

Newberry Village Council  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
October 19, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.  
Meeting Location: 307 E. McMillan

**Present:** President Freese, Trustees: Cameron, Hardenbrook, Hendrickson, Schummer, Stokes.

**Absent:** Puckett.

**Also Present:** Village Manager – Watkins, Clerk – Schummer, Newberry News – McGinn, and Christine Rathje.

**Call to Order:** President Freese called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Followed by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Agenda:** Moved by Hendrickson, support by, Cameron, **CARRIED**, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: Freese, Cameron, Hardenbrook, Hendrickson, Schummer, Stokes. Absent: Puckett.

**Minutes:** Moved by Stokes support by Hardenbrook, **CARRIED**, to approve the minutes from the September 21, 2021, Regular Session, as written. Ayes: Freese, Cameron, Hardenbrook, Hendrickson, Schummer, Stokes. Absent: Puckett.

**Public Comments on Agenda Items:** None.

**Special Topic – 2020 Audit Presentation:** Ken Talsma of Anderson, Tackman & Company, PLC, gave a presentation on the 2020 audit and answered questions from Council.

**Village President’s Announcements:** None.

**Submission of Bills and Financial Updates:**

- A.) **Village of Newberry Monthly Bills:** Moved by Stokes, support by Hendrickson, **CARRIED**, to approve payment of the September 18 – October 15, 2021 bills, in the amount of \$93,993.71. Discussion followed. Ayes: Freese, Cameron, Hardenbrook, Hendrickson, Schummer, Stokes. Absent: Puckett.
- B.) **Water & Light monthly bills:** Moved by Cameron, support by Stokes, **CARRIED**, to pay the Electric and Water Fund bills for September 11 – October 8, 2021, with a total amount of \$248,448.61. Discussion followed. Ayes: Freese, Cameron, Hardenbrook, Hendrickson, Schummer, Stokes. Absent: Puckett.
- C.) **Bond Payment – Due Nov. 1, 2021:** Moved by Freese, support by Stokes, **CARRIED**, to make the 2014 Water Bond payment of \$173,765.66... Discussion followed. Ayes: Freese, Cameron, Hardenbrook, Hendrickson, Schummer, Stokes. Absent: Puckett.
- D.) **Christmas Lights Fund** – as of 9/30/21 - \$19,975.53.
- E.) **Treasurer’s Report:** September 2021 report – N. Moulton submitted a written report. Council accepted the report as presented.

**Petitions and Communications:** None.

**Introduction and Adoption of Ordinances and Resolutions:**

- 1.) 2021-10-19-PA152 Resolution relating to Public Act 152: Moved by Freese, support by Hardenbrook, **CARRIED**, to adopt Resolution 2021-10-19-PA152, The Publicly Funded Health Insurance Contribution Act. Discussion followed. Ayes: All. Absent: Puckett.

**Unfinished Business:**

- 1.) **Water Rate Changes:**
  - a.) Water Rate Study update: Watkins gave an update.
  - b.) Water Rate Increase – proposed 3% or \$2.25 a month. To be officially reviewed at the November meeting.
- 2.) **Pole Study Update:** Watkins gave an update.
- 3.) **Solid Waste Pickup – External Contractor:** Watkins gave an update. The request for proposals for solid waste pick-up is almost ready. Hope to make November 18<sup>th</sup> as deadline for response.

- 4.) Water & Light Board: 1 customer - non-elector & 1 regular seat are now vacant on the Board.
- 5.) Public Comment Follow-Up from previous meeting: None.

**New Business:**

- 1.) Electronics Recycling Event: Event will be held October 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- 2.) Fall Brush and Leaf Pick-Up: Pick-up will begin on November 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 3.) Water & Light Council Representatives: Moved by Freese, support by Hardenbrook, **CARRIED**, to appoint Stokes as a Council representative on the Water & Light Board for 2021-2022. Ayes: Freese, Cameron, Hardenbrook, Hendrickson, Schummer. Abstain: Stokes. Absent: Puckett. Moved by Freese, support by Hardenbrook, **CARRIED**, to appoint Hendrickson as a Council representative on the Water & Light Board for 2021 -2022. Ayes: Freese, Cameron, Hardenbrook, Schummer, Stokes. Abstain: Hendrickson. Absent: Puckett.

**Reports of Boards:**

- 1.) Water & Light Board: The minutes for October 12, 2021 meeting were presented. Stokes gave the report.
- 2.) Planning Commission Meeting: Watkins gave the report for the September 27, 2021 meeting.

**Committee Reports:**

- 1.) Ordinance Committee: October 7, 2021 meeting minutes provided. Stokes gave the report.
- 2.) Infrastructure Committee: October 13, 2021 meeting minutes provided. Hendrickson gave a report.
- 3.) Finance Committee: October 4, 2021 - No meeting due to lack of quorum.
- 4.) Garbage Committee: October 11, 2021 meeting minutes provided.

**Reports of Village Officers & Management:**

- A.) Fire Chief: Written report submitted by Secretary Immel.
- B.) Ordinance Enforcement Report: Written report submitted by Ordinance Officer Fossitt.
- C.) Superintendent of Wastewater Treatment Plant & DPW: Written report submitted by Superintendent Blakely.
- D.) Working Superintendent of Water & Light: Written report submitted by Working Superintendent Kucinskas.
- E.) Village Manager: Watkins gave a verbal as well as written report.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Comments by Council Members:** Comment heard from: Cameron, Stokes, Schummer.

**Adjourn Meeting:** Moved by Stokes, support by Hardenbrook, **CARRIED**, to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m. Ayes: All. Absent: Puckett.

These minutes are unofficial until voted on at the next meeting.

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Terese Schummer, Clerk

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Catherine Freese, Village President