

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., February 20, 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 Peterson to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held February 6, 2012. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Trustee Stiles said an application was submitted for an Illinois Criminal Justice Assistance Grant to be used for the purchase of a squad car. A new car is expected to cost in excess of \$21,000 and the grant, if approved, would fund 75%.

Trustee Lawson said he and the street superintendent were working on the fiscal year 2013 budget. He also said Street Superintendent Neil Dahl arranged for the baseball diamond lights in East Moline to be transported to Orion on Friday.

President Cooper said Dean Larson, 801 12th Avenue, requested permission to close 8th Street between 11th and 12th Avenues for one day in July for his wedding. The board did not object and will give final approval once the exact date is known and adequate insurance is provided.

Trustee Drucker said the village of Woodhull considered purchasing Orion's old generator but found it would not suit their purpose and declined. Flyers with the generator info and photos will be distributed at this week's Illinois Rural Water Association conference in southern Illinois. Trustee Stiles also suggested trying to sell the generator to a different demographic such as farmers and through various mediums such as e-Bay.

Trustee Drucker reported no conclusion had been arrived at in regard to higher pumping at the well. No obvious leaks could be located.

Trustee Drucker will check with Missman, Inc. about the possibility of repainting the east water tower this year and updating the prior estimate, if needed. He said it was likely the village would have to borrow \$100,000 or more to complete the project but he had some ideas about how to repay the debt without a rate increase to Orion residents. Those ideas will be shared later.

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The minutes of February 20, 2012:

Trustee Drucker, Clerk Sampson, and Treasurer Mizen attended the Northwest Municipal Association meeting in Geneseo last week. Senator Mike Jacobs, Representative Rich Morthland, Representative Don Moffitt, and Senator Darin LaHood attended the meeting as speakers. Moffit and LaHood will represent Orion's district if re-elected in the fall.

Trustee Newman thanked the Veterans' Monument Committee for its donation of \$500 toward the proposed security camera system in Central Park.

Trustee Newman said cost estimates were obtained for bundling certain options for Central Park Band Shell improvements. The bundles range in price from \$19,000 to \$99,000. Funding options for the improvements will be explored.

Trustee Drucker said the Finance Committee reviewed sewer relief main financing options and will make a recommendation to the board in the future. He reminded the board of the budget schedule and said employee salaries should be discussed at the next meeting.

Trustee Drucker said in the past, panic spending has occurred toward the end of the fiscal year when monies haven't been previously spent on a budgeted item. He asked that employees not look to spend every dollar allotted in their budgets if budgeted projects went undone. Trustee Drucker said incomplete projects could be carried over into the next budget year.

Trustee O'Leary said Sewer Superintendent Chris Lundburg had been corresponding with Mr. Harry Chapel from the Illinois EPA in regard to sewer gas vapor receipts submitted for reimbursement. It was noted that Supt. Lundburg felt encouraged that the village would get reimbursement.

Trustee Peterson said Park Superintendent Arnie Sandberg would soon start laying out extra parking near the large baseball diamond in Love Park.

President Cooper said he had a conversation with Mr. Harry Chapel of the IEPA last week, which prompted discussion about the responsibilities of Bulk Petroleum in the resolution of the sewer gasoline vapor investigation. Bulk Petroleum, though in bankruptcy, is still in business and should not be excused from its responsibility, according to President Cooper. He also reminded Mr. Chapel that Bulk Petroleum wasn't in bankruptcy in 1995 when the leak occurred. The IEPA failed to pursue the issue for 17 years. President Cooper said Golars, the environmental consultant for Bulk Petroleum, will be drilling monitoring wells next week. President Cooper complimented Representative Rich Morthland for assisting with the sewer gas vapor investigation.

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President Cooper said a Mayors' Meeting was held in Orion last week to listen to an insurance broker discuss the pros and cons of developing a municipal employee health insurance pool. Information will be gathered and forwarded to the broker by all interested Rock Island and Henry County municipalities.

Village attorney John Ames described the definition of Mediacom's 5% franchise payment to the village. The definition included all cable services, not just basic service. However, Mediacom failed to adequately complete the insurance section of the franchise agreement, so the board postponed action. Trustee Drucker said his most recent bill only showed a 5% tax on the basic cable portion of his bill. He was concerned that the village's 2011 proceeds might not be as much as expected.

President Cooper said a driver lost control on the 7th Street bridge, bouncing off the guardrails three times and landing in a corn field. He said the new guardrails most likely saved the driver's life.

President Cooper expressed his disappointment over the lack of response from Senator Mike Jacobs. Senator Jacobs had indicated to President Cooper and Trustee Drucker on several occasions that he would provide funding for the sewer relief main project. No funds have been forthcoming and Senator Jacobs has failed to respond to President Cooper's request for communication. President Cooper said Orion deserved better treatment.

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

Lori A. Sampson
Village Clerk

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