

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 7:30 p.m., August 5, 2013, at the Village Hall, 1202 4th Street, Orion, Henry, Illinois. The following members were present: Cooper, Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, and Mitton. Absent: Lawson and Drucker

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

It was moved by Peterson, seconded by Mitton to approve the minutes of the meeting held July 15, 2013. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, and Mitton. Noes: None. Absent: Lawson and Drucker.

Deb Ford, Main Street Orion Director, distributed schedules for the August 10th band shell celebration and invited the board to attend the event, particularly the rededication ceremony. Board members will be seated with other dignitaries. President Cooper and Trustee Mitton said they would be out of town that day.

Mr. Dennis Solberg inquired about a schedule of completion for 15th Avenue and the area around the fire hydrant at 15th Avenue and 7th Street. He also asked if the new sewer relief main was working. He was told the street would be temporarily repaired to allow for adequate settling and completed next summer. The sewer main installation is complete and has been air-tested but has yet to receive a true test of heavy rainfall. Seeding in the construction area will be subcontracted and all seeding will be done at the same time. Other minor issues will also be addressed.

Trustee Mitton said the board would need to look at appropriating more funds for the band shell in order to protect it from insect damage. He received a quote from a pest control company for an initial treatment in the amount of \$625. Annual inspections to follow would be for a lesser amount and there would be a guarantee associated with the service. Also, the bill from Red Oak Builders for work done on the band shell totaled \$12,281. The work was expected to cost around \$6,000 but deterioration and rot caused the cost to increase substantially. Trustee Newman said the issue would be discussed at the next Finance Committee meeting.

A storage building for Central Park was briefly mentioned but Trustee Newman said he would be better prepared to discuss the issue in a couple of months.

Trustee Newman said Deputy Kraig Townsend would be patrolling Orion on the Saturday of the Orion Fall Festival. He said Deputy Townsend would be leaving Orion in the near future for a position in Galva. In other police business Trustee Newman asked the public to drive cautiously with school starting next week. He also congratulated the

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police department for rounding up suspects in the park vandalism incidents. The cameras placed in the band shell played a part in nabbing the juvenile suspects.

Trustee Newman asked the board to consider a confidentiality policy prepared by Attorney Steve Ames. The policy would protect the privacy of people and sensitive information. Trustee Newman will bring it up for discussion within the next month.

Trustee Peterson said dirt was not available to fill in the sand volleyball surface in Love Park. The project has thus been delayed, but roofing of the shelter in Love Park is to begin soon.

Trustee Peterson expressed disgust at the vandalism in both the Central and Love Park restrooms. He said the fires could have burned down the buildings. Trash cans and toilet paper were lit on fire, scorching the walls, melting the trash cans, and destroying the toilet paper holders. Trustee Peterson cleaned the damage and was in the process of painting the walls. He said he thought the restrooms should be locked unless an event was being held in the park. Organizations could pick up a key and be responsible for keeping the restrooms clean during their event. The same would hold true for anyone reserving use of the picnic shelter. President Cooper agreed, telling the board the village should not allow continued destruction of property. He also thought those using the facilities should sign a document of liability. Trustee Peterson felt it would have cost thousands of dollars to hire someone to clean and paint the restrooms had he not done it himself. He said if the board chose to keep the restrooms open he would no longer take care of them. Trustee O'Leary said he hated to see 95% of the population suffer over the actions of a few. Clerk Sampson warned that mothers with children and other users of the park would be coming to Village Hall to use the restrooms. It was felt until another option was available the restrooms would remain closed. President Cooper complimented Trustee Peterson on his efforts to help with park maintenance. The village had offered a \$500 reward for information leading to the conviction of the perpetrators of the vandalism, but security cameras in the band shell provided enough information to identify the alleged suspects.

It was moved by Mitton, seconded by O'Leary to order 10 signs at \$38 each to be placed near Love Park bleachers asking smokers to use courtesies and not smoke in or around the bleachers. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, and Mitton. Noes: None. Absent: Lawson and Drucker.

It was moved by O'Leary, seconded by Mitton to approve payment of \$152,526.42 to Foley Construction for sewer relief main work. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, and Mitton. Noes: None. Absent: Lawson and Drucker.

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Trustee O'Leary said grading around the Catholic Church looked good. The village will need to discuss with residents affected by the sewer main work the possibility of having them water when seeding is completed. Hiring a company to do the watering proved to be too expensive and was not included in the contract with Foley.

Trustee O'Leary said MidAmerican Energy Co. will move utility poles to the east throughout the block between 7th & 8th Streets and 14th & 15th Avenues. The poles will be moved to accommodate the village, which needs to repair a sewer main behind the house at 1412 8th Street, or thereabouts. Trustee O'Leary asked Attorney John Ames to research the property because Missman, Inc. could not find a recorded easement for the village utility.

Trustee O'Leary reported a problem with foaming after Millennium Waste dumps leachate at the sewer plant. He said it occurs because a pump is down. The village is waiting for the arrival of a bearing to repair the pump.

In Trustee Lawson's absence President Cooper said work on 14th Avenue B is continuing but has been delayed some due to equipment failure. Street Superintendent Neil Dahl received a bid of \$5,000 to remove landscape waste from the village's dump site. Due to the high cost, Supt. Dahl will burn small portions of the pile until it is gone. President Cooper also said 15th Avenue will be oiled this year before final repairs are completed next year.

It was moved by Mitton, seconded by Newman to pay Phil Thornburg \$2,650 for curb installation. Prior to a vote the board asked if Foley Construction should have replaced some of the curb. It was noted the engineering firm could ask Foley and Foley could reimburse the village for expenses owed, if any. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, and Mitton. Noes: None. Absent: Lawson and Drucker.

President Cooper said the Orion Fire District chief took issue with the Scouts for planning a soap box derby on 11th Avenue in front of the fire station. The event will be held during the Orion Fall Fest. The OFF board previously approved the location and in prior discussions the village board did the same. A prior drill conducted by the Scouts proved the location could be vacated in less than a minute in the event of a fire emergency. It was moved by Peterson, seconded by Mitton to approve the use of 11th Avenue, from 4th Street east to the fire station, for the Scout's Soap Box Derby on Sunday, Sept. 1, 2013. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Newman and Mitton. Noes; None. Absent: Lawson and Drucker.

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The Finance Committee meeting was set for 4 p.m., Wednesday, August 14th at Village Hall.

A policy for outdoor music events was established by the board. It requires liquor license holders to end outdoor music events no later than midnight. Trustee O'Leary felt events should end no later than 11 p.m. but the remainder of the board agreed by general consensus to choose the midnight deadline.

President Cooper was asked by a fire district board member if a contractor working for the department could use an adjacent village lot for temporary dirt storage. President Cooper went to look at the site only to find dirt had already been dumped on village property. The fire district is building an addition to the fire department. The district also wants to use the village property for parking after the addition is complete. Trustee O'Leary said he was opposed to the request due to the fact that storm sewer and sanitary sewer run through the lot and it is used for snow storage in the winter. President Cooper said the lot is also used by carnival providers during the Orion Fall Festival. Since fire district officials had failed to attend a board meeting to present their request, President Cooper said he would request their attendance at a future meeting so more details could be ascertained.

President Cooper read a thank you from the family of Scott Sampson for flowers sent for his funeral service. Mr. Sampson was the brother of the village's building inspector and brother-in-law to the village clerk. President Cooper asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of Scott Sampson and Roger Hamilton, the village clerk's father, who also recently passed away.

It was moved by O'Leary, seconded by Newman to adopt Ordinance 2013-6, authorizing the issuance of general obligation (limited tax) refunding debt certificates, Series 2013A, of the Village of Orion, Henry County, Illinois, and related matters. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Newman and Mitton. Noes; None. Absent: Lawson and Drucker.

President Cooper said he and Trustee Drucker met to discuss proposed animal code changes. He said the changes will not be breed-specific. President Cooper said a first dog bite offense should include a steep fine followed by removal of the dog from the village limits after a second bite offense. The last person cited for violation of the leash law was fined \$75 by the court, yet the village had to pay \$250 in legal fees to process the case. President Cooper said fine amounts must be looked at closely in order to prevent the issuance of citations from being a money-losing proposition. Mr. & Mrs. Arlyn Johnson were present and happy to see the board's progress on the issue. Mrs. Johnson said she was still fearful of her neighbor's dog, though it has been leashed since she was

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bitten by it weeks ago. The board encouraged people to report all dog violations to the police department.

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

Lori A. Sampson
Village Clerk

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