



VILLAGE OF DOWNS BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
CONTINUED BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
7:00 PM  
March 17, 2016

Village Hall  
211 S. Seminary St,  
PO Box 18  
Downs, IL 61736

1. Mayor Mike James called the continued meeting from March 3, 2016 on March 17, 2016 to order at 7:01PM.
2. Roll call was taken with Trustees Roach, Goveia, Messamore and Keylin were all present. Trustee Lush was absent. Also, present were Clerk James, Treasurer Bakewell and Attorney Dawn Wall.
3. The Pledge of Allegiance was taken.
4. Public comment – A concerned citizen, expressed her concern over a burglar attempt at her home. She feels we need to have more police protection. We need more coverage than the Chief is capable to provide. Chief Dingler would like to put a mechanism in place for alerting other small towns we are having a concern with an individual/group.
5. 2016-2017 Budget
  - Treasurer Bakewell went through the individual budget funds.
  - She anticipates paying for 2 audits for this fiscal year (2015 again and 2016).
  - She hopes our TIF fine will be waived.
  - The Mayor would like the trustees to ponder a .5% sales tax increase. The county sales tax is 7.75%. The tax increase would help offset the police fund.
  - Bakewell will make the updates from tonight's meeting.
  - She is waiting on Lush to get the MFT budget finished.
  - Clerk James will have the budget noticed published in the 3/24/16 Leroy Press.
  - The board will need to pass the budget ordinance at April board meeting.
  - The proposed budget needs to be made available to the public by 3/28/16.
6. Streets Fund
  - Mayor James said the streets department will be looking to hire a full time/part time person to assist Kevin. This person will also manage the mowing/snow plowing employees. We are transitioning into a public works department.
  - The streets department is planning a capital expense of \$35,000 for a truck. Going forward all new vehicles that we buy, with exception of the police department, will be able to plow snow.
  - Goveia would like to see a list of assets (vehicles in particular) we own.
7. Water Fund
  - The water fund will have a capital expense of \$3.5 million for the water extension project.
8. Police Fund
  - Roach is planning an increase in the Chief's salary by \$1/hr.
  - Roach is also planning to add 2 part-time police officers working 60 hours/month at \$12/hour.
9. Village Market
  - The village market will be showing less income. They won't be doing a newsletter due to the person who normally does it is not available this year.
10. Other Discussion
  - We are still waiting on the Enbridge grant of \$5000.
  - Goveia says Living Hope thinks they are annexed in and have provided the needed paperwork, which is not the case.
  - Beecher Trails is looking at a 4<sup>th</sup> phase. There is a parcel of land that Living Hope doesn't need. James is not sure how many more homes this will be.
  - Bowers contacted the Mayor about sharing in some of the cost. This would help us in getting water to Downs Crossing.
  - This would also allow us to get an entrance way onto Rt. 150 as an alternate exit to Beecher. It is possible that we would only have to pay for one turn-in.

11. A motion to adjourn at 9:40PM. was made by Keylin and seconded by Roach. Approved 4-0



Julie James  
Village Clerk