

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., May 20, 2013, at the Village Hall, 1202 4th Street, Orion, Henry, Illinois. The following members were present: Cooper, Peterson, O'Leary, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Absent: Newman.

President Cooper called the meeting to order and led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance. He noted Trustee Newman was absent due to work duties.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Peterson to approve the minutes of the May 6, 2013 meeting. Prior to a vote Trustee Drucker said the minutes did not reflect Mr. Scott Kammerman's hesitation to give his engineering opinion on the change order for the sewer relief main project. As Drucker recalled, Mr. Kammerman was asked three times for his opinion of two options presented to the board and he twice said he was doing what Trustee O'Leary and Sewer Superintendent Chris Lundburg wanted to do. When pressed a third time he seemed to indicate he would have recommended a different option if not for the wishes of his customers. Trustee Lawson agreed that Mr. Kammerman did not give a straight answer. Trustee O'Leary defended the sewer department's choice by noting how close the main would come to a garage and that additional easements would have to be obtained if the main took an alternate path. O'Leary said the sewer supt. preferred this option after weighing the pros and cons of each. Trustee Mitton said it bothered him that the engineer overlooked the problem at 8th Street and 15th Avenue, causing the village a substantial increase in cost. Trustee Peterson defended the decision to go with the more expensive route, feeling additional problems would be created by taking the less expensive path. The board acknowledged they approved the more expensive route at the last meeting but some were unhappy that the engineer was dancing around the issue and not being forthright with his answers. The May 6th minutes will be amended to reflect the engineer's reluctance to give an opinion. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Newman.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Lawson to approve the bills for the month: General Fund-\$29,362.47, Recycle Collections-\$1,957.76, Water O&M-\$4,853.09, Sewer O&M-\$11,373.76, Sewer Cap. Improvements-\$5,238.26, and Band Shell Preservation-\$11.98. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Newman.

Trustee Peterson said LMI, Inc. repaired ball diamond lighting in Love Park. He and Park Supt. Arnie Sandberg replaced the cushion on the ball diamond fence that was removed by others to do some gate repairs. Trustee Peterson said 225' of cushion was removed to fix a 3' segment, which resulted in more work to replace the cushion than was necessary.

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The minutes of May 20, 2013 continued:

President Cooper said four youths performed community service work by picking up trash in the parks and hand-pulling weeds. The boys each have 50 hours of work to perform. Main Street Orion requested assistance from the public service workers for yard sale weekend. The board posed no objections to the request. Trustee O'Leary said the sewer supt. was making a list of items that could be done at the sewer plant, including painting.

Trustee O'Leary said the Village of Alpha will assist with televising some sewer mains for Orion. He also noted another exhaust fan is on its way as a spare for the one currently venting the manhole of gas vapors at 11th Avenue. In addition, Millennium Waste is still depositing leachate at the sewer plant.

The contractor for the sewer main project failed to appear at Orion's worksite last week, and Trustee Drucker questioned why they had not been working when the weather was perfect. Drucker was concerned that the contractor would drag the project out since they were successful in gaining a time extension from the village. According to others, Foley Construction had another project to finish before they could focus their attention on Orion. Trustee O'Leary said the sewer supt. would contact Foley and urge them to get started.

President Cooper had email correspondence with Shirlene South of the Illinois EPA regarding the status of the sewer gas vapor issue. He was disturbed because no one had been in contact with him. President Cooper copied Orion's district state legislators in on the email. Ms. South responded the next day and indicated she was waiting for the Stage 3 report from Golars.

Trustee Lawson said work would begin on 14th Avenue B in the near future and Dumpsters have been ordered for Clean-Up Week. Also, concrete is being poured for new sidewalks on Main Street. However, the curb adjacent to the walk is crumbling and missing in some spots. The board mulled over the curb issue but decided it should just be patched at this time for lack of sufficient funds. Also discussed was trying to match the sidewalk to each business approach in order to eliminate a step. President Cooper said the contractor thought it could be done.

Trustee Peterson expressed concern about an area in the ground uncovered by Frontier Communications to pump water from its equipment. The area is near the United Methodist Church and remains uncovered, which poses a danger. Trustee Lawson will contact Frontier employee Dennis Cooper.

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Trustee Drucker said hydrants will be flushed the week of June 3rd. He also said some issues have cropped up with gauges and a pressure valve in one of the pump houses and the water supt. is monitoring the situation.

The Finance Committee was pleased with the final revenue and expenditure reports for Fiscal Year 2013.

Trustee Mitton said Trustee Newman will finish out the band shell job, even though it's under the Buildings & Grounds Committee. He noted the band shell should be painted more often to keep it in good condition.

Trustee Drucker complained about people walking in the street where sidewalks are available, especially when they walk two or three abreast. He said pedestrians need to use common sense and utilize the sidewalks when available. Henry County Deputy Dave Smutzer said they warn residents about walking in the street, most times to no avail. Trustee O'Leary complained about skateboarders on the streets as well.

President Cooper asked the board to consider banning the use of bicycles in Central Park. Already, skateboards, roller blades, and roller skates are banned. Clerk Sampson objected to the bicycle ban saying she often rides her bicycle through the park to access the water fountain. She said children should be allowed to ride their bikes in the park. Trustee Lawson suggested the police monitor the situation and remind kids to stay away from the band shell with their bikes. Trustee Mitton felt restrictions could be applied just to the area around the band shell. Trustee Drucker asked that the board not make rules too restrictive.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Mitton to donate \$1,000 to the Orion 4th of July Fireworks Festival. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Newman.

President Cooper reported that Village Attorney John Ames has been communicating with those involved in ownership of the Burger Patch property on Rt. 150. If the property can be purchased by the village, President Cooper said he knows of someone who is interested in purchasing it for a business venture.

Jim Massa, developer of Prairie Knoll, informed President Cooper he would build a spec home in his development this year. In return, President Cooper offered to waive building permit and water and sewer connection fees. Also, in speaking with Mr. Massa about senior housing, President Cooper found that Massa built two 20-unit senior condos in Cordova. The units can be built to sell or built to rent. President Cooper felt this could

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fill a void for seniors in Orion. Trustees Drucker and O'Leary said the board had previously talked about the need for assisted living and nursing home facilities. President Cooper said that could still be pursued but he wanted Mr. Massa to talk to the board about his proposed idea. Trustee Drucker said the units, if built, should aim for senior living, age 55 and over, if possible. Mr. Massa will be invited to a future meeting.

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

Lori A. Sampson
Village Clerk

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