

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., September 16, 2013, at the Village Hall, 1202 4th Street, Orion, Henry, Illinois. The following members were present: Cooper, Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, 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 Peterson to approve the minutes of the meeting held September 4, 2013. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Newman to approve the bills for the month: General Fund-\$36,581.44, Debt Retirement-\$3,250.00, Recycle Collections-\$1,957.76, Water O&M-\$3,111.91, Sewer O&M-\$3,613.38, Sewer Cap. Impr.-\$14,855.51, Relief Main Loan Retire.-\$1,101.59, and Motor Fuel Tax-\$395.89. Prior to a vote Trustee Drucker asked that an explanation other than miscellaneous hardware be given for purchases at Orion True Value. Clerk Sampson said she would review the bill and let board members know more details about the purchases. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Mr. Sean Reed asked the board if they had determined a project for him to work on to earn his Eagle Scout badge. The board gave Mr. Reed options of scraping and painting fire hydrants, refinishing park benches, painting the steps on the band shell, and landscaping around the bench/backstop area on the northeast side of Central Park. Mr. Reed was also considering repair/replacement of the border around playground equipment in the park. He will consult with his scout master and inform the village once a decision is made.

Deb Ford, Director of Main Street Orion, invited the board to the historical cemetery tour at Western Township Cemetery on Thursday evening and Saturday afternoon. She said the tour takes about one hour and features people important to Orion's history.

President Cooper said he and Trustees Mitton and Drucker met to hash out new animal control regulations. He said the new regulations will mirror Coal Valley's with a few exceptions. The village board will have an opportunity to review a draft copy of the proposed ordinance prior to voting on the issue. It is expected to be available soon.

Trustee Newman reported concerns about filling weekend shifts upon the loss of a part-time deputy, who is taking another job. Deputy Chad Baze will attempt to get someone else to work those shifts.

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The minutes of September 16, 2013 continued:

Village attorney John Ames is nearing completion on temporary sewer easement agreements, according to Trustee O'Leary. Clerk Sampson will send letters to property owners outlining the need for them to sign the easement agreements. Sewer Supt. Chris Lundburg will contact MidAmerican Energy Co. so utility poles can be moved in preparation for the sewer repairs. Trustee O'Leary thanked Attorney Ames for his assistance.

In other sewer business, the village is still waiting for Altorfer to perform repairs to the generator. Foley Construction was in Orion, presumably addressing some punch list items. Since the engineer assigned to the project is on vacation, the village was not informed that Foley was on site. Trustee O'Leary expressed concern about the lack of grass seed germination on the slope on the north side of 14th Avenue.

The board decided to place rip rap around the culverts involved with the sewer relief main installation to prevent erosion. Though the street supt. preferred concrete, village engineers recommended rip rap as a suitable material. Trustee Lawson will inform the street supt. of the board's decision.

The board requested Clerk Sampson send letters to the Carlsons, Rasmussens, and Carnahan as a reminder to complete sewer lateral installation prior to November 1st.

Trustee Lawson said seal coat activity on streets has been completed. Traffic control signs that meet new federal guidelines should arrive shortly. Grant funds were used to purchase more than 200 new signs.

President Cooper said fire department board member Jerry Sheldon agreed the volunteer fireman could stand by with trucks while the village's landscape waste site was being burned down. Street Supt. Neil Dahl had informed Trustee Lawson that he would be willing to accept more waste before the existing pile was burned. Trustee Drucker objected to opening the site to more waste. He said action was needed to get the existing piles burned, and since some rain fell Sunday, it should be able to be accomplished in the near future. Trustee Drucker said he had secondhand information that the fire department would not stand by as the existing pile was burned due to an insurance issue. President Cooper will once again check with Mr. Sheldon. The board agreed the site would not be opened at this time. It was hoped residents would have access in October.

Trustee Drucker said the water supt. was replacing a bearing in a pump at the east pump house. The work was considered preventive maintenance. Additionally, hydrants will be flushed from Sept. 30th to Oct. 4th. Trustee Drucker asked the supt. to perform several

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The minutes of September 16, 2013 continued:

annual maintenance items before winter arrives, such as cleaning the ground storage tanks.

Trustee Drucker reported water well levels in Orion's system to be good. Others in the state have been adversely affected through last summer's drought and this summer's recent dry spell.

President Cooper asked Trustee Lawson to have the street supt. check the pumps used for sewer backups to make sure they are in operating condition.

Trustee Drucker said the Finance Committee approved a 3-month loan extension for the sewer relief main project but then found out the bond issuance would be finalized September 17th, making the extension unnecessary.

President Cooper told the board a homeowner failed to get a building permit for work done in his home. As a result, he had been sent two letters from the building inspector and after no response, a third letter was sent by Attorney Ames. The owners of the home then disputed the need for a permit. Attorney Ames told them the issue could be resolved by allowing the inspector to look at the work, but the village received no further contact from the owners. President Cooper said the next step is to issue an administrative search warrant so the work can be viewed by the inspector, who would be accompanied by a police officer. A value could then be determined and a permit issued. Trustee Lawson strongly objected to issuing a warrant. He questioned the amount of money the village would spend to get a small permit fee. He also said he did not personally believe in building permits but admitted the rules needed to be followed. Though the name of the homeowner had not been discussed, Trustee Lawson said he thought he knew who the owner was and offered to talk to him. Attorney Ames reminded the board that if nothing was done to rectify the situation, no one in the community would buy permits. He said the homeowners had been given ample time to purchase the permit or allow the inspector to view the work. After further discussion the board asked that the homeowner be sent one more letter informing him to comply by September 30th or an administrative search warrant would be issued.

President Cooper met with an Illinois Department of Transportation community relations official. The rep offered assistance with any state-related issues the village may have. President Cooper asked for help to resolve the gas vapor issue in a more expedient manner, and the official agreed to pursue it.

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The minutes of September 16, 2013 continued:

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Mitton to enter executive session at 8:19 p.m. to discuss acquisition of real property. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

President Cooper reconvened the meeting in open session at 8:47 p.m.

It was moved by Newman, seconded by Peterson to place a bid of \$2,500 on the former Burger Patch and hair salon property on Rt. 150 north of 12th Avenue. Ayes: Peterson, Newman, and Mitton. Noes: O'Leary, Lawson, and Drucker. Absent: None. President Cooper cast an aye vote to break the tie. Motion carried.

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

Lori A. Sampson
Village Clerk

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