

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., January 21, 2013, at the Village Hall, 1202 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Orion, Henry, Illinois. The following members were present: Cooper, Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, and Drucker. Absent: Lawson.

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

President Cooper welcomed Cub Scout Pack 123 to the board meeting and explained procedural issues as the meeting commenced.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Peterson to approve the minutes of the meeting held January 7, 2013. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Lawson.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Peterson to approve the bills for the month: General Fund-\$55,656.83, General Depr.-\$71.70, Debt Retirement-\$40,541.05, Recycle-\$1,957.76, Water O&M-\$5,763.71, Sewer O&M-\$11,082.84, Sewer Cap. Impr.-\$21,247.92, Phase I Loan Retire.-\$38,572.16, and Fines-\$2,657.55. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Lawson.

Noah Seys, on behalf of Cub Scout Pack 123, asked the board for permission to use 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue for the 2013 Soap Box Derby on Labor Day weekend. It was moved by Drucker, seconded by O'Leary to approve the use of 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue for the Cub Scout Pack 123 Soap Box Derby to be held Labor Day weekend. Prior to a vote Trustee Drucker asked if all emergency vehicle concerns had been addressed adequately in past years. The event is held in front of the fire station, which houses both fire and ambulance services. President Cooper explained that, last year, emergency equipment was moved to Orion Middle School during the event, and Pack Leader Damon Seys said he arranged for a team of volunteers to vacate the area in the event of an emergency. In an emergency drill, volunteers were able to clear the area in less than one minute. One scout thought the race could be moved to another street and another thought closure of 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue might impede those trying to drive through town. The scouts were assured the site was the best location due to its proximity to other Labor Day weekend festivities, and there are other streets available for drivers to get across town. The motion was called for a roll call vote. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Lawson. (Due to the lack of the request on the agenda, the preceding motion and subsequent vote were considered a mock drill for the benefit of the Cub Scout Pack. A formal vote will be taken on the subject at a later date.)

President Cooper encouraged the scouts to avoid complaining about things in life with which they may disagree and instead get involved and try to change things for the better.

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The minutes of January 21, 2013 continued:

Scout leader Damon Seys presented the board with a plaque and scout badge for allowing the scouts to use 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue the past two years.

Deb Ford, MSO Director, invited the board to MSO's annual meeting on January 28<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:30 p.m. The event will be held at The Factory Restaurant. Appetizers and drinks will be served and the organization will give a report on last year's accomplishments as well as this year's plans.

Trustee Newman reported no word as of yet on the change to the contract with the Henry County Sheriff's Dept. for police services.

Village attorney John Ames is working to draft an easement agreement for a party granting an easement to another party for placement of a sewer lateral. Once the agreement is signed, the village can contact all affected parties and outline a deadline for compliance of connection to the sewer system. Letters of explanation will be sent to those affected and if they have questions they can attend a board meeting at some point in the future.

Trustee O'Leary said the cost of materials purchased by a village employee for the sewer relief main project would be absorbed by the village. The contractor will absorb the cost for additional materials, labor, and machine use. In other sewer news, it was learned that pump issues at Prairie Knoll subdivision had been rectified and minor repairs had been made at the sewer plant.

Golars was scheduled to begin drilling monitoring wells at Larson Body Shop and AGH Feed today; however, no one was seen in Orion at those locations. Trustee O'Leary said a spare exhaust fan had been purchased in the event the one currently exhausting fumes from the sewer manhole fails. Reimbursement for electricity, the cost of the fan, and other charges is expected from Golars.

The street superintendent was reported to be working to outline projects for the upcoming construction season.

President Cooper said he would be in court Tuesday afternoon, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, to testify in the trial of the person who ran down several street signs and a fire hydrant.

Trustee Drucker said the water superintendent was doing general maintenance on the generator. He praised Water Supt. Arnie Sandberg for keeping him apprised of all issues.

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The minutes of January 21, 2013 continued:

President Cooper received compliments from Coal Valley officials regarding the new paint job on the east water tower. Coal Valley is in the process of upgrading one of its towers to the tune of \$800,000.

Due to frigid temperatures, the board discussed the importance of warming stations located in the community. The village's emergency plan outlines several locations that have generator power in the event of a power outage.

Trustee O'Leary extended his thanks to the Coulter Trust Fund for its generous donation to the sewer relief main project. He said the trust board would probably never realize how much the donation was appreciated. The funds will be used to help pay down the project's loan and reduce the burden on the taxpayer. President Cooper said the community owed the Coulter family a great deal for its frugality and forward-thinking nature. The funds left by the Coulters will benefit generations to come.

President Cooper reminded everyone of the upcoming election and the need for interest in trustee positions.

The board discussed participating in the Henry County Economic Development Partnership's Springfield trip to meet with legislators. They decided it would be worthwhile, since the Orion has new legislators who might be more open to assisting the community.

The board discussed its participation in county-wide emergency planning efforts. A list of improvements related to dealing with emergency situations such as natural disasters is being developed by individual communities. Grant funds could be available for those improvements.

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

Lori A. Sampson  
Village Clerk



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