

Village of Princeville
Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting
January 3, 2024 7:00 PM

This meeting will be held at Princeville Village Hall and will also include a Zoom Meeting option. The public is invited to attend in person or attend via Zoom. To join in the meeting, log into Zoom and, when prompted, enter Meeting ID: 828 6443 2148, Passcode: jdMTf3 OR use the call-in number: 1-312-626-6799, enter Meeting ID: 828 6443 2148, Passcode: 059653. Prior to the meeting, you can also submit a public comment by email to villagehall@princeville.org and insert in the subject line of the email, "Public Comment for Meeting January 3, 2024."

Roll Call

Roll call showed the following board members were physically present: President Troutman, Trustee Delbridge, Trustee Peterson, Trustee Gilroy, Trustee Pope, Trustee Schoenbeck and Trustee Potter. A quorum was present for the meeting.

Other Village members physically present: Treasurer, Julie Delbridge; Superintendent, Chad Gardner; MCO Sullivan and Clerk, Sarah Cordis.

Others Present: Kiersten Sheets - Trajectory Energy Partners; Nick Vlahos – The Weekly Post; Eleanor Basehoar and Eric Givens

Others Present Via Zoom: Martin Fairchild and Tracey Young

Public Comment

Martin Fairchild and Tracey Young sent a letter to the board December 28th regarding the proposed solar farm. Martin addressed the board. He is not against the project but wants to make sure all of the equipment is situated appropriately.

Police Report

None.

President Troutman said that Deputy Cogdal resigned from the Sheriff's Department last Thursday. There will be a replacement community officer. Deputies will rotate shifts until the replacement officer has been selected. President Troutman will update everyone when he knows who the Sheriff has chosen as the replacement deputy.

Approve Minutes as Published

Trustee Delbridge made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for December 4th and 19th. Trustee Peterson seconded the motion.

Yeas: Trustee Delbridge, Trustee Peterson, Trustee Gilroy, Trustee Pope, Trustee Schoenbeck and Trustee Potter

Absent: None

Nays: None

President Troutman declared the motion carried.

Paying of Bills.

Trustee Gilroy made a motion to approve the bills in the amount of \$100,345.02. Trustee Pope seconded the motion.

Yeas: Trustee Delbridge, Trustee Peterson, Trustee Gilroy, Trustee Pope, Trustee Schoenbeck and Trustee Potter

Absent: None

Nays: None

President Troutman declared the motion carried.

Municipal Code Officer's Report

MCO Sullivan reviewed the code report. He continues to remind residents they cannot park on the lawn. They need to park on a hard surface. For some of the incomplete violations, they may go to court to remove inoperable vehicles by court order. MCO Sullivan has a meeting with the attorney tomorrow, Wednesday, and hopes to discuss some properties with liens.

Any Action Regarding M.C.O. Report

None

Consider and Vote to Approve Special Use Application for 500 West North Street to Permit a 2MWac Ground Mounted Solar Farm.

President Troutman said the Zoning Board met December 21, all voting in favor of the special use application for 500 West North Street, to permit a 2MWac ground mounted solar farm.

Trustee Delbridge commented that in our special use permit, the state laws of setback need to be followed. He understands the concerns of the neighbors, and he would not want this project in his backyard.

Kiersten Sheets stated that Trajectory cannot tell Ameren where to put their equipment for the project. As soon as Trajectory receives approval for an application, they are assigned an Ameren engineer and can talk about moving their equipment. They have encountered similar issues with other communities, and they have worked with residents and Ameren to compromise. Trustee Peterson was concerned that we are relying on Ameren, and what they want to do.

Tracey Young stated she is concerned with a 'maybe' and 'what-if' about placement of the Ameren equipment.

Eric Givens requested some screening, and asked to have the driveway angled so that it is not directly across the Givens' driveway.

Tax benefit and comprehensive plan stated that property is planned industrial plan.

Trustee Delbridge asked why this project was suggested to be so close to the residences. Eleanor Basehoar would like to continue to farm that north section.

President Troutman said this is a new board as compared to the board in 2018 when this project was first introduced. He finds this project to be a big benefit to the community.

Kiersten Sheets said this is a community solar project. Residents can subscribe, no fee to opt in and no need to cancel. The tax revenue in year one is anticipated to be \$16,600.

Trustee Delbridge asked Mr. Fairchild if he had expressed his concerns with the zoning board. He said he missed that meeting.

Kiersten Sheets stated that this project has all underground wiring, however Ameren requires their own wires to be above ground.

Trajectory suggested that the homeowners and Village of Princeville draft letters to Ameren, voicing their concern with the placement of equipment for this project.

Trustee Delbridge made a motion to approve Special Use Application for 500 West North Street, to Permit a 2MWac Ground Mounted Solar Farm, with a drafted letter from the Village of Princeville to Ameren, indicating some of the concerns. Trustee Gilroy seconded the motion.

Yeas: Trustee Delbridge, Trustee Peterson, Trustee Gilroy, Trustee Pope, and Trustee Potter
Absent: None
Nays: Trustee Schoenbeck
President Troutman declared the motion carried.

Committee Reports

None. A Property Committee meeting is set for January 16 at 6:00 PM.

Any Action Regarding Committee Reports

None.

Past Due Water Bill Reviewed

The past due water bill list was reviewed.

Building Permits

None.

Report from the Superintendent of Public Works

- Doing street sign inventory of those who need replaced or repaired.
- Working on snow signs. Signs should arrive soon.
 - Trustee Delbridge indicated he would like to enforce towing when there is more than two (2) inches of snow. Superintendent Gardner stated he would like to enforce towing ordinances, but his time is spent plowing.
 - Let tenants know it will be enforced.
 - Superintendent Gardner will reach out to a gentleman in Bradford who he believes still tows.
- Steve will start taking Village Christmas decorations down.
- Issues with lights on the back of the park, Christmas tree display. Superintendent Gardner said there are issues with the electrical lines when there is moisture.

Trustee Pope voiced his concern regarding the driver of the Village loader running through stop signs. He does not want to see an accident. Superintendent Gardner will review the personnel policy with them and have some consequences.

Any Other Business to Be Brought Before the Board

President Troutman stated he received suggestions from Representative LaHood's office regarding the grant the Village plans to submit. The suggestions were to include letters of support from the local paper, County Board Chairman, and a few others. Once the grant is submitted, there is no timeline for when a decision may be made.

There will not be a 2023 Christmas/Holiday party for Village Trustee.

Adjourn

Trustee Delbridge made a motion to adjourn at 8:04 PM. Trustee Peterson seconded the motion.

All in favor: Aye

Opposed: Nay

President Troutman declared the meeting adjourned.

Next Village Board Meeting, Tuesday, January 16 @ 7:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sarah Cordis, Village of Princeville Clerk