

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 7, 2011 at the Village Hall, 1202 4<sup>th</sup> 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 Stiles to approve the minutes of the meeting held February 21, 2011. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Cline.

Trustee Peterson said Wallace Engineering surveyed Love Park and found that the concession stand is situated very close to the south property line. The Woodley family, owners of the adjoining property to the south, agreed to offer a 50' strip of land to the village allowing for an extension of the 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue right-of-way to Love Park's western boundary. Goalposts for the school's practice field extend onto the strip but are not a permanent fixture. Trustee Peterson said the village would pay all legal expenses associated with any donation of land, if accepted. The issue will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

Trustee Stiles said a letter was received from the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board inferring that Orion was not in compliance with a law requiring ordinance adoption for the employment of part-time officers. Attorney John Ames drafted an ordinance for adoption but suggested it first be presented to the sheriff as a matter of professional courtesy. Trustee Stiles said he would discuss the issue with Sheriff Padilla at a meeting tentatively scheduled for March 16<sup>th</sup>.

Trustee Stiles said the captain of the sheriff's department offered to have a floater deputy assist with Orion patrol the evening of the high school's basketball game in Jacksonville, Illinois. With many of the townspeople attending the out of town game, it could present an opportunity for criminals.

It was moved by Stiles, seconded by Drucker to approve payment to Racom Corporation in the amount of \$11,288.17 for two mobile data computers and \$158.40 to Rosemary Rathjen for computer program installation and setup. Prior to a vote, Trustee Drucker asked if some of that expense was to be paid with grant funds. It was noted grant funds in the amount of \$5,700 were received but some will be returned due to a lower than expected cost for the equipment. The grant was for one computer only and covered 75% of the cost. The motion was called for a vote. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Cline.

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The minutes of March 7, 2011 continued:

Trustee O'Leary said Sewer Superintendent Chris Lundburg was off work due to a death in the family and would not return until later in the week. There was no report for the department.

Trustee Lawson said slow progress was being made on the 7<sup>th</sup> Street bridge, and President Cooper told the board he contacted the person in charge of the project from Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway and was told the bridge should be completed in five weeks, dependent upon the weather.

Trustee Cline arrived at 7:44 p.m.

Trustee Drucker asked the board to consider allowing the water and sewer departments to purchase approximately 200 unbudgeted water meters. If purchased now, a cost savings of \$7 per meter would be achieved. The meters would cost \$80 each and be paid for by the water and sewer departments. Trustee Drucker said the water superintendent suggested buying and stockpiling the meters, which would last 8-10 years, to delay the \$160,000-\$200,000 expense of switching to electronic meters. Manufacturers are phasing out the existing non-electronic meters. The issue will be discussed at the next meeting.

Trustee Cline recommended installing a second tornado siren on the property near the Orion sign at the south entrance to the village. He said landowners Augie DeMay and Earl Papini graciously agreed to allow the siren to be erected. Trustee Cline suggested batteries in the east tower be replaced at the same time the new tower is erected. The cost for the new siren and maintenance of the east siren was projected to be less than \$19,000. Coulter Trust funds will be used to cover the cost. It was moved by Cline, seconded by Drucker to approve the installation of a tornado siren at the west end of the village and maintain the east siren in accordance with proposals submitted by Braniff Communications and Tony DeBaillie. Prior to a vote, Trustee Drucker asked how the location of the second siren was chosen. Trustee Cline said he relied on Water Superintendent Arnie Sandberg for advice. Several options were outlined and reviewed before the selection was made. Trustee Cline said he would expect the siren to be erected within the next couple of months. The motion was called for a vote. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Lawson, Drucker, and Cline. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Trustee Drucker reminded the board of the budget request deadline scheduled for March 15<sup>th</sup>. The Finance Committee will meet March 30<sup>th</sup> to put together a proposed budget. All committees were asked to be fiscally conservative.

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The minutes of March 7, 2011 continued:

President Cooper said the Henry County Economic Development Partnership meeting held at Woo Dog's Pub & Grub last week was a success and all in attendance from Orion learned how hard the group has worked for its accomplishments. He felt those attending walked away with a better sense of what member dues were put toward.

Trustee Cline said he might arrive late or miss the next board meeting.

President Cooper wished the high school basketball team well in its effort to win the game scheduled for Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, in Jacksonville, Illinois.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Cline to enter executive session at 7:58 p.m. to discuss personnel wages. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Lawson, Drucker, and Cline. Noes: None. Absent: None.

President Cooper reconvened the meeting in open session at 8:45 p.m.

There being no further business to come before the board, it was moved by Drucker seconded by Stiles to adjourn.

Lori A. Sampson  
Village Clerk



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