

Melody Hall
Village Clerk

Carol Rogers
Village President

Village Seal