

Elsie Council Minutes February 13th 2024

President Frink called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Members Present: Council members: Dorothy Ornelas, Kory Witt, Todd Carroll, Sam Frink, Joe Ondrusek Excused absents; Clerk/Treasurer Tiffany Frank (excused)

Ex-Officios Present: Village Manager, Shane Grinnell; Police Chief Bryce, DPW Supervisor Ormes

AGENDA: Village attorney topic was added under Police Department, and Fire Board update was added under Committees. Witt moved; Carroll seconded to accept the agenda as amended. MOTION CARRIED.

MINUTES: Carroll moved, Ornelas seconded to approve the January 2023, Council Meeting Minutes as written. MOTION CARRIED.

INVOICES: Carroll moved; Ornelas seconded to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$76,907.80 MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION STEPS:

SPECIAL REPORTS

PRESIDENT: The 2024-25 proposed Budget was presented. Changes to the budget includes close to \$4,000 increase in state road funding, and the estimated revenue sharing from the state is expected to increase slightly. It was also noted that there will be a slight water/sewer billing increase. The next Budget committee meeting is Friday Feb 16th at 3:30pm in the Village Office conference room.

In the end of 2023 Tiffany Frank was appointed as permanent Clerk/Treasurer for the Village of Elsie However, to have Mrs. Frank as an authorized check signer, the council needed to approve it in a council meeting. Carroll moved; S Frink seconded to approve Tiffany Frank, Elsie Village Clerk/Treasurer to have complete access to all Village of Elsie accounts, and act as an authorized representative and to include Mrs. Frank as a check signer for the Village of Elsie accounts. Current authorized account/check representatives Thomas Frink, Shane Grinnell, and Tiffany Frank. Carroll moved; Ornelas seconded to approve authorized account/check representatives Thomas Frink, Shane Grinnell, and Tiffany Frank. MOTION CARRIED.

CLERK:

POLICE:

Police Chief Bryce gave her oral report to the board and answered any questions they may have. Highlights where police activity has been down for the month, the police department handled a couple suspicious situations, animal complaints and some property damage accidents. Police Chief Bryce advised that she has updated the FOA policy to current standards. The Chief also advised that Elsie Police Department responded to a traffic crash in town and Elsie Police arrived first. upon their arrival they found the driver unresponsive. Officer Grinnell recognized the medical issue and administered Narcan that is equipped in each patrol vehicle. The patient had a positive outcome due to Officer Grinnell's actions. Police Chief Bryce advised they have written 3 tickets in the last

week at the Elsie Dam for trespassing. Per Duplain township the Park and Elsie dam is closed and it's a ZERO tolerance situation for trespassing. It was noted that Duplain township has given Elsie Police jurisdiction in Duplain township to assist them when needed.

Carroll moved; Ondrusek seconded to approve the police report and presented MOTION CARRIED

Chief Bryce and Manager Grinnell met with Dave Revore, a Municipal law attorney. Chief Bryce recommended to the council to hire Mr. Brevard as our Village attorney. His firm is McGinty, Hitch, Pearson, Anderson & Revore. They represents other departments/villages/townships that include several within Clinton County. Carroll moved; S Frink seconded to approve hiring the new attorney by resolution 2024-03. RESOLUTION Passed.

MANAGER/CODE ENFORCEMENT:

Still moving forward with the JR school project (aka Elsie development) The Quite Title project has been completed and recorded at the Clinton County Register of Deeds Office. The developer is hopeful to start physically on the building in the spring of 2024.

Grinnell has been working with Consumers Energy on having them install a few streetlights along N State St and the north side of the park. This project was approved a few months ago, and the cost is \$8,000 to have consumers install and maintain 5 streetlights/poles down by the park. The cost of the light use will be added to the Street lights account. Grinnell advised there is more paperwork to be completed, but the project date is expected to be completed in Spring of 2024.

On the Code enforcement side of things Grinnell is working with Clinton County Building Department on a potentially dangerous building located in the downtown district. The building department and Code enforcement are working with the owner of the building for a resolution.

Officer Grinnell attended the annual update class on motor carrier laws etc. This was put on by Delta College and taught by Michigan Stater Police Motor Carrier Division.

At the spring business owners meeting held at the village office in the fall of 2023 BNM trailer sales was able to get connected with the state of Michigan on some property clean up assistance. Part of the application process is they needed a letter of support from the Village of Elsie. Manager Grinnell provided the letter of support.

Grinnell advised the Village Accountants to have completed the year end reports and Act 51 paperwork. This paperwork has been submitted to the state of Michigan. He also advised the accounts and treasurer is getting ready for the 2024 Audit that is coming up.

Grinnell advised that a municipal representative from State Bank stopped in and advised some of the Free programs they have for Municipal governments. This included a check scanner/remote capture deposit. Grinnell advised one of the complaints he and Treasurer Frank have is the time it takes to process a check with the current system. If 1 check has an issue it could hold up the weekly deposit. Grinnell was going to reach out to the villages current bank and find out if they offer this service. Grinnell advised he would keep the council updated on any new information or recommendation.

Carroll moved; Onderusek seconded to approve the Dec 2023 Manager/Code Enforcement Report
MOTION CARRIED.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:

Ormes talked about the lagoon system and that he has a soft start ordered.

The Island Road lift station project panel installation has been completed. So far, it's working well. Ormes advised the street signs have been ordered. They have had 1 water Main break this "season."
Carroll: moved, S Frink seconded to approve DPW report as written. MOTION CARRIED

COMMITTEES:

The budget committee will be meeting Friday Feb 16th at 3:30 PM in the Village office Conference room.

Jason Freeman advised in President Frink's absents he was acting as the Elsie Fire board representative for the village. He advised the board has an active investigation going on.

Larry Melvin, a village resident thanked Elsie Police Department and Code Enforcement for always working hard to better the village. Mr. Melvin had a question about a flag that includes questionable language. Grinnell advised he had spoken to our former Village attorney, and it was protected under freedom of speech. Grinnell did ask the homeowner where the flag is located if it could be removed, however the village cannot force the removal of said flag. Mr. Melvin also mention a couple blight properties, and Grinnell and Chief Bryce advised him they will be working with Mr. Revore at suggesting some changes to the local ordinances that would allow a faster turn time frame and up to a citation on blight properties.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

ADJOURNMENT: Witt moved; S. Frink seconded to adjourn the February 2024 Council Meeting at 8:00 p.m. MOTION CARRIED.

Thomas Frink
Village President

Shane Grinnell
Deputy Village Clerk