

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., April 1, 2019 at Village Hall, 1202 4th 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 18, 2019. Ayes: Peterson, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, Hancock, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

It was moved by Lawson, seconded by Mitton to approve dates for use of the Landscape Waste Site as follows: Saturdays – April 6, 13, & 27 and May 4 & 18 from 8-10 a.m. and Mondays – April 15 and May 6 & 20 from 1-3 p.m. Ayes: Peterson, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, Hancock, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Trustee Lawson reported on two used street sweepers under consideration for purchase. One, available in Davenport, was deemed to be inferior to an alternate machine available for \$10,000 that had fewer hours of use. Due to its location, transportation costs would total \$800. The street superintendent will travel to look at the machine when he returns from vacation. The sweeper could possibly be purchased from the current year's budget. A sweeper was requested in the FY 2020 budget but removed by the Finance Committee. Trustee Newman said the board could still vote to approve the purchase.

An independent contractor has been hired to replace sidewalks where problem areas exist.

Sewer Supt. Chris Lundburg and President Cooper met with two representatives from Golars Environmental Engineering regarding remediation of contaminated soil near Orion Mart. The company is looking at a more aggressive approach to rid the soil of contamination and wants to dump water used in the process into the village's sewer collection system. Supt. Lundburg said he would only agree to processing if Golars obtained all necessary permits, the village could stop processing the waste at any time, the company pays the same rate as charged to Millenium for processing services, and the waste would not damage the plant. Golars would otherwise have to truck out the waste and have it processed elsewhere. The product, by the time it runs through the Golars filtration process, is deemed mostly water. The company will begin the new remediation process this fall, which will require the operation of a generator 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The process could last two years or more. Concerns of noise were discussed. President Cooper said he would investigate the possibility of locating the generator on a parcel of land north of Orion Mart to mitigate noise. The noise level of the generator was estimated by Golars to be 67 decibels.

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The minutes of April 1, 2019 continued:

It was moved by Hancock, seconded by Peterson to advertise for a part-time summer employee. Ayes: Peterson, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, Hancock, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Trustee Drucker reminded residents to complete and submit water cross-connection surveys, as required by the Illinois EPA.

Park bathrooms had been opened for the season and had to be winterized again due to cold weather. Discussion was held about getting the baseball field watering system functional for the season.

It was moved by Peterson, seconded by Mitton to offer the park mowing position to Mr. Dan Ford at a rate of \$12 per hour. It was noted Mr. Ford will not be working with the Street Department this year, and there was limited discussion about the pay rate of the other part-time summer position. The motion was called for a vote. Ayes: Peterson, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, Hancock, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Trustee Peterson said a young man is performing community service for the village by cleaning up both parks and has been doing a good job. Work was done on the lock at the crow's nest, and footprints on a door to the storage building in Central Park indicated someone tried to kick it in. The action was not caught on security camera footage.

President Cooper asked the board to consider paying all or part of a \$1,700 invoice for the installation of siding on the crow's nest and dugouts at Love Park. The bill was presented to the Orion High School baseball coach by the contractor. Most of the previous work to the crow's nest had been donated. Trustee Peterson opposed paying for the work as did Trustee Mitton, since it wasn't pre-approved. Trustee Mitton said a successful fundraiser had been held by the baseball group and it should be able to absorb the expense. Trustee Lawson said the coach presumed the work was going to be donated. The topic will be put on the April 15th agenda for action.

Orion Little League will put sponsor signs on fencing in Love Park. A question was raised about a ditch dug by Park Supt. Arnie Sandberg in Love Park. The ditch was necessary to get rid of standing water. Supt. Sandberg offered to put a tube across a portion of the ditch to allow people to walk across the area.

Trustee Newman said the Finance Committee had great discussion on some of the larger issues facing the village, when talking about the FY 2020 budget. TIF funds will continue to be

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directed to the phase II loan retirement fund until the loan is paid off in 2022. TIF funds are supplementing user fees because water usage has decreased. Trustee Newman noted an urgent need to extend the life of the TIF district. After review of FY 2020 general fund expense requests, two items were transferred to general depreciation and others were eliminated. Utility tax revenue is accumulated in general depreciation and enough revenue has been received to make the last debt retirement loan payment this summer. Therefore, \$80,000 in utility tax revenue, expected in FY 2020, can pay for the expenses of engineering the 14th Avenue extension and a new Love Park parking lot. Trustee Drucker talked about the possible need to increase water and sewer rates, but Sewer Supt. Lundburg asked the board to delay any increases until the phase II loan is paid off. Supplementing the shortfall in revenue with other sources of revenue is currently working. Trustee Peterson suggested a flat water and sewer rate be considered in the future. In that way consumption fluctuations would not affect revenue.

Trustee Newman urged walkers, runners, and bicyclists to wear bright colors or reflective devices.

Flashing school crossing signs are being investigated for purchase. Drivers have been ignoring the crosswalk signs near schools, making it difficult for children to cross the street safely. Trustee Newman gave Trustee Lawson pricing information for review and discussion at a later date. There was brief discussion about the speed radar sign and whether or not it was working properly.

Trustee Mitton told the board a sketch of how the space inside the former Peterson Frame & Alignment building could be used for village hall purposes will be made available in the near future.

Trustee Mitton will consider the addition of paint for the band shell floor in his FY 2020 budget.

President Cooper is still searching for a candidate to appoint to the vacancy that will exist once Trustee Peterson's term ends. Trustee Drucker suggested asking those in the community to contact the village if they have an interest in the position. A blurb will be put in the local newspaper.

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