

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS  
OF  
VILLAGE BOARD

STATE OF ILLINOIS )  
COUNTY OF HENRY)  
VILLAGE OF ORION)

The regular meeting of the President and Board of Trustees was held at 7:00 p.m., March 18, 2019 at Village Hall, 1202 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Orion, Henry, Illinois. The following members were present: Cooper, Peterson, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, Hancock, and Drucker. Absent: None.

President Cooper called the meeting to order and led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Lawson to approve the minutes of the meeting held March 4, 2019. Ayes: Peterson, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, Hancock, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Lawson to approve the monthly bills: General Fund-\$23,457.37, Recycle-\$2,497.70, Water O&M-\$2,779.43, Sewer O&M-\$3,576.69, Sewer Surplus-\$175.05, Phase II Loan Retire.-\$6,998.75, MFT-\$1,912.03, and Fines-\$2.24. Prior to a vote it was noted that the Invoice Approval List included in officials' packets differed from the amounts being approved. This difference was due to gasoline expense charged to the park department versus the water department, an error that has since been corrected. Ayes: Peterson, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, Hancock, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Trustee Lawson said Street Supt. Neil Dahl will begin work on sidewalk repairs.

President Cooper said he and Henry County Deputy Chad Baze met with the school superintendent in regard to devising a method to allow for the safe crossing of children at 8<sup>th</sup> Street and 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, walking to Orion Middle School. It was noted drivers don't slow down for pedestrians in the crosswalk. The school superintendent indicated a letter could be sent to all parents about being considerate of crosswalks, and he will ask the school board to approve the purchase of lighted/flashing crosswalk signs. Deputy Baze will check pricing for the crosswalk signs.

During the last rain/snowmelt event the sewer collection system was near the point of needing to be pumped but got by without it, as reported by Trustee Hancock. Trustee Hancock briefly noted Tri-City Electric gave a proposal on solar energy.

Trustee Drucker said water usage remains constant, showing no signs of water main leaks. He reminded the public to complete and submit water cross-connection surveys. An inspector from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency inspected the water system and found no deficiencies. Recommendations made were to utilize dehumidifiers in the pump houses and increase water rates. The rate of unbilled-unmetered water should not exceed 15%, but Orion's was 16%. Some of that amount was contributed to the unmetered watering of the baseball infield at Love Park.

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The minutes of March 18, 2019 continued:

Electrical work in the Love Park crow's nest has been completed and four stools were purchased for the building. Trustee Peterson reminded the board an hourly wage needs to be set for the person mowing the parks this summer.

President Cooper said ditch work has begun near the ball field in Love Park. The area should be cordoned off from parking until work is completed. President Cooper also noted that a lot of work needs to be done to the ball diamond before it's ready for play.

The board was reminded of the Finance Committee meeting on March 27, 2019 at 4 p.m. FY 2020 budget requests will be reviewed.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Mitton to approve the use of \$12,705.28 in Special Tax Allotment funds for hydrant replacement in the TIF district. Ayes: Peterson, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, Hancock, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Trustee Mitton said two proposals were received from engineering firms in regard to inspections at the Peterson Frame & Alignment building, a possible consideration for use as village hall. Clerk Sampson and Trustee Mitton will get together to discuss the proposals.

It was noted utility tax revenue will soon be available for another project. Debt associated with the 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue paving and water main installation will be paid off by June or July. This debt was paid for with utility tax revenue.

The board discussed the estimated cost of engineering for a new access street to Love Park. The cost was estimated by IMEG to be between \$61,000 and \$86,000, with the street itself estimated to cost \$500,000. Curb, sidewalk, blacktop, and drainage were included. There was brief discussion about getting proposals from other engineering firms.

President Cooper was asked by a member of the Woodley family if the village would be interested in purchasing property for the extension of 16<sup>th</sup> Street from Love Park to the blacktop. After discussion it was determined the purchase would not benefit the village, though Trustee Newman thought it could be of benefit if used for a bicycle/walking path.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Lawson to adopt Ordinance #2019-2, approving the current zoning map. Ayes: Peterson, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, Hancock, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

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The minutes of March 18, 2019 continued:

Trustee Hancock said the city of Kewanee is doing a solar project. He will investigate the details.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was moved by Drucker, seconded by Hancock to adjourn. Ayes: Peterson, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, Hancock, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Lori A. Sampson  
Village Clerk