

Village of Pecatonica Regular Board Meeting
Thursday December 7, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
Village Hall 405 Main Street. Pecatonica, Illinois

1. **Call to Order** - President Tom Heister called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. on Thursday, December 7, 2023, at Village Hall.
2. **Silent moment observed.**
3. **The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was recited**
4. **Roll call** – Trustees Bill Determan, Cheryl Bean, Tom Gipe, Collin Hardy, Kim Gipe and Gerald Howard were present.

Also present: President Tom Heister, Clerk Gwenn Shirley, Public Works Director Nick Berry, Police Chief Matt Summers, Attorney David Kurlinkus and Treasurer Sherry Bessert.
5. **A quorum was present.**
6. **Additions/Corrections to the Agenda** – None.
7. **Approval of Agenda** –

A motion was made by Trustee Determan and seconded by Trustee Hardy to approve the agenda as presented. A roll call vote was taken. Trustees Determan, Bean, Tom Gipe, Hardy, Kim Gipe and Howard, voted yes. Motion approved 6-0-0.
8. **Call to the Public-** None.

Agenda Items

- A. **Village President-**
 1. **Appointment of Nicholas McGee to the Economic Development Committee Community Member at Large Position Vacated by Cassie Blair** –

President Heister announced his appointment of Nicholas McGee to the Economic Development committee.
 2. **Approve Appointment of Ron Harvey to the Planning and Zoning Commission effective immediately. He will be replacing the seat held by Julie Sutton. This appointment shall be effective through December 31, 2026** –

A motion was made by Trustee Tom Gipe and seconded by Trustee Howard to approve the appointment of Ron Harvey to the Planning and Zoning Commission effective immediately. He will be replacing the seat held by Julie Sutton. This appointment shall be effective through December 31, 2026. A roll call vote was taken. Trustees Bean, Tom Gipe, Hardy, Kim Gipe, Howard and Determan voted yes. Motion approved 6-0-0.
 3. **Update on the Pec Playhouse Theatre Project, Glen Weigert** –

President Heister stated he has spoken to Glen and everyone on the Board would like for the land swap to happen and thought it would be a good idea for everyone to come together to have an open discussion on this topic. Glen Weigert and Lauri Miller shared with Board members that the Playhouse Board recently had a special meeting and had questions in regards to the process of a special use permit as the Playhouse did not want to spend funds if the permit would not be approved by the Board. They would like to keep the Playhouse in Pecatonica. Board members asked if the Playhouse could provide more information in regards to the dimension of the new building or what it would look like. Glen stated that based on what funds could be raised adjustments may need to be done. Everyone is willing to move forward with this project.

4. **Contractors Currently Performing Work for the Village of Pecatonica-** President Heister stated that the 3rd Street project is complete and there are no other contractors performing work at this time. Nick stated that Wave Communication came yesterday to install the cable and the job was completed the same day.

B. Unfinished Business –

1. **Review Draft Ordinance Amending Chapter 153 Zoning –**

President Hesiter stated that this draft recommendation came from the Planning and Zoning Commission and it was the consensus of the commission to allow a theatre in every zoning district which the Board needs to take a hard look at. Attorney Kulinkus stated that even though Pecatonica had a Theatre for many years it was never listed in any of the current zoning districts. Board members discussed the changes in the draft ordinance. President Heister stated that he would like for Board members to review this draft as it will be listed on the January 4, 2024 first reading and if there are any questions, please contact him.

C. New Business –

1. **2023-15 An Ordinance Authorizing the Village of Pecatonica, Winnebago County, Illinois to Borrow Funds from the Public Water Supply Loan Program – 1st Reading –**

A motion was made by Trustee Determan and seconded by Trustee Hardy to waive the rules to approve 2023-15 An Ordinance Authorizing the Village of Pecatonica, Winnebago County, Illinois to Borrow Funds from the Public Water Supply Loan Program. A roll call vote was taken. Trustees Tom Gipe, Hardy, Kim Gipe, Howard, Determan and Bean voted yes. Motion approved 6-0-0.

A motion was made by Trustee Determan and seconded by Trustee Hardy to approve 2023-15 An Ordinance Authorizing the Village of Pecatonica, Winnebago County, Illinois to Borrow Funds from the Public Water Supply Loan Program. President Heister stated that this ordinance provides for the additional work that is needed on Well 3 and this is not a new loan. A roll call vote was taken. Trustees Hardy, Kim Gipe, Howard, Determan, Bean and Tom Gipe, voted yes. Motion approved 6-0-0.

2. **2023-16 Ordinance Adopting Official Zoning Map for the Village of Pecatonica, Illinois – 1st Reading**

A motion was made by Trustee Determan and seconded by Trustee Howard to waive the rules to approve Ordinance 2023-16 Adopting Official Zoning Map for the Village of Pecatonica, Illinois. A roll call vote was taken. Trustees Kim Gipe, Howard, Determan, Bean, Tom Gipe and Hardy voted yes. Motion approved 6-0-0.

A motion was made by Trustee Determan and seconded by Trustee Howard to approve Ordinance 2023-16 Adopting Official Zoning Map for the Village of Pecatonica, Illinois. A roll call vote was taken. Trustees Howard, Determan, Bean, Tom Gipe, Hardy and Kim Gipe voted yes. Motion approved 6-0-0.

3. 2023-17 Ordinance Abating the Tax hereto Levied for the Year 2023 to pay the Principal of and Interest on \$3,500,000 General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2021, of the Village of Pecatonica, Winnebago County, Illinois, - 1st Reading

President Hester stated that items 3 and 4 are ordinances that have to be passed every year as these are for the two street bonds.

A motion was made by Trustee Determan and seconded by Trustee Howard to waive the rules to approve Ordinance 2023-17 Abating the Tax hereto Levied for the Year 2023 to pay the Principal of and Interest on \$3,500,000 General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2021, of the Village of Pecatonica, Winnebago County, Illinois. A roll call vote was taken. Trustees Determan, Bean, Tom Gipe, Hardy, Kim Gipe and Howard voted yes. Motion approved 6-0-0.

A motion was made by Trustee Determan and seconded by Trustee Kim Gipe to approve Ordinance 2023-17 Abating the Tax hereto Levied for the Year 2023 to pay the Principal of and Interest on \$3,500,000 General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2021, of the Village of Pecatonica, Winnebago County, Illinois. A roll call vote was taken. Trustees Bean, Tom Gipe, Hardy, Kim Gipe, Howard and Determan voted yes. Motion approved 6-0-0.

4. 2023-18 Ordinance Abating the Tax hereto Levied for the Year 2023 to pay the Principal of and Interest on \$3,500,000 General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2021, of the Village of Pecatonica, Winnebago County, Illinois, - 1st Reading

A motion was made by Trustee Determan and seconded by Trustee Howard to waive the rules to approve Ordinance 2023-18 Abating the Tax hereto Levied for the Year 2023 to pay the Principal of and Interest on \$3,500,000 General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2021, of the Village of Pecatonica, Winnebago County, Illinois. A roll call vote was taken. Trustees Tom Gipe, Hardy, Kim Gipe, Howard, Determan and Bean voted yes. Motion approved 6-0-0.

A motion was made by Trustee Determan and seconded by Trustee Tom Gipe to approve Ordinance 2023-18 Abating the Tax hereto Levied for the Year 2023 to pay the Principal of and Interest on \$3,500,000 General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2021, of the Village of Pecatonica, Winnebago County, Illinois. A roll call vote was taken. Trustees Hardy, Kim Gipe, Howard, Determan, Bean and Tom Gipe voted yes. Motion approved 6-0-0.

5. 2023-19 An Ordinance Authorizing the Village of Pecatonica, Winnebago County, Illinois to Borrow Funds from the Public Water Supply Loan Program – 1st Reading

President Heister stated that this loan is for the Lead Line Replacement Project even though we are scheduled to receive 100% loan forgiveness we still have to go through these formalities.

A motion was made by Trustee Howard and seconded by Trustee Tom Gipe to waive the rules to approve Ordinance 2023-19 An Ordinance Authorizing the Village of Pecatonica, Winnebago County, Illinois to Borrow Funds from the Public Water Supply Loan Program. A roll call vote was taken. Trustees Kim Gipe, Howard, Determan, Bean, Tom Gipe and Hardy voted yes. Motion approved 6-0-0.

A motion was made by Trustee Tom Gipe and seconded by Trustee Kim Gipe to approve Ordinance 2023-19 An Ordinance Authorizing the Village of Pecatonica, Winnebago County, Illinois to Borrow Funds from the Public Water

Supply Loan Program. A roll call vote was taken. Trustees Howard, Determan, Bean, Tom Gipe, Hardy and Kim Gipe voted yes. Motion approved 6-0-0.

D. Legal (Attorney Kurlinkus) – Attorney Kurlinkus stated by State law all municipalities have to pass a paid leave ordinance which will have to be approved before January 1, 2024 and spoke with Chief Summers about traffic prosecution and I will need to draft a letter for President Hesiter to sign asking the States Attorney to appoint our office as the Attorney for traffic prosecution for Pecatonica.

E. Finance (Chairman Determan)

1. **Next meeting:** Tuesday, December 12, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
2. **Chairman Report** – Trustee Determan stated that the tax levy will be discussed at the next meeting and would like to invite everyone to the next meeting as we will be reviewing all of our outstanding loans

F. Planning Commission/Zoning Board

1. **Next meeting:** Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

G. Public Works (Chairman Tom Gipe)

1. **Next meeting:** Tuesday, January 2, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.
2. **Chairman Report** – Trustee Gipe stated that the committee met this past Monday and starting to look at some equipment that is starting to show some wear and tear such as the street sweeper and the lead service line replacement is moving along.
3. **Public Work's Report-** Nick reported that he was not able to provide an accurate monthly report due to the cable being down, as it's now operational and bills should be able to be mailed shortly. Discussed if the auto pays would be scheduled for the 25th and Trustee Howard thought it would have been nice if a call out about the late bills could have been done instead of Facebook. President Heister stated that it was also on the website and there was too much information that needed to go out with there being many unknowns. No late fees will be charged. Nick stated that the snow and ice equipment has been out twice without having to use the plows.
4. **Engineer's Report -**

President Heister stated that Jason is working on providing information that will go to the Residents about the lead line replacement project, Nick reported that the airlifting was completed as they did slightly exceed the twenty-four hours and will know a lot more once the camera work is completed. Working on the final and only pay request for the 3rd Street project since it's completed.

H. Public Safety (Chairman Howard)

1. **Next meeting:** Wednesday, January 3, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.
2. **Chairman Report** – Trustee Howard stated that the committee discussed time limit parking and more information will be forth coming.
3. **Police Department Report-** Matt reviewed the monthly and the server for the body cams will be installed next week.

I. Economic Development Committee (Chairman Hardy) –

1. **Next Meeting:** Monday, December 11, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

2. **Chairman Report** – Trustee Hardy stated not much to report since the last meeting was cancelled, Nicholas McGee was appointed as a community at large member. and looking forward to working with everyone.

J. Treasurer (Sherry Bessert) - Sherry stated that the warrant list includes some loan payments which is why the total is high and working on budgets with Tom and Bill.

A motion was made by Trustee Howard and seconded by Trustee Determan to approve warrant list #978 in the amount of \$351,782.29. There was no discussion. A roll call vote was taken. Trustees Determan, Bean, Tom Gipe, Hardy, Kim Gipe and Howard voted yes. Motion approved 6-0-0.

A motion was made by Trustee Hardy and seconded by Trustee Tom Gipe to approve warrant list #979 in the amount of \$2,630.00. President Heister stated this is for the cyber insurance policy. A roll call vote was taken. Trustee, Bean, Tom Gipe, Hardy, Kim Gipe, Howard and Determan voted yes. Motion approved 6-0-0.

A motion was made by Trustee Tom Gipe and seconded by Trustee Howard to approve payroll total of \$33,185.83 for period ending November 19, 2023. There was no discussion. Trustees Tom Gipe, Hardy, Kim Gipe, Howard, Determan and Bean voted yes. Motion approved 6-0-0.

K. Clerk's Items (Gwenn Shirley) – Gwenn stated that we are in the process of updating all of the laptops with software that will be under the Village's name instead of the previous President's account and once we have the laptops back from Rockford IT they will be assigned an inventory number, and on each Trustee's desk is a copy of an article about extending rail service between Freeport and Rockford. Being that Pecatonica is between these two areas it was requested that Board members attend the meeting that is tonight at 6:00 p.m.

President Heister stated that the next meeting will have a short agenda as we will have an Christmas party following the meeting.

L. Executive Session – None.

1. **Action on Items Arising out of Executive Session-** None

M. Adjournment –A motion was made by Trustee Tom Gipe and seconded by Trustee Howard to adjourn. All Trustees voted aye. Motion approved 6-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.