

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 18, 2015, at the Village Hall, 1202 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Orion, Henry, Illinois. The following members were present: Cooper, Peterson, O'Leary, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Absent: Newman.

President Cooper led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance. He also welcomed Trustee O'Leary back to the board after an illness.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Mitton to approve the minutes of the meeting held May 4, 2015. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Newman.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Peterson to approve the FY2016 meeting dates: May 4, 2015, May 18, 2015, June 1, 2015, June 15, 2015, July 6, 2015, July 20, 2015, August 3, 2015, August 17, 2015, Sept. 9, 2015\*, Sept. 21, 2015, October 5, 2015, October 19, 2015, November 2, 2015, November 16, 2015, December 7, 2015, December 21, 2015, January 4, 2016, January 18, 2016, February 1, 2016, February 15, 2016, March 7, 2016, March 21, 2016, April 4, 2016, and April 18, 2016. \*Wednesday. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Newman.

Trustee Lawson said a contractor was repairing a few sidewalks near the high school and Street Supt. Neil Dahl was concentrating on sweeping streets.

Trustee Peterson asked that the ditch on the north side of 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue near the school's bus barn be reviewed. A school employee said it was so steep the mower he was using almost rolled over. Trustee Lawson will contact the street supt. about the issue.

Candice Schultz, MSO Director, told the board \$22,000 is the cost for MidAmerican Energy Co. to run underground conduit for new street lights in the 1000 block of 4<sup>th</sup> Street. If new posts and lights were installed by MAE they would become the property of the village. MAE lights would be utilitarian in nature. If an alternate style was desired, the village or other entity would bear the cost and the village would own the structures. Another option consisted of painting the existing poles. Mrs. Schultz said MSO wants to work with village officials to produce the proper lighting and make the business area attractive. After discussion about the cost and options, the board asked Mrs. Schultz to provide pictures of decorative lighting, find out what MAE could do to assist financially if alternate pole/lights are purchased, and provide fundraising options. It was noted the property is in the TIF district and those funds could possibly be used for the street lighting project.

Trustee O'Leary said bearings are being replaced at the sewer plant and other equipment is being maintained as well.

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The minutes of May 18, 2015 continued:

A letter was received from Mary Our Lady of Peace officials asking the village to pay half the cost to install a clean out for the church's sewer lateral. The clean out was installed because the church's lateral did not meet code. The code violation was discovered when the village's contractor accidentally cut the lateral while installing a sanitary relief main. The contractor repaired the cut. Trustee O'Leary and President Cooper met with church representatives at the site and said the village would pay half the cost if approved by the village board. The village board denied the request, and Trustee O'Leary verbally passed the information to church member Don Phillips on more than one occasion. Trustee O'Leary said he offered to Mr. Phillips that church representatives were welcome to attend a village board meeting if they did not agree with the board's decision. The church hired a local contractor to install the clean out and only paid half the cost. The church's letter to the village implied no communication was received from the village on its decision. The board agreed village regulations are clear as to the responsibility of laterals and that is with the owner. A written response will be submitted to the church.

Trustee Peterson said MidAmerican Energy Co. did not return to place power poles in their original positions after sewer maintenance work in the 1400 block of 8<sup>th</sup> Street. Trustee O'Leary will ask Sewer Supt. Chris Lundburg to contact MAE about moving the poles and tell them to make sure the ground is restored to its original condition after completion.

Trustee Mitton thanked Sewer Supt. Lundburg for giving him a tour of the sewer plant and Water Supt. Arnie Sandberg for explaining the water treatment system. He said termite control was completed at the Central Park Band Shell. Trustee Mitton will purchase and apply material to control carpenter ants.

Work on the park storage building has begun and Park Supt. Sandberg is helping with certain aspects. The building's elevation was raised about 18" to avoid underground electrical wires.

Trustee Drucker said flushing of hydrants will begin the week of May 25<sup>th</sup>. Water could be discolored but will be safe to drink. Also, Trustee Drucker said details of the Adopt A Hydrant program will be featured in the June 1<sup>st</sup> edition of *The Nosy Neighbor* newsletter. President Cooper felt the fire district's explorers, a youth service group, and the high school's honor society would help paint hydrants.

Trustee Peterson said painting of dugouts in Love Park has begun but more paint will be needed for the project. Adequate funds are available in the budget.

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The minutes of May 18, 2015 continued:

Final revenue and expenditure reports for FY2015 looked very good, according to Trustee Drucker. All involved did a good job of keeping finances under control.

The board discussed the need to curb speeding on 7<sup>th</sup> Street south of 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue and other local streets. Stop sign violations were noted as well as cell phone use. The board felt warning tickets would deter most violators. Deputy Josh Verschuere was present and said he would pass the info along to all deputies.

President Cooper noted a small increase in dues to Bi-State Planning Commission from \$1,080 to \$1,102. Trustee Drucker asked that a Bi-State representative come to a board meeting and review with the board services they can offer. He felt the village could take advantage of more services.

President Cooper said the school was looking for a less expensive way to reseal school parking lots other than paying prevailing wage rates. He told a school employee state legislators were considering a revamp of the prevailing wage law.

It was noted an open well at the property of Dena Heath, 1202 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, was under investigation by the Henry County Health Dept. The issue was brought to the health department's attention two years ago and was never resolved. Village personnel had to mow the property, due to non-compliance by the owner, so the street supt. set a piece of concrete over the top of the well and surrounded it with plastic fencing.

Letters were sent to the three owners of illegally connected sewer laterals, who were given 14 days to respond. Attorney John Ames was doing some additional work on easements to allow for correction of the violation. The plumber who provided an estimate to bring all three laterals up to code will meet with Trustee O'Leary and President Cooper in the near future.

There being no other 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: Newman.

Lori A. Sampson  
Village Clerk