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., April 16, 2012, at the Village Hall, 1202 4th Street, Orion, Henry, Illinois. The following members were present: Cooper, Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, 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 Lawson to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held April 2, 2012. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Peterson to approve the bills for the month: General Fund-$39,832.97; Recycle Collections-$1,880.48, Water O&M-$4,448.41, Water Cap. Impr.-$875.00, Sewer O&M-$9,516.06, Sewer Deprec.-$1,203.00, Sewer Cap. Impr.-$732.50, Phase II Loan Retire.-$97,859.69, Love Trust-$816.37, and Fines-$3,822.96. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Lawson to approve the FY2013 meeting dates of May 7, 2012, May 21, 2012, June 4, 2012, June 18, 2012, July 2, 2012, July 16, 2012, August 6, 2012, August 20, 2012, September 5, 2012*, September 17, 2012, October 1, 2012, October 15, 2012, November 5, 2012, November 19, 2012, December 3, 2012, December 17, 2012, January 7, 2013, January 21, 2013, February 4, 2013, February 18, 2013, March 4, 2013, March 18, 2013, April 1, 2013, and April 15, 2013. *Wednesday. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Mr. Dick Rossi asked the board why curb was replaced on the east side of 7th Street south of 16th Avenue and also why seal and chip treatment was applied over blacktop on 12th Avenue between 5th & 7th Streets, which created a washboard effect. President Cooper said the new curb on 7th Street eliminated an area where water collected, creating a swampy breeding ground for mosquitoes. The water will now flow away properly. In regard to the 12th Avenue seal and chip treatment, President Cooper said the village's engineering firm advised it was a viable solution to prevent further surface deterioration. Mr. Rossi complained about potholes and drop boxes. President Cooper said the street department would take care of those issues and anyone noticing such problems should contact Village Hall or any elected official.

Trustee Newman said the installation of conduit was scheduled to begin in Central Park in preparation for security camera installation. In addition, measurements were taken of

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benches and other items that might be kept in a proposed storage building or stored in some other manner.

Trustee Stiles said the Central Management System bid became available for police vehicle options. He said a local dealership might provide the same vehicle for slightly less than the state bid.

Trustee Peterson reminded the board that the Orion Fire District will utilize Love Park for a training drill on April 21, 2012. He also said bushes were planted in Central Park around an electrical box and conduit was being installed at Love Park.

President Cooper said a boys' regional baseball tournament will be held in Orion this year and consideration will need to be given to allow for adequate parking.

President Cooper complimented Trustee Peterson on all of his volunteer efforts assisting with the beautification of Central Park. He said Trustee Peterson edges the sidewalks with his own edger and suggested that the village purchase an edger for his use.

Trustee O'Leary said the sewer department was still waiting for the generator to be repaired and he hoped it would be done soon.

Trustee Lawson said sludge was hauled from the sludge beds by the street department last week and clean-up of the area around the newly installed curb on 7th Street is on the department's agenda. President Cooper said curb work would soon start at the intersection of 13th Street and 14th Avenue A. The curb is being installed to prevent vehicles from cutting further into the sod at the northwest corner.

President Cooper will meet with the Geneseo mayor and a representative from Cottingham & Butler to discuss information collected for a municipal health insurance pool.

President Cooper said September 28th is the deadline to submit a final streetscape plan to the Illinois Department of Transportation. The board should vote on whether or not to move forward with the project.

Trustee Stiles objected to any trustees holding membership with Main Street Orion and also voting on providing village funding for the organization. A letter of support for MSO received by the village board indicated two village trustees were members of the organization. Trustee Stiles said being a member of MSO was a conflict of interest. It was noted by President Cooper that other Orion organizations receive funding from the

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village and it is approved by board members, even though a board member or his family may benefit in some small way. His example was improvements to the baseball facilities in Love Park. Trustee Drucker said a membership to an organization was not a conflict, pointing out that in its infancy MSO required a village trustee be seated on its board. Village Attorney John Ames doubted the conflict of interest saying there was not any economic benefit or value received by the trustee. Trustee Stiles felt it was morally unethical, if not a conflict of interest. Mr. Brent Bloomberg spoke in support of MSO and told the board he had done appraisal work in Iowa over the last six months and dealt with two customers who knew of the Orion community because they attended MSO-sponsored concerts in the park and then ate dinner at a local pub afterward. Mr. Kevin Roberts, MSO President, presented the board with a petition of almost 200 signatures in support of full funding for the organization. Mr. Roberts felt MSO was an important part of the community's infrastructure. BankORION President, Jim Dingman, said the communities of Aledo and Cambridge support their Main Street programs to the tune of $14,000/yr. and $9,000/yr., respectively. He said the city of Cambridge also provides an office for the Main Street employee. In answer to a question from Mr. Bloomberg, Trustee Lawson said the village was considering a reduction in funds for MSO because there were many other projects that needed attention. He said the $100,000 or more that had been given to MSO since its inception could have been used to fund other things and further, the group had been warned last year that funds could be reduced. President Cooper felt the 50% reduction listed in the FY2013 proposed budget was too harsh, though Trustee O'Leary stood behind the reduction, despite his supportive remarks about the organization. He felt MSO would still be able to operate and that the amount cut from its funding could be put toward other projects for which the village has been unable to secure grant funds.

In other FY2013 budget discussion, Trustee Drucker said no funds had been placed in the budget for streetscape improvements. Also, he pointed out an error on line item 100-50-500.00, which was listed at $58,000 and should be $65,000, according to a prior meeting's vote. Trustee Drucker also asked the board if the part-time police wage should be increased from $12/hr. to $14/hr. instead of the $13/hr. included in the proposed budget. Trustee Stiles said the increase would amount to about $500-$600 extra. It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Stiles to include $14/hr. as the part-time police wage in the FY2013 budget. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Trustee Stiles drew to the attention of the board the cost of the contractual police services with Henry County. The FY2013 budget included $242,000 for the contract. He said the Sheriff's Department would price themselves out of the market at some point.

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Trustee Drucker said Main Street organizations require a financial commitment from their municipalities in order to remain an Illinois Main Street-designated community. He also noted that MSO had been warned of a possible reduction in funding at some point in the future. Because he didn't feel there would be enough board support for full funding, Drucker motioned to fund MSO in the amount of $8,000 for the FY2013 budget. The motion was seconded by Newman. Prior to a vote discussion ensued. President Cooper called the funding an investment in the community. Trustee Lawson suggested MSO drop the Main Street terminology so the village would not be required to lend financial support. Mr. Roberts said being part of IMS allows MSO to take advantage of services provided by the state and it also lends credibility to the program. Upon questioning by Trustee Lawson about the fund balance for MSO in early 2012, Director Ford said $12,000 was being held in reserve; $5,000 was being held for the 2013 Central Park Band Shell celebration; and the remainder of the money was for annual operating expenses. President Cooper said he wanted a complete accounting of expenditures from MSO, which Director Ford said she would supply. She said MSO purchases all products and services in Orion unless they are unavailable. The motion was called for a vote. Ayes: Peterson, Newman, and Drucker. Noes: Stiles, O'Leary, and Lawson. President Cooper said he appreciated the varying opinions about the issue, but when he was asked years ago while running for the mayor's position if he supported MSO, he said yes. He felt the 50% reduction in funding previously discussed was unfair, thus he voted aye to break the tie and carry the motion.

Trustee O'Leary said he did not approve of the inclusion of a police vehicle purchase in the FY2013 budget.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Peterson to approve the FY2013 budget, including the amendments noted previously, totaling $1,969,449. Ayes: Peterson, Newman, and Drucker. Noes: Stiles, O'Leary, and Lawson. Absent: None. President Cooper voted aye to break the tie and carry the motion.

President Cooper said certain street projects had been deleted from the budget because village personnel could not physically accomplish in one season as many projects as had been submitted.

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

Lori A. Sampson

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