

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
FINANCE COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held February 15, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. at Village Hall, 1202 4th Street, Orion, Illinois. Members present: Peterson, Newman, and Drucker. Absent: None. President Cooper also attended.

Credit card bills and the statement were reviewed and deemed to be in order.

Third quarter revenue and expenditures were reviewed. Clerk Sampson answered questions about a few line items that exceeded what was budgeted or fell short. Trustee Newman said expenditures were at 79.1% and should be 75%. Revenue, however, is at 88.5%, above the third quarter target. There are some variables to the aforementioned figures such as park expenses, which are mostly expended in the fiscal year's 1st quarter, and property tax revenues that are received in large lump sums over a 3-4 month period. Leachate revenue was lower than expected, most likely due to the dry weather pattern.

Water disconnect notices were reviewed. Service to a few residents was disconnected, some having not paid since September. Trustee Drucker repeated the requirement that service should be disconnected within five days of notice being given to the water superintendent.

Clerk Sampson said \$9,303.27 remains in the Special Tax Allotment fund. She suggested it be used to purchase Christmas wreaths for the new streetlights and other Christmas decorations for Central Park. Following a brief discussion, it was noted some kind of lift might be a good investment since it could be used to install decorations. Clerk Sampson will ask the street supt. to pursue estimates to purchase a lift. If that purchase is not feasible, Christmas decorations will be purchased as directed by the committee.

Trustee Drucker said Lisa Miller from Bi-State Regional Commission met with him and Clerk Sampson to discuss the direction of the village's community profile document. The direction changed from a document attracting commerce to attracting residents. Difficulty arose when trying to choose photos for the document. The committee agreed photos of the Orion Fall Fest should be included. Ms. Miller wanted photos of people, showing action, in lieu of streetscapes and buildings. A Bi-State employee is available to take pictures. President Cooper felt a photo of the OFF car show at dusk would be good to include in the document. In conversation with Kim Herold, local real estate agent and part-owner of Prairie Knoll subdivision, it was noted the school system should be highlighted, including stats about academics and sports. Things perceived as negatives by those wanting to move to Orion are water and sewer fees and property taxes. The committee did not think Orion's property taxes were any higher than those in the Quad Cities and noted the extra sewer fees should be dropping off in the next few years. Since an extension of the contract between the village and Bi-State will be necessary, the committee decided December 31, 2017 could be used as a deadline.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned.

Lori A. Sampson
Village Clerk

