

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., October 5, 2015, at the Village Hall, 1202 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Orion, Henry, Illinois. The following members were present: Cooper, Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Absent: None.

President Cooper led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance. He thanked Trustee Drucker and Clerk Sampson for covering for him during the past two weeks, when he was out of town for business-related reasons.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Mitton to approve the minutes of the meeting held September 21, 2015. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Mr. Jeff Sharpman, chairman of the 2015 Orion Fall Festival 5K and 10-mile races, was present to hear the board's concerns. Concerns noted were the painting of streets to provide direction to runners, early closure of the route, the large footprint of the 10-mile race, and the lack of maps showing the race routes. President Cooper said he spoke with Mr. Sharpman prior to the Labor Day weekend event and gave verbal permission for the races to take place. Mr. Sharpman did not attend a board meeting to gain approval. Mr. Sharpman listened to the board's concerns and said the event relies heavily on volunteers and was surprised to learn some residents had difficulty maneuvering through Orion. Volunteers are posted at intersections and can allow drivers through when runners are not present. Mr. Sharpman said 100 runners participated in the 10-mile race and only 25% of runners in both races were Orion residents. The remainder travel from outside the community. The board asked that better intersection control be considered and paint not be used on the streets. The board also asked that maps of the route be made available in advance. Mr. Sharpman agreed but said some type of direction must be marked, especially for the somewhat convoluted 10-mile route. He said 95% of runners complete the course within two hours. Some take longer, but race organizers do their best to discourage walking the 10-mile route. Mr. Sharpman told the board he would work to improve the event but reminded them volunteer work is not always precise. Trustee Lawson objected to the concerns of the rest of the board. He said the event brought many people into Orion, and he never has a problem navigating around town.

Mr. Ron Thompson asked that the new artificial Christmas tree be brought to Central Park in order to perform a test run of erecting it. This will be the first year the village will use an artificial tree in the band shell. Park Superintendent Arnie Sandberg will bring the tree from the maintenance garage to the park storage building.

Street Superintendent Neil Dahl said the 8<sup>th</sup> Street project has been completed at a cost slightly over the budget estimate of \$65,000. According to Supt. Dahl, village engineers placed the cost at \$180,000 if a private contractor would have done the work. Trustee

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The minutes of October 5, 2015 continued:

Peterson said those living adjacent to the street were happy with the results. President Cooper thanked Supt. Dahl for his efforts.

Trustee Drucker asked when crosswalks would be painted. Supt. Dahl said he was hampered in the spring by wet weather but might be able to paint some yet this fall. Temperatures could be a factor. Trustee Lawson asked that crosswalks near the schools be painted this fall.

Trustee Lawson said planners for the Orion Athletic Booster Club's Booster Bash, to be held in October, would like to hire an outside band in lieu of a smaller, local band. Thus, the club would like the band to play longer – until midnight. There were no objections from the board. President Cooper said a precedent has been established for letting bands play outdoors until midnight on Fridays and Saturdays and 11 p.m. on Sundays.

Supt. Dahl said he graded and seeded an embankment near the school bus barn.

Sewer Superintendent Chris Lundburg and Street Superintendent Neil Dahl are investigating field tile issues in the 1400 block of 7<sup>th</sup> Street. It is suspected a tile is blocked or cut. No problems were found where water was bubbling through the soil. B & B Drain will return on Wednesday to televisc the tile. President Cooper asked that results be available for the next board meeting.

President Cooper talked with the contractor hired by the village to fix the noncompliant sewer lateral connections of Mr. & Mrs. Ken Carlson, Mrs. Robert Rasmussen, and Ms. Destiny Carnahan, and urged him to start the project while the weather was dry. The residents will be billed after the project is complete.

Village attorney John Ames spoke with Mr. David Russian from Golars and learned he is preparing a report for the Illinois EPA on the status of the gas contamination project. The report will be shared with the village. Mr. Russian also resubmitted the village's request to be reimbursed for sewer main lining. Something went wrong with the original request.

Trustee Mitton thanked Park Superintendent Arnie Sandberg for putting the band shell stage extensions in the storage building. He also thanked Trustee Peterson for his diligence in taking care of newly planted grass seed around the storage building and removing fence put in place to protect the concrete driveway when it was poured.

Trustee Mitton is looking at the purchase of security cameras to be placed behind the band shell and near the bathroom and storage building.

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Trustee Drucker said Putnam County cleaned and repaired the west ground tank and it has since been refilled and is in operating condition.

The village received its 20<sup>th</sup> consecutive commendation from the Illinois Department of Public Health for fluoridation compliance. Orion was one of only two Henry County communities to accomplish the feat.

Trustee Drucker said hydrant flushing will begin the week of October 19<sup>th</sup>. The water will be safe to drink but may look cloudy.

Trustee Peterson said mulch will be spread beneath playground equipment in both parks on Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>. Boy scouts will do the work.

The Finance Committee meeting will be held October 14, 2015 at 4 p.m. at Village Hall.

Trustee Newman met with all three owners of liquor establishments on 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and a concerned resident, regarding noise from outdoor events. He will use Geneseo's ordinance as a template and draft an ordinance for Orion. Once the draft is available, all parties will be invited to a board meeting to discuss the proposal.

President Cooper received a letter from an Orion resident regarding a barking dog complaint. He said complaints should be made to the police at the time of the infraction. Clerk Sampson will draft a letter to the complainant and include a copy of the ordinance.

Attorney Ames will make contact with Mr. Tom Jacob, the attorney who put together the village's original TIF district, and arrange a meeting between him, the village, and the developers of Prairie Knoll. The topic of discussion will be an extension of the TIF district and potential development incentives. Attorney Ames said the life of the current TIF district doesn't present enough time for a good incentive program. Due to various time constraint issues, Attorney Ames hoped to arrange the meeting within the next week and report results to the board at its October 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. President Cooper said other communities have done or are considering TIF extensions.

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

Lori A. Sampson  
Village Clerk