

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., March 21, 2016, at the Village Hall, 1202 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Orion, Henry, Illinois. The following members were present: Cooper, Peterson, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Absent: None.

President Cooper led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Mitton to approve the minutes of the meeting held March 7, 2016. Ayes: Peterson, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Peterson to approve the bills for the month: General Fund-\$26,471.71, Recycle-\$2,093.00, Water O&M-\$3,924.29, Sewer O&M-\$4,480.01, and Phase II Loan Retire.-\$12,248.75. Ayes: Peterson, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

President Cooper read a thank you from the family of deceased trustee, Robert D. O'Leary. He said there was quite a bit of interest in the vacancy on the village board but he had narrowed his choice to one person, Mr. Ryan Hancock. Mr. Hancock was a summer employee of the village of Orion during his college years and currently works for the Galesburg Sanitary District. It was moved by Lawson, seconded by Mitton to advise and consent to President Cooper's appointment of Ryan Hancock to fill the vacancy created by the death of Robert D. O'Leary. Ayes: Peterson, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Clerk Sampson administered the oath of office to Trustee Hancock.

It was moved by Lawson, seconded by Newman to approve Main Street Orion's request to close 4<sup>th</sup> Street between 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> Avenues for its Eat in the Street event to be held September 24, 2016. Ayes: Peterson, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, Hancock, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Peterson to approve a Class B liquor license for Main Street Orion on September 24, 2016. Ayes: Peterson, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, Hancock, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Lawson to approve a Class B liquor license for Main Street Orion on August 13, 2016. Ayes: Peterson, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, Hancock, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Clerk Sampson gave the board background information on how long Main Street Orion had been working to accomplish streetscape improvements in the business district. She

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said MSO and the village now had an opportunity to move forward with the purchase and installation of six street lights for the 1000 block of 4<sup>th</sup> Street. Current TIF funds would cover the cost of light poles, with the exception of \$1,000. Clerk Sampson asked the board to commit those funds to that purchase. She also said bids had been received for boring and electrical work to install the lights, and one of the bids totaled \$13,345. An additional \$2,000 would be required for concrete work, according to Street Supt. Neil Dahl. Clerk Sampson asked the board to commit FY 2017 TIF proceeds to the installation portion of the project. General fund monies would have to be used to complete the project in the current construction season, which would be paid back by TIF funds when they became available later in the year. Mr. Lewis Opsal, Director of Electrical Operations in Geneseo, IL, said the aluminum poles chosen by MSO were of good quality and met Dark Sky regulations. He said they would not deteriorate with salt contact, and the fact Orion wants to place the posts on 2' concrete piers would be okay. Mr. Opsal said the process of installation is simple and felt 20 amps should be provided to each pole. The light fixtures would be LED and result in a cost savings to Orion. Street Supt. Dahl said the lights need to be mounted on concrete foundations to protect from being hit by diagonally-parked vehicles. He also asked that the lights be located symmetrically and be easy to expand to another block. President Cooper was approached by a person who wants to assist by raising donations for a second block of improvements. When asked by Trustee Mitton why MSO wasn't helping pay for the initial project of six lights, MSO Director Candice Schultz said a Coulter Trust grant was denied and she had not received an answer from another grant applied for from United Way. She also said MSO planned to seek donations for the project but in the meantime, she was approached by Clerk Sampson about TIF funds that might be available now. Director Schultz said MSO could pay for the banner arms, flag pole brackets, any other additional attachments, and the remainder of the pole cost that the TIF money won't cover. Trustee Lawson balked at committing to a project when current funds won't cover the entire cost, and Trustee Mitton said the village needed to be fiscally responsible. Trustee Drucker explained general fund monies, of which there is a current cash balance in excess of \$700,000, would be used to pick up the cost of installation and be reimbursed when FY 2017 TIF funds are received. He also said MSO could reapply for Coulter Trust funding later in the year. Trustee Newman said the project was certainly worthy of TIF funding. President Cooper said the board had in the past struggled to come up with TIF projects, sinking funds into sidewalk repairs and helping pay down the Phase II sewer loan. Mrs. Shelly Marshall, MSO board member, said MSO could ask for memorial donations to help offset costs and affix a small plaque of recognition on each light. Trustee Lawson said he could easily spend thousands on sidewalk repairs instead, and Trustee Mitton said he still had concerns about the expenditure. It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Peterson to obligate \$15,507.63 in FY 2016 TIF proceeds to the purchase of street lights for the 1000 block of 4<sup>th</sup> Street and borrow \$15,345.00 from the general fund to complete

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the installation, to be paid back with FY 2017 TIF proceeds. Prior to a motion President Cooper asked that MSO continue to attempt to raise funds for the project. Trustee Lawson asked Director Schultz to commit to not asking for the annual village contribution to MSO, to which Trustee Drucker objected, stating it wasn't part of his motion. The motion was called for a vote. Ayes: Peterson, Hancock, Newman, and Drucker. Noes: Mitton and Lawson. Absent: None.

Trustee Drucker reminded the board the next Finance Committee meeting will be held March 30, 2016 at 4 p.m. at Village Hall. The FY 2017 proposed budget will be discussed.

Trustee Hancock said a blower motor at the sewer plant is being repaired.

Water was found bubbling up on 4<sup>th</sup> Street north of 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, according to Trustee Drucker. It could be caused by the fire hydrant at the intersection instead of a water main break. The cause should be known soon and the issue will be rectified.

An Illinois EPA representative will be in Orion for a routine three-year inspection of the water system on March 30, 2016.

Trustee Peterson said underground utilities would be located soon so excavation in Love Park could take place for the placement of new playground equipment.

Trustee Peterson was thanked for his efforts in picking up sticks in Central Park and adding fill dirt around the sidewalk to the new storage building.

Trustee Lawson said about 60 trees were trimmed back from street rights-of-way and the last of the Christmas decorations were taken down in Central Park.

No sample ordinances were provided to the board in regard to the ATV/UTV/golf cart issue, but Trustee Lawson said he had contacted several nearby communities asking about regulations and the number of permits issued for such vehicles. It seemed most communities saw requests of 10-15 permits per year, with the exception of Matherville. Fees are around \$50 annually. Trustee Drucker said ATVs and UTVs would be noisy, and President Cooper said Henry County deputies were not in favor of allowing the vehicles on the streets. He also said only 70 of the 200 who signed the petition for ATVs lived in the village limits. Trustee Peterson reminded the board those living outside Orion would never be able to drive into Orion because the law prohibits the use of ATVs on any rural road except from farm to farm for farming activities. Trustee Lawson said some other communities' feared problems but since allowing the vehicles, few problems

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surfaced. President Cooper asked Trustees Lawson and Mitton to get with village attorney John Ames to draft an ordinance to present to the board.

It was moved by Mitton, seconded by Lawson to adopt Ordinance #2016-3, authorizing the sale of personal property owned by the village in the amount of \$100. Ayes: Peterson, Hancock, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Mitton to approve a Proclamation declaring April 7, 2016 as Junior Achievement Day in Orion. Ayes: Peterson, Hancock, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Trustee Newman said he was scheduled to visit 2<sup>nd</sup>-graders in Orion for Junior Achievement. President Cooper had also spoken in the classroom in previous years.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Mitton to enter executive session at 8:57 p.m. to discuss the employment, compensation, discipline, or performance of specific employees. Ayes: Peterson, Hancock, Newman, Mitton, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

President Cooper reconvened the meeting in open session at 9:40 p.m.

President Cooper notified the board that the upcoming Deputy Clerk/Treasurer's position opening will be posted and applications will be accepted from the public.

President Cooper requested a list of job responsibilities for the water/recreation, sewer and street superintendents from the board members associated with those areas.

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

Lori A. Sampson  
Village Clerk  
And  
Steve Newman  
Village Trustee