

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., November 17, 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.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Mitton to approve the minutes of the meeting held November 3, 2014. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Mitton to approve the bills for the month: General Fund-\$46,751.83, Recycle-\$2,093.00, Water O&M-\$11,466.99, Sewer O&M-\$25,654.17, Motor Fuel Tax-\$885.10, and Fines-\$13.40. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Mr. Ron Thompson reminded those present that the Christmas tree will be erected November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2:00 p.m. in Central Park. All volunteers are welcome.

Mr. Darren Brown, 106 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, told the board the odor of burnt plastic was in his home when the sewer relining project was being performed. Once the project was completed and the fan over the sewer manhole was turned back on, the odor disappeared. Sewer Supt. Chris Lundburg recently removed the fan, upon instruction from a board member, and the odor returned. President Cooper said a representative of the company who performed the work told him the odor could only be getting into the home through an open airway such as a sump pit or floor drain without an adequate trap. In other words, it would be due to Mr. Brown's interior plumbing, which is his responsibility. President Cooper said the lining has a temporary odor when heated during installation but should dissipate, though it does so somewhat more slowly in cold temperatures. Sewer Supt. Lundburg said no odors should enter any home if plumbing is up to code. The board suggested Mr. Brown contact a plumber and the contractor who performed foundation waterproofing in his home to determine the source of the odor. The board asked Supt. Lundburg to put the fan back in place over the manhole to alleviate the smell in the home, but only on a temporary basis. Mr. Brown, in the meantime, will attempt to correct the problem.

After brief discussion about the sewer department's 1991 Chevy S10 pickup, which was advertised for sale a few years ago and resulted in no bidders, it was moved by O'Leary, seconded by Drucker to allow a village employee to purchase the vehicle for its scrap value of

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The minutes of November 17, 2014 continued:

\$200. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Trustee O'Leary said someone from the Catholic Church was still contacting him about paying for half the cost of installation of a clean-out on the church's sewer lateral. The church hired Dan Myers Plmbg. & Htg. to perform the work and expected the village to share in the cost. The village board rejected the request months ago but invited church representatives to attend a board meeting if they didn't understand the rationale or had other information to present. Trustee O'Leary and President Cooper had previously told church representatives the village would only share the cost upon approval of the village board. Trustee O'Leary will meet with the church's Finance Committee and tell them the village board voted against paying for its lateral repairs. In addition, water has been seen bubbling up from the ground on church property and the church thinks something else was damaged during the relief main project. Foley Construction is willing to fix something if they were responsible for the damage but have refused to dig up the area to determine the cause.

Trustee Lawson said all trucks had been prepared for winter weather conditions and some plowing was done Saturday night, after the first measurable snowfall. He also said the street supt. assisted with installation of a bearing at the sewer plant and will help move the band shell extensions when directed by the park supt.

Trustee Newman said he spoke with each board member, individually, and found all liked the existing police coverage. He also said Sheriff Padilla agreed to tell county employees of Orion's offer to pay for part-time police academy training upon a deputy signing an agreement to work a minimum number of shifts in the village. A deputy who successfully completes the training will still be required to ride with a full-time deputy before working alone. The village will pay only for hours trained or worked in Orion. Trustee Newman asked Village Attorney John Ames to revamp the part-time agreement and forward it to him for review.

Trustee Drucker said the Finance Committee recommended the tax levy remain the same as last year. Last year's levy was \$193,155. This was due, in part, to Trustee Newman's suggestion to compare the current cash balance of the general fund to the balance during the same period from the past few years. The balance had gradually increased. It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Mitton to set the tax levy hearing for 7:00 p.m., December 15, 2014. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

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The minutes of November 17, 2014 continued:

Trustee Mitton said the contractor hired to reroof the Central Park Band Shell should be starting the project soon and would be placing a large trash container near the site. Trustee Mitton complained about the lack of action to move the band shell extensions. He said he asked that it be done two weeks ago. President Cooper said it would be done later in the week when the weather warms up.

President Cooper said he and Trustees Mitton and Peterson will meet with Mr. Bart Sampson the week after Thanksgiving to go over the plans for the park storage building. He also said the board needs to consider whether they want to bid the job or have Mr. Sampson construct the building. Hiring a contractor without going through the bidding process would take a super majority vote. President Cooper said Mr. Sampson had agreed to volunteer his time to draw the plans for the building. In regard to additional funding for the building, \$2,500 has been requested from Coulter Trust and the Orion Fall Festival Committee will pay \$2,500 - if the final cost of the building is \$30,000. If the final building cost is less than \$30,000 the OFF's contribution will be less.

Trustee Peterson said the park restrooms have been closed for the winter. Also, an application will be submitted to the Coulter Trust to upgrade the electrical services in Love Park.

It was moved by Peterson, seconded by Mitton to dispose of the park's 1992 S10 pickup truck by driving it to a scrap yard and selling it for scrap value. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Trustee Drucker thanked Water Supt. Arnie Sandberg for completing the hydrant flushing and most of the projects that were planned for the fiscal year. One project yet to be completed is the cleaning of the west ground storage tank. If weather permits, it could still be cleaned this fall. Otherwise, the project will wait until spring. During the hydrant flushing a couple of hydrants were found to be in non-working order but have since been repaired.

Trustee Drucker said he hoped the public works employees would get Christmas decorations up before Thanksgiving.

It was moved by Mitton, seconded by Lawson to donate \$500 to Main Street Orion's Christmas with Santa event. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

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The minutes of November 17, 2014 continued:

President Cooper said the annual Christmas dinner would be held December 10<sup>th</sup> at The Factory Restaurant.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Mitton to enter executive session at 8:26 p.m. to discuss employee Christmas bonus compensation. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

President Cooper reconvened the meeting in open session at 8:53 p.m.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Newman to keep Christmas bonuses the same as last year as follows: Full-time village employees-\$1,250 each; deputy clerk/treasurer-\$500; inspectors-\$100 MSO gift card each; full-time police officers-\$50 MSO gift card each; part-time police officers-\$20 MSO gift certificates each; meter reader-\$100 MSO gift card; and \$50 gift certificates from The Factory Restaurant for each trustee, the president, and village attorney. Trustee Newman amended the motion to delete the part-time officers since they had only worked sporadically throughout the year. The amended motion was called for a vote. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

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