

Minutes from October 15, 2009 Village Board Meeting

The Argyle Village Board of Trustees held a regular meeting on Thursday, October 15 at 5:30 PM at the Municipal Building.

Present: Mayor Ed Ellithorpe, Trustees Joanne McDowell, Cher McCotter and Joe Lohret. Deputy Clerk Wesley Clark, Water Commissioner Garry Robinson (arr. 6:00 PM), Attorney Kathy Radner, Marvin Olick, Michelle DeGarmo

Absent: Trustee Pete Adams

Mayor Ellithorpe called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Mayor Ellithorpe presented to those in attendance copies of his letter of resignation. This is effective November 15, 2009. Mayor Ellithorpe expressed his appreciation for all the cooperation he has received, and said his time as mayor had been enjoyable. He is intending to take a disability retirement from his full time job, and did not want his job as mayor to create a conflict.

The board discussed several possible options. Attorney Radner stated that the Board can appoint someone to serve until the end of the officer's year, which is March 31. The position could also be left vacant, with Deputy Mayor McDowell serving as Mayor. This presents problems in that the board would function with only three members, due to the continued absence of Trustee Adams. The Board could act to appoint someone at a special meeting. The Board agreed that they would make an appointment at the next regular meeting, which is scheduled for November 18. Mayor Ellithorpe gave his keys to Deputy Mayor McDowell and Deputy Clerk Clark, since he will be leaving for hunting camp tomorrow for 40 days.

Mayor Ellithorpe updated the Board on the status of the housing improvement grant being administered by Marvin & Co. Work is progressing on several homes, and many compliments have been received.

Representatives Marvin Olick and Michelle DeGarmo of Marvin and Company presented a report on other grant options that may be of benefit to the Village. Several of the stronger options were highlighted, and Board members indicated enthusiasm at proceeding. Michelle stated that deadlines were generally in March, so they would need to know in November or December which grants to pursue.

Mayor Ellithorpe asked Attorney Radner about the correct way of disposing of old computer equipment. She suggested making a list and having it declared surplus property. Next it can be offered for sale, if it has a value. Attorney Radner, Marvin and Michelle left the meeting at this point.(6:35 PM)

The current situation with the Town of Argyle was reviewed. Clerk Giana Cross is no longer accepting mail for the Village. It was agreed that the Village would open its own mailbox at the Post Office, and arrange a drop box at the Stiles house. We will investigate whether the bank can

collect taxes and water rents, in a similar arrangement to the current school tax collections.

Mike Newell has offered to perform snow removal services this winter at a rate of \$60 per hour for sidewalks and hydrants, and \$115 per trip for the wells and tank. This was agreed to by the Board.

The former IGA has reopened as a logging supply store. It has been approved under the fire code, but has no permission to serve food. This is not a change of use under the zoning law.

Water Commissioner Garry Robinson reported on a number of issues. The State Health Department requires a break in the connection to Summit Lake, and this will be done by 11/30. Also required is a flow paced chlorinator, which needs to be installed by 9/30/10. Chlorination byproduct sampling has been done, and the average flow for the month has been 39,000 gallons per day. The new water meters are here, and Randy Cuthbert will install some this fall.

The status of sewer grants was also reviewed by Commissioner Robinson. Applications are being accepted by Rural Water, with no particular deadline, but availability of funds is uncertain. It was agreed that Commissioner Robinson will resubmit the Village's application one more time.

On a motion by Trustee Lohret, seconded by Mayor Ellithorpe, and carried, bills were approved for payment.

On a motion by Trustee McDowell, seconded by Trustee McCotter and carried, the minutes of the September 14 meeting were approved.

Mayor Ellithorpe reported on the dedication of the Sheridan memorial stone at the Stiles house on October 3. The ceremony was well attended, and the memorial well received.

The haunted Stiles house fundraiser will be October 23 and 24.

Future meeting times and dates were set as follows:

November 18 @ 5:30 PM regular meeting

On a motion by Trustee McCotter, seconded by Trustee McDowell and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Wesley Clark
Deputy Clerk