

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., May 20, 2019 at Village Hall, 1202 4th Street, Orion, Henry, Illinois. The following members were present: Cooper, Newman, Mitton, and Drucker. Absent: Hancock and Lawson.

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

President Cooper has someone in mind to fill the vacancy on the board and will meet with him to ascertain his interest.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Newman to approve the minutes of the meeting held May 6, 2019. Ayes: Newman, Mitton, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Hancock and Lawson.

It was moved by Mitton, seconded by Drucker to approve the bills for the month: General Fund-\$25,842.68, Recycle-\$2,642.28, Water O&M-\$1,596.19, Sewer O&M-\$4,734.27, Sewer Depr.-\$525.00, and Sewer Surplus-\$100.00. Ayes: Newman, Mitton, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Hancock and Lawson.

It was noted street patching has begun but 13th Avenue Crt. remains too wet to complete dirt work. There was discussion of using a lawn blanket to contain hillside soil or installing rip rap.

Discussion was held regarding lighted crosswalk signs near the schools. There was a difference of opinion about the necessity of such signs. Trustee Drucker said flashing signs are absent in larger cities like Moline, but Trustee Mitton countered that crossing guards are provided. Some on the board felt the crosswalk at Orion Middle School was more dangerous than other crosswalks due to its location at the top of a hill. The issue will be resolved after more information is gathered.

Street Supt. Neil Dahl has submitted information to IMEG for the village's motor fuel tax program.

Mr. Dennis Cooper was present to request a street closure on behalf of the Orion Athletic Booster Club. It was moved by Mitton, seconded by Drucker to approve the closure of 10th Avenue between 3rd and 4th Streets on July 20, 2019 from 2:00-11:00 p.m. for an Orion Athletic Booster Club event, leaving an access area open for Maple Street Grille. Ayes: Newman, Mitton, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Hancock and Lawson.

Since the trustee in charge of the street committee walked out of a previous meeting under threat of quitting and has not returned, another trustee might be asked to take on the duty of Street Committee chairman in addition to their own.

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The minutes of the meeting held May 20, 2019 continued:

A report of a crushed culvert near 1406 5th Street will be checked prior to the next rainfall.

Hydrant flushing scheduled for this week might continue into next week depending upon the weather.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Mitton to hire Jason Swiger as meter reader with a start date of October 1, 2019, at which time he will learn the route with current meter reader Dennis Cooper and then work on his own beginning November 1, 2019. Ayes: Newman, Mitton, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Hancock and Lawson.

President Cooper said varsity baseball is done and Jeremy Jungwirth will finish painting the crow's nest. He also said the parent of a Putnam County high school track participant, who participated in a track event in Orion last Friday, hired a helicopter to fly the student home in time for his high school graduation. The helicopter landed in Love Park. President Cooper said it was of no cost to the village.

Trustee Drucker said revenue and expenditures for the past fiscal year proved the village had a good year. He discussed building permit revenue, at \$9,220, and costs for inspectors, \$10,000 annually. Trustee Drucker emphasized the need for property owners and contractors to obtain permits for work being done in Orion. He also said the board has a fiduciary responsibility to report construction projects being performed without permits. If a small project is being done, contractors can slip in and out of Orion in one day's time without being noticed by the inspector. The building, plumbing, and electrical inspectors make sure codes are followed, helping the standards and quality of the community remain high.

It was noted the village's rate for IMRF participation will increase from 4.80% to 6.88% in January 2020. The increase will only affect four months of the village's current fiscal year, totaling about \$1,400.

Trustee Drucker said the cost to complete the OSLAD grant awarded by the IDNR needs to be researched. Improvements for the street extension could cost \$500,000. When the village was previously awarded an ITEP grant for streetscape improvements the board returned the grant because of its high cost of completion. President Cooper said two years is allotted for completion of the OSLAD grant, and it is hoped the parking lot and street could initially be completed with gravel.

Mr. Michael Fries, a licensed architect from Klingner & Assoc., was present to discuss potential inspection of the property at 1000 4th Street. The board is interested in a structural inspection

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The minutes of the meeting held May 20, 2019 continued:

which according to Mr. Fries includes the roof, floors, and walls. Other items of interest such as mold and asbestos can be tested later. Trustee Newman said the board would be open to Mr. Fries' advice if he notices other issues while performing the initial inspection. President Cooper said he saw the building as a good possibility for use as a village hall and felt it was a cornerstone of the downtown community. Mr. Fries said Klingner is a small, full-service engineering firm and would be glad to assist Orion. Village attorney John Ames asked about the limited liability section in the contract presented. He preferred it be excluded. Mr. Fries asked Attorney Ames to send the request in writing to his firm. It can sometimes be excluded for smaller jobs. Mr. Fries told the board Klingner would be able to work with the village on any grant awards. It was moved by Mitton, seconded by Newman to enter into a contract with Klingner & Assoc. to examine the structural components of the property at 1000 4th Street, Orion, IL at a cost of \$3,000, subject to resolution of the limited liability concern. Ayes: Newman, Mitton, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Hancock and Lawson.

Trustee Mitton said the band shell in Central Park was treated for pests. As weather permits, painting and mulch will be attended to.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Mitton to adopt Ordinance #2019-3, amending Chapter XXIV, Section 1.0 of the Municipal Code, assigning sub-section numbers to certain paragraphs for ease of reference. Ayes: Newman, Mitton, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Hancock and Lawson.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Newman to declare May 27th as Poppy Day, as requested by the American Legion Auxiliary. Ayes: Newman, Mitton, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Hancock and Lawson.

President Cooper inquired about grant funds that might be available, while in Springfield on May 1st. He did not receive definitive information but had good conversation on the topic. President Cooper plans to discuss the limitation placed on signs for school achievement with Mr. Paul Loete, an employee with the Illinois Department of Transportation and Orion resident.

It was moved by Newman, seconded by Drucker to set Clean-Up Week for June 10-13, 2019. Ayes: Newman, Mitton, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Hancock and Lawson.

President Cooper thanked trustees for volunteering to man the landscape waste site. The site is closed for the season and will not reopen until September.

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The minutes of the meeting held May 20, 2019 continued:

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Mitton to enter executive session at 7:58 p.m. to consider the employment and compensation of a summer employee. Ayes: Newman, Mitton, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Hancock and Lawson.

President Cooper reconvened the meeting in open session at 8:10 p.m.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Newman to hire Willis Jacobson at a rate of \$9/hr. for summer employment beginning June 4, 2019. Ayes: Newman, Mitton, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Hancock and Lawson.

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

Lori A. Sampson
Village Clerk