

**Village of Milledgeville  
County of Carroll  
State of Illinois**

**Minutes from April 4, 2016**

A Regular Board meeting was Called to Order at 7:30 p.m. at the Village Hall. The Pledge was recited and Roll was Called. The following Trustees responded as "Here", Bill Stage, Gary Geirnaeirt, John Helms, Bryan Trotter and Wayne Sprecher.

Others Present: Jeff Hackbarth, Jim Haag, Dean Hollewell, Sharon Pepin, Jamie, Tami, Zach, Carson and Ethan Diehl, Andrea and Zane Jones, Jennifer, Wyatt, Jackson, Caleb, Evelyn Geerts, Jason , Jennifer, Ethan, Austin, Evelyn Kovach.

MOTION was made by Geirnaeirt, sec. by Stage to approve the Minutes from the March 21, 2016 Board Meeting. Motion carried (5-0).

MOTION was made by Stage, sec. by Geirnaeirt, to pay all current bills as presented. Motion carried (5-0) by omnibus vote.

Old Business: The engineering work for the area in front of the Brethren Church was the next item. It is a not to exceed contract of \$11,000.00 for engineering and surveying. MOTION was made by Stage, sec. by Helms, to approve the contract. Motion carried (5-0) by Roll Call vote.

New business: Tami Diehl was present and asked the Village if they would change the poultry ordinance to allow residents to have chickens. She said she wants her kids to be able to raise them for FFA and 4-H. She said we are a rural community and don't allow animals in town except dogs and cats. She had a picture of what they would build to house the chickens and she said that two of her kids have disabilities and studies have shown that chickens help these kids. She said Shannon allows chickens and they have not had one problem with them. She said she has talked to all her neighbors except one and they are all ok with her having the chickens. She had also talked to the gentleman that runs the food pantry and he goes through 47 dozen eggs in one month and the extras she gets will be donated to the pantry. She also said it could be a small income for the Village if we would charge a license fee for having the chickens. She said Lanark also has an Ordinance against the chickens but they are going to change it. Galen said we do allow poultry in town currently, it just has to be 100 feet from the neighbors residence. Bryan asked what the fee in Shannon is and she said \$25.00 for a permit and the building plan needs to be shown 12X12 is the biggest that's allowed. Tami said the Ordinance was put into effect in 1976 and it is outdated. She said their family has a huge garden to supplement their food and they would like eggs also. Stage said there is a huge difference between gardens and chickens and he also said he wouldn't want chickens in his neighborhood. Tami said her neighbors are all ok with them. Stage asked what happens when someone moves and the person who moves in doesn't want them. Tami said if they moved in and the chickens were there then if they didn't want to live by chickens they shouldn't buy the home. Stage said he feels we should leave it as it is. Jason asked where the 100 foot rule came from. The Trustees guessed that it was to protect neighbors from run off from the coops, smell of the chickens etc. Jason said the cages are contained and they are less of a nuisance than dogs and cats. Tami said the neighbor she has owns 6 dogs and she was worried for her kids' safety. The chickens would be fine. Jennifer Geerts said what is a nuisance to one person is not to another. Jason said if there is a mutual concern he feels it needs to be addressed. Galen asked if there was a Motion to change the existing

Ordinance and there was no Motion made. Jason said the bigger problem here is we live in a free country and should be allowed to own what we want. Tami said she thought the Boards responsibility was to represent the residents. Jennifer asked if the fee was Bryans main concern and Bryan said if the people feel strongly enough about this they need to get a petition and see if others feel the same. Helms said there used to be chickens in town and Stage said there were probably horses and cows at one time also. Galen said this was a dead issue at this time as no one made a Motion to change the Ordinance.

The Village's website was next on the agenda. Christy talked to Darci Imel the other day about updating the website to have Meta Data. It will cost the Village \$170.00 and would be more easily accessed from cell phones and tablets. MOTION was made by Stage, sec. by Geirnaeirt to update. Motion carried (5-0).

Galen asked the Trustees about placing an ad in the fair book this year. It would cost \$30.00 and the Trustees agreed to advertise. MOTION was made by Helms, sec. by Trotter. Motion carried (5-0).

Galen wondered about getting the budget done at the next meeting. We would have a meeting at 6:00 before the regular meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Stage thinks if we started at 6:30 it would be plenty of time. Helms will try to meet with Haag and Stage said he would see if he had time to meet with Jeff so those were already basically done before the 18<sup>th</sup>.

Sharon Pepin was present. She said we have started receiving some money from IDOT for the Industrial Park She reminded the Board that the interior roads are 50/50 with Bio-Ag and IDOT each paying half and the turn lane will be 100% IDOT funded. She said MBA owes the Village \$1580.00 at this time and they will get that to us as soon as possible. She said hopefully the turn lane will be approved by the end of the year and Wendler will have the plans for the interior roads ready by June or July. If another company purchases a lot there and they need roads sooner the project could get moved up but otherwise they will bid out interior roads in the spring of 2017 Wendler thinks they may get a better price on the work if the turn lane and the interior roads are done at the same time. Sharon asked the Village if they have any questions or concerns about anything in the Industrial Park and Galen said it's theirs to do with as they see fit. Trotter said he agrees as long as they don't cause problems for anyone else with drainage issues or anything like that. Sharon said as long as they follow IDOT, Village and company standards they are good to go. She said the environmental site assessments showed no risks. The Trustees thanked her.

MOTION was made by Geirnaeirt, sec. by Stage to approve Ordinance # 769 to approve one hard liquor license for Casey's General Store. Motion carried (5-0) by Roll Call vote.

MOTION was made by Trotter, sec. by Geirnaeirt, to approve Ordinance #780 that requires all alcohol servers have BASSETT Training so we are in compliance with the 2018 law in the future. Motion carried (5-0) by Roll Call vote.

Committee Reports: Gary said he got the papers from Christy to start looking over the budget numbers for the next meeting.

John said Jim and he had discussed body cameras and they feel we should wait until the State decides which ones we should get so we are up to the State standards.

Stage said the guys have been working on trees. Jeff said he took the boom to Ag-Tech to be looked at. It hasn't been working right and since Brown lets us use it we are going to get it fixed. Jeff was contacted about seeding the water looping areas and Jeff said as soon as it dries out a bit and gets warmer they are ready to go with that. Jeff wondered about putting the green pick-up truck at Bibler's with a for-sale sign on it. The Trustees said if Jim is OK with that it would be a good idea. Jeff said he was working on the burn pile and had a complaint about the smoke. He said when they lit the fire the wind was in the right direction but it changed.

With No Further Business, MOTION was made by Geirnaeirt, sec. by Trotter to adjourn at 8:19 p.m.  
Motion carried.

Approved Minutes Taken by

Christine A. Ottens, Village Clerk