Meeting Minutes January 25,2021

At a scheduled public hearing of the board of Trustees of the Village of Port Byron held in the municipal building at 6:57PM, the following people were present:

Mayor: Ronald Wilson Trustee: Jeff Emerson

Trustee: Patrick Fenton

Trustee: Mary Jump

Trustee: Jeff Girvin

Village Clerk: Sandy Hall

DPW: Steve Applebee

Public: John Murphy from Blair and Noah Dew from Zenner

Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:57 PM. Mayor Wilson asked everyone present to please stand for the Pledge to the Flag and a Moment of Silence.

Mayor Wilson started by introducing the board members to both John Murphy from Blair and Noah Dew from Zenner.

Mayor Wilson turned the floor over to John Murphy and Noah Dew.

John Murphy started off by telling the board that he works for Blair, which has been around for 62 years. John stated that it is a family operated business. They work with municipality with water waste. John stated that they put together a proposal. He also said that Zenner is not new, but the technology is new. Zenner is geared toward smaller municipality. John had stated that Blair picked up Zenner, they have been around global for over 92 years. Zenner allows flexibility to start off small and grow. John also stated that with Zenner technology, you no longer need to drive around.

Noah Dew stated that he started with Zenner 8 years ago. Zenner is geared toward smaller, 10,000 or less scalable solutions. The cost of ownership is a lower cost than others, which makes it more reliable and flexible. Trustee Girvin asked were you would get a line of sight. Noah said that you do not really use of line of sight, the data will move along to work together.

John handed out a proposal that was written up with the pricing and quotes. John discussed that you would have your own Wi-Fi/iPad. Trustee Girvin asked who pays for the Wi-Fi, John stated that it comes with the package, it can be outfitted with Wi-Fi connection. John also stated that the collectors cellular is easy to maintain, but it cost $30 a month per unit. Trustee Girvin asked where the repeaters would go. John stated that it can go anywhere. Noah said that the repeaters are necessary but may not need 20 repeaters for the meters. Noah stated that we may not need everything; the engineer will be out to work with the village. Noah also did state that it would be in the cloud if we did go cellular, to access online/web. John said that we would get the software, program, training and running the reports.

John stated that the compound would be the actual meter, coder meter, MIU unit and the outdoor box. Steve stated that the head will go on the body.

John said that it would be $1 per meter to hold in cloud. He also stated that it will be the same software every year unless there is a software update. Trustee Girvin asked if there is a hidden fee. John said that there would be a warranty. He also stated that it would be $1200 for software. Noah mentioned that he has not seen the annual fee changed in years.

Steve stated that badger wants us to go cellular, it would be $10 annual per meter.

Mayor Wilson asked if we do a drive by, then we would just need to do the second part with the Zenner stealth command software SUI with Trimble handheld program tool, which we would also need to do a minimum 3-day onsite training and billing software support. Mayor Wilson stated that this way we can just keep the Trimble and we can add on as we go.

Trustee Girvin stated that drive by would be less expensive and we can also update later.

Trustee Emerson asked what the cost difference would be. John stated that it would be about $8400, but this is not including mobile reading portion, which we would need to do drive by. Trustee Girvin stated that would be a good idea to try the product first.

Trustee Emerson stated that the end user can see if the meter is reading. If someone is away from home, the office can have the ability to see this and contact the person.

Trustee Girvin stated that the fix network would be better, and can it be read in a pit. Noah did state that it is possible.

Noah also stated that if the quote that they provided us does not mention an equipment, then it will be covered by Zenner. Trustee Fenton asked if they work on our meters, Noah stated that it would.

Steve stated that that if the collector goes bad, we will need the encoders.

Trustee Emerson stated if we offer the homeowners a choice, they will pay the difference, but if the meter goes bad, then there would be no choice.

Steve stated that the handheld will get the update, it is all web based, no one has to come in and hookup.

John stated that it would be $1200 for the cloud after the first 12 months.

Trustee Jump asked how long do the collector need to be replaced. Noah had answered as part of the annual fee if you need a new collector, it will be replaced or fixed, it is including with annual fee.

John said he can eliminate the infrastructure and do just a drive by to see what it would look like. Trustee Girvin said that he would like to see that and if we want to update later, we can.

Noah stated that there is a 15-year guarantee accuracy, and most places only are 5 years.

Steve said that the meter never speeds up, it just slow down.

Noah explained that if someone has a question about the bill with this system, you can see it and explain by looking up the address. Noah also explained that you can see the consumption that was used to tell the resident what they used. Noah stated that you can also make a graph of what they used. Noah had explained to us an example of that happened when they had 2 handheld that went bad. He said that the company they went through for those handhelds no longer made them. Noah said that they needed to come up with something, so this did not happen again. Noah told us that the android can be loaded to any device. Noah stated with this said, we do not need another handheld. Noah said that any other questions we may have, we can call them.

Mayor Wilson did mention that if Microsoft comes with new software, we need to update everything. Mayor Wilson also mentioned that this would eliminate the guys to go out and read meters.

Mayor Wilson questioned the Board if there was anything else to discuss. Nothing else to discuss. Motion to adjourn the scheduled Village Board Meeting of January 25, 2021 made by Trustee Girvin.

Second motion made by Trustee Emerson.

All in favor 5-0

Meeting Adjourned: 8:23 PM

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Village Clerk Hall