

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., December 20, 2010 at the Village Hall, 1202 4th Street, Orion, Henry, Illinois. The following members were present: Cooper, Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Lawson, and Drucker. Absent: Cline.

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 December 5, 2010. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Cline.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Stiles to approve the bills for the month: General Fund-\$49,939.52, Recycle Collections-\$1,738.80, Water O&M-\$12,381.76, Sewer O&M-\$24,536.90, Sewer Depreciation-\$8,006.71, Motor Fuel Tax-\$2,233.46, and Special Tax Allotment-\$66,299.54. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Cline.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Lawson to approve calendar year 2011 meeting dates as follows: January 4, 2011, January 18, 2011, February 7, 2011, February 21, 2011, March 7, 2011, March 21, 2011, April 4, 2011, April 18, 2011, May 2, 2011, May 16, 2011, June 6, 2011, June 20, 2011, July 6, 2011*, July 18, 2011, August 1, 2011, August 15, 2011, September 7, 2011*, September 19, 2011, October 3, 2011, October 17, 2011, November 7, 2011, November 21, 2011, December 5, 2011, and December 19, 2011. *Wednesday. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Cline.

Mr. John Roegiers was present to announce his retirement from Missman Stanley & Assoc. His retirement will take effect December 31st. Mr. Roegiers thanked the village for its past business and said other engineers would be introduced to the board in January. President Cooper said he and the board appreciated Mr. Roegiers' service and good personal relationship with the village.

After a brief discussion on the status of the sewer backup violation notice from the Illinois EPA, Attorney John Ames was directed to contact the organization and find out if the village's resolution to the problem was acceptable.

Trustee O'Leary said Rich Morthland, a newly elected Illinois representative, had been assisting President Cooper with trying to speed up the process of resolving the sewer gasoline vapor issue.

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The minutes of December 20, 2010 continued:

Trustee O'Leary said Mr. Darren Brown, 106 11th Ave., complained about more gasoline fumes in his basement. Sewer Superintendent Chris Lundburg metered the odor and found it was not an explosive level and it was not coming from the sewer drain but Mr. Brown's foundation wall. Two manholes outside, one at 11th Avenue and 2nd Street and the other at 1st Street and 11th Avenue, were metered at levels of 30-40. Readings must reach 600 before the vapor becomes explosive. President Cooper said the state fire marshal indicated any reading of 200 or less would not be considered problematic. Trustee O'Leary said the two manholes being monitored had been fitted with vented lids to help release any vapor buildup. It was noted by Trustee Drucker that vapor issues inside a private home, when not detected coming from the sewer but from a foundation wall, would not be a village matter. He said, if the vapors were a result of contamination from a former gas station, the EPA would be responsible for seeing that the site was cleaned up. President Cooper said Mr. Brown had been told that the EPA was pursuing the open leak incident from the former Standard Oil gas station. It was decided a meeting would be held between Mr. Brown, President Cooper, Trustee O'Leary, and Sewer Supt. Lundburg in order to discuss the issue further.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Peterson to adopt Ordinance #2010-10, Tax Levy totaling \$183,155. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Cline.

Trustee Drucker said the Finance Committee recommended the streetscape project be funded as follows: General Fund-\$30,000, General Depreciation-\$17,000, and TIF-\$43,000. He explained that funds received from Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway would be left untouched in favor of more important projects, such as the east water tower and upgrades to the sewer system, and it was decided that Motor Fuel Tax monies were not plentiful enough to absorb any additional expenses. It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Peterson to approve the Finance Committee's recommendation to pay for the village's share of the streetscape project with \$30,000 from General Fund, \$17,000 from General Depreciation, and \$43,000 from TIF. Prior to a vote Trustee Stiles questioned the non-use of BNSF money for the project, and Trustee Drucker said that the entire board needed to determine the use of that money and possibly apply it to a more suitable project. President Cooper said the plan devised by the Finance Committee was the best scenario and he noted that the sidewalk and lighting improvements in the plan were items that would need to be done at some time in the future, even if grant funds weren't available. He also said the village could apply to the Coulter Trust for funds to reimburse General Fund expenditures allotted for the project. Trustee O'Leary said he was still opposed to the project but felt the financing plan offered was the best available. Trustee Lawson objected to moving forward with the project, stating that spending funds on the streetscape was like throwing money out the window when other more important

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projects needed funding. Trustee Stiles said he opposed the project also, but the majority of the board approved it and a plan to finance it had to be devised. The motion was called for a vote. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, and Drucker. Noes: O'Leary and Lawson. Absent: Cline.

In response to remarks made prior to the streetscape financing vote, Trustee Drucker said the TIF money could not have been used for the water tower improvements or the sewer improvements proposed for the east end of the village, because neither of the projects are in the TIF district. He also said those projects would not ordinarily be funded with General Fund money, since the water and sewer funds were meant to be self-supporting.

Trustee Stiles said he had contacted Henry County Sheriff Jim Padilla about attending a village board meeting. The sheriff will contact the village in the near future.

The board posed no objection to President Cooper's suggestion to allow liquor license holders to extend New Year's Eve operating hours until 2:00 a.m. on New Year's Day.

The board agreed to open the landscape waste site for the disposal of Christmas trees only. The site will be open January 8th from 8:00 a.m. until noon, and Trustee O'Leary and President Cooper will tend to the gate.

President Cooper presented a special invitation to the public to attend the February 7th village board meeting to air concerns or get questions answered. He encouraged the public to participate and make the board aware of their needs.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Stiles to correct the CY2011 meeting dates of January 4th and 18th, previously approved, to January 3rd and 17th. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Cline.

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

Lori A. Sampson
Village Clerk

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