

**Ironwood Homeowners Association Meeting**  
**Ironwood Clubhouse**  
**Annual Meeting Minutes**  
**January 9, 2018**

**Guest Panel Members present:** Mark Peterson (retiring), Greg Leipold, Pam Reece, Kathleen Lorenz, Craig Onsrud, Tyler Bain, Gene Kolinsky.

**Residents present:** There were 15 residents of Ironwood present.

**Greg Leipold, Normal Police Department:** Talked about Town of Normal stats. Discussed 3 burglaries (one locked, one unlocked and one attempted). Stated that they were very sporadic. Vehicle burglaries (0 reported for 2017). Residents should continue to lock doors of vehicles. There were two thefts in the neighborhood, one from damaged property. There were 13 other criminal reports for the town. The number one crime in town is identify theft, there were 10 cases reported. Of the domestic calls received, 14 were in the area from 2 different addresses. Greg posted on Nextdoor to remind members to come to the meeting and strongly encouraged residents to join Nextdoor. Some important notices are included on the site. Also noted that it is not an app to contact the police. Left the statistic sheet for residents to view.

Question from Resident: Regarding incidents, last Sunday at almost 9 am traffic was backed up and there was an accident. Traffic sat for about 20 minutes before traffic cleared. Concern was is it an issue for the City if there is an emergency that takes place on either entrance, how do we get out or in during that time if the road is blocked. Greg stated that it is a concern on how to get in and most members of the police department know of alternate routes to get into the subdivision in the case of an emergency when the main entrances are blocked. In the case of an emergency for a resident needing to get out, they may just have to wait until fire/police arrive and can move traffic. Depending on the nature of the emergency, you can find a way to get through in other areas, such as clearances.

Another concern was in regards to a recent break-in. A resident asked if it would it be advantageous for the city to put up cameras at the main intersection; would that help to identify cars/individuals. Greg stated they are a fantastic idea but would ask the question to residents of what security measures they may take on their own homes. The issue with pole cameras (on the street) is that they are expensive and then other neighborhoods may also want them. Would be a huge investment for the entire community. A lot of people don't like the idea of public cameras as an unreasonable invasion of privacy.

**Kathleen Lorenz, Town Council Member:** noted that both herself and Scott Preston are residents and it's nice to have council members that live in the neighborhood.

**Pam Reece:** no comments

**Craig Onsrud, Golf Course:** Golf season was good, lasted for a while due to the weather. Numbers for the golf course were consistent with the last 3 years. It was a good year for revenue due to outings and season pass holders. No changes in fees or prices for 2018. Appreciates calls from homeowners in regards to golf course activity that may need assistance. They are following up on all calls from homeowners and appreciate the communication. Ironwood is hosting the medal play tournament this year, in the fall. Farnsworth has been in to discuss changes to the clubhouse and has provided some renderings and the town has also provided some ideas. They have sent up surveyors but are still waiting

on first drafts. Some ideas include larger banquet area, separate banquet area for larger parties, re-arranging the pro shop area and adding simulators, larger storage area and prep kitchen area for catering purposes and locker room area. This would not be a full rebuild but rather a renovation. The project is not funded yet but the town has plans and a rough idea of cost.

**Mark Peterson, City Manager:** mentioned the improvements on the sand traps are fantastic. The cart paths have been redone and were way overdue and look terrific. Thanks to Kathleen and her colleagues for pushing the recent investments to Ironwood.

Resident mentioned that the golf course looks great! Golf paths are elevated and was curious on when the dirt would be put in.

**Tyler Bain, Golf Course:** Noted that there isn't an easy way to get the dirt out to the golf path. They have started the process and it's decent at this point but it may take some time to get the project completed. The idea is to get the worst areas first and then work on the rest. The issue is that we are working with small vehicles so it will take longer to get the carts back to all areas of the path. They will begin the project as soon as they can. Bunkers were finished this year, for most golfers, they are pretty well designed and easy to get out of. They look better than the previous ones and are more functional, especially with water issues. One issue is how to get better at the softness of the bunkers. They are currently working on fixing this issue. Tyler thinks the bunkers should be good for the long term. If anything fails, the contractor is committed to fixing it.

Resident asked about Ash Trees, if any of them survived. There are still 10 or so left that we are working with ISU on teaching them the process of removal. They are roughly 40% done with stump grinding. The holes were not filled in, will do that once the weather allows. Could potentially be done by the end of winter. The ones on the property lines were done first and then they will work on the ones on the course. If you want trees to replace the ones that were removed, Tyler is more than willing to put a decent amount of trees behind your home, he will plant them for you. The strategy for replanting - there may have been 6-10 trees behind some homes. The plan is to plant a good species of tree and do 2-4 depending on the lot size so the tree can grow to maturity. On the course, they are planting oak, elm and maple trees trying to diversify the golf course as much as possible. They currently have around 100 trees planned in the budget, 50 in spring and 50 in fall. The trees are 1 inch to 1 1/2 inches in diameter. Staff noticed hideouts on holes 11 and 17 that kids may be using. There were lawn chairs in the hideout. Went in and cleared it out. Resident mentioned that Tyler may want to mention the hideouts in the next article to let residents and parents aware of what the kids are doing. This year will be focused on maintenance to the course and other projects.

Resident asked if it was safe to say that a resident has special privilege to be on the golf course. Sees neighbors in the evening practicing on the course but did not pay, didn't think that was approved. Residents should pay to be on the course. May help to put a specific notice in the newsletter about playing the course as practice is not allowed. Resident also commented that the tall grasses fall over into his yard and wondered about how often they maintain them. Mark stated that at one time there was an unwritten rule that homeowner could go 6 feet past the property line on the course when they mow.

Resident made the comment that the maintenance guys need to pay attention when they are mowing on where they are spraying the grass.

**Gene Solinsky, Town Engineer:** Questions with Ironwood park or constitution trail go to Gene. Very successful garden at Ironwood park. More baseball play at the park and many compliments on the tennis courts and pickle ball. The project took a while due to contractor issues.

Resident mentioned that one thing that would be nice with the parks is to find a good way to cut through the park. The town plans to connect the path so you can go through the park and connect to Constitution Trail. Not sure on the time frame for that project.

Resident mentioned the stop sign by constitution trail, the yellow warning sign for people to stop. Wondered how often they need to replace the signs. The signs have become a standard feature in other communities. We currently have 5 signs up. They are standard signs that comply with the uniform traffic code which is why those signs are being used.

Resident also mentioned that there probably need to be stop sign on the golf cart for those to stop and yield to vehicles driving through the neighborhood. Mark stated it's up to the golfer to stop and yield to traffic.

Resident asked if the trees on the south side are far enough back so that people have good visibility on the path on Northtown by the trail.

Resident asked if the Normal police department was represented. Have brought up at board meetings before that people with golf carts don't always stop. Mentioned the small stop signs that are on constitution trail, not sure if he needs to stop or if he just needs to slow down. Mark clarified that they are a stop sign only if someone is in the cross walk, it is state law. It also serves as a warning sign to be careful and slow down for pedestrians. Illinois law states that as soon as a pedestrian, foot traffic or cyclist enters the crosswalk and as long as they are in the crosswalk, you must stop. Residents wished the signs would say yield instead of stop.

Resident mentioned that the "no parking" signs need to be replaced as a lot of them are faded.

Resident asked if there was anything on the books to extend the lane between Shelbourne and Raab. There is a farm property on the East Side that, if it develops, there may be changes made to that area. Right now there is no proposal on the books for anything to happen with the development of the farm property.

Resident mentioned overall that we are proud of the Town of Normal listening to our concerns and reacting appropriately.

**Board members present:** JoEllen Bahnsen (Treasurer), David Brown (Communications), Linda Rheeling (Vice President), Walt Clark (Beautification), Ashley Cunningham (Secretary).

**Secretaries Report:** Linda motioned to approve the annual minutes from 2017 as corrected, David second. All in favor.

**Treasurer's Report:** For the full year, \$1,973.34 ending balance. Only difference from 2016 was additional money spent for landscaping and tree replacement. Report and budget was received and filed.

**President's Report:** Linda requested an appointment of an audit committee. Nominated \*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\* to be the resident present for the audit. Dave and Ashley agreed to be the board members  
present. Will perform the audit at 6:30 pm, before the March board meeting.

**Determination of a Quorum:** There are 213 total proxy represented. There are 195 needed for a  
quorum so we have enough to proceed with election of board members. Almost all candidates were  
voted unanimously. One vote cast for \*\*\*\*\* \*\*, Linda will notify him to see if he is interested. There  
is still one more opening on the board. Linda has asked \*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\* if she would be interested in  
being appointed. Linda will follow up with her.

**New Business:** none.

JoEllen moved to adjourn the meeting, Walt Second. Meeting adjourned at 8:45.