

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 20, 2014, 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 called the meeting to order and led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Cooper asked for a moment of silence for the families of two young men killed in a traffic accident and another who survived with serious injuries.

President Cooper thanked Deputy Clerk Mizen for working during the absence of Clerk Sampson and also welcomed Clerk Sampson, who had returned to work.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Mitton to approve the minutes of the meeting held September 15, 2014. Trustee Newman asked if the issue with the village hall generator had been rectified. Trustee Mitton said he was checking the warranty. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Trustee O'Leary said the village's contractor did not reshape the ground after repairing a break in the sewer lateral at the Catholic Church. Street Supt. Neil Dahl reshaped the ground to complete the project and also did some dirt work in the ditch in front of the church.

The 8<sup>th</sup> Street sewer project was completed by Myers Plumbing. Though no broken tiles were found, several large blockages were found where the pipe needed to be replaced. Trustee O'Leary said the ground was disturbed as little as possible and the sewer supt. would reshape and reseed those areas in need. He thanked Supt. Chris Lundburg for coordinating the project.

Trustee Lawson asked if the S10 pickup owned by the sewer department was going to be disposed of. Trustee O'Leary said he would check with Supt. Lundburg. Brief discussion was held about putting the old water truck into service for the parks department.

Trustee Lawson said the street department was busy painting crosswalks, backfilling curbs, installing new signs, and will watch for settling from the 8<sup>th</sup> Street water lateral project.

Trustee Newman said Halloween police coverage will be available. He also noted Patti Hardi, former Orion Animal Control Officer, had been turned in for possible animal neglect. The Henry County Animal Control Officer and a Henry County deputy visited

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The minutes of October 6, 2014 continued:

her property and found five dogs and 20 cats, all of which appeared to be in good condition. The village board had previously voted to allow Ms. Hardi to maintain the five dogs and ten cats, she earlier claimed to own, until the end of their natural lifespan and then required her to remain in compliance with current regulations of no more than three dogs and three cats. As a result of the investigation, the HCACO said he would assist Ms. Hardi in reducing the number of cats under her care by helping her find homes for them. President Cooper said he would talk to the HCACO and insist that Ms. Hardi get the animals down to the required limit immediately.

Trustee Mitton said a contractor had been hired to reroof the Central Park Band Shell. The roof will be green to match the restroom. Trustee Mitton will paint the steps of the band shell.

Trustee Peterson said one sand volleyball pit had been cleaned out and filled with dirt and the area reseeded. One volleyball pit remains.

Trustee Drucker reported on the Water Department's commendation on 19 years of compliance with fluoridation laws. Orion was one of only two communities in Henry County that met that goal. Trustee Drucker credited Water Supt. Sandberg for the compliance.

Trustee Drucker said the inspection of the west ground tank was complete. A few minor repairs will be necessary next year. The east ground tank was found to have no deficiencies. The east tower will be inspected soon followed by flushing of water mains. Grime will be cleaned from the west ground tank before winter.

Trustee Drucker reported completion of the 8<sup>th</sup> Street water lateral project, which came in under budget. The cost savings will be applied to a slight overage in the cost of maintenance for one of the ground tanks.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Mitton to adopt Ordinance #2014-10, Affirming the Establishment of an Enterprise Zone. Prior to a vote Trustee Drucker said things included in the original sample ordinance appeared to have been removed from the final copy. President Cooper agreed that some things were deleted. He also explained the administrator of the EZ would be paid by revenue generated from companies attracted to the zone. Trustee Drucker was concerned about the village being required to pay fees and receive no significant benefit, depending upon where a new business would locate. President Cooper said the ethanol plant would be within the zone and would generate enough funds to cover all administrative costs. The initial benefit to Orion, if the zone is approved by the state, would be no sales tax charged on building materials in the Prairie

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Knoll subdivision. The motion was called for a vote. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Petitions are available for village trustee seats as follows: (3) 4-yr. terms and (1) 2-yr. term. Filing dates are Nov. 17-24, 2014. President Cooper encouraged those whose terms are expiring to seek office again. Trustees with expiring terms are Drucker, Peterson, Newman, and Mitton.

A highway sign will be erected by the Illinois DOT in honor of the Orion High School's 2014 FFA State Championship Horse Evaluation Team.

President Cooper distributed copies to the board of his response to the Illinois Attorney General's request for information regarding an alleged violation of the Open Meetings Act. He reiterated his belief that the action was a life safety issue and not an environmental issue.

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

Lori A. Sampson  
Village Clerk