

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., April 18, 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.

President Cooper announced that Trustee Cline was absent due to his job as a soccer coach.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Peterson to approve the minutes of the meeting held April 4, 2011. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Cline.

It was moved by O'Leary, seconded by Peterson to approve the bills for the month: General Fund-\$46,360.16, General Depr.-\$6,892.61, Recycle-\$1,809.64, Water O&M-\$6,827.12, Water Depr.-\$914.75, Sewer O&M-\$10,078.44, Sewer Depr.-\$2,848.27, Motor Fuel Tax-\$1,616.22, and Special Tax Allotment-\$2,847.50. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Cline.

President Cooper asked the board to consider a permanent change in the village board meeting time from 7:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The board will discuss the issue at the next meeting.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Stiles to approve the FY2012 meeting dates of 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, December 19, 2011, January 4, 2012\*, January 16, 2012, February 6, 2012, February 20, 2012, March 5, 2012, March 19, 2012, April 2, 2012, and April 16, 2012. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Cline.

President Cooper thanked Mr. Ron Thompson for demolishing the former barber shop building and cleaning up the area quickly.

Trustee Lawson said the drainage solution proposed for 14<sup>th</sup> Street between 14<sup>th</sup> Ave. A and 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue would not work because the pipe in the ground would be so shallow that water would freeze. He said the street superintendent felt a better solution would be to run the water north down 14<sup>th</sup> Street and then west toward the Catholic Church, though it would cost \$12,000 just for the pipe material. Only \$7,000 was included in the proposed FY2012 budget for drainage in that area. Other problems with that solution would be

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dealing with other underground utilities and driveways. There was lengthy discussion regarding options for drainage and some members of the board felt the water could be drained elsewhere by connecting to an existing tile. Trustee Lawson claimed the existing tile could become full, back up into the adjacent farm field, and cause ponding. Trustee Drucker pointed out that the tile is partially on village right-of-way and Street Superintendent Neil Dahl was supposed to have contacted the county soil and water conservation department to see if there were any rules preventing the village from connecting to the tile. President Cooper said additional investigation is needed, possibly with engineering input. Trustee Drucker said the village employees were told the project needed to be completed as soon as possible and not delayed until the fall season.

President Cooper expressed appreciation to Trustee Cline for his time on the village board. In the absence of Trustee Cline, Trustee Drucker said improvements had been made to the east shed recently.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Peterson to approve the FY2012 budget totaling \$1,579,021. Prior to a vote, Trustee Stiles questioned the expenditure of training for the street superintendent, funding for Main Street Orion, and part-time wages listed in both the water and sewer budgets. It was explained that the training expense is intended for cross-training the street superintendent in water and sewer issues. Part-time wages are for the meter reader's salary, and the funding listed for Main Street Orion is the annual dues participation. Trustee Stiles said the MSO funding was a lot of money to spend when other issues were more pressing. Deb Ford, Director of MSO, told the board the group had worked hard to increase other revenues such as dues and event income but still considered the village's participation an important part of the equation. Trustee O'Leary said the village had given MSO \$100,000 over the course of its existence and he felt the annual sponsorship should be reduced. Trustee Drucker suggested the group be awarded the full amount this year and be put on notice that the amount will be reduced next year, if that was the general feeling of the board. The sticking point for a few members of the board was the fact MSO is required to employ someone for a minimum of 20 hours a week, but Trustee Drucker pointed out the fact that people are no longer stepping up to volunteer their time like people did 30 or 40 years ago. He said things have changed for the younger generation, whether it is due of lack of time or interest. President Cooper told the board the village of Cambridge pays its MSO organization more than Orion, and Cambridge's MSO has a full-time director. Director Ford said in addition to her paid work time, she volunteers and average of 10-20 hours per week. Trustee Lawson was adamant that she shouldn't expect any salary and that the organization should consist only of volunteers. He proposed giving \$7,000 this year and reducing the amount to \$5,000 next year. Clerk Sampson pointed out that the village had in effect already reduced their financial participation by contributing a smaller percentage toward the

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group's expenditures. In the beginning, the village paid 33% of the group's budget and currently pays slightly less than 20%. Director Ford said the group was not asking for CIBP participation this year, reducing the overall request by \$1,000. President Cooper said the group offered more than movies and concerts in the park, such as assistance to attract a pharmacist to the community and other value that couldn't be measured in dollars. The motion was called for a vote. Ayes: Peterson, O'Leary, and Drucker. Noes: Stiles and Lawson. Absent: Cline. Motion carried.

Trustee Peterson said bathrooms are now open in both parks. Brief discussion was held regarding the availability of free light poles for a Love Park baseball diamond. Trustee Peterson had been unable to get a clear answer as to whether the City of East Moline was giving the poles to Orion or not. President Cooper said he would contact the city and get an answer. Trustee Lawson said the poles would have to be broken down before hauling them. He said he would arrange the transportation.

The Finance Committee set the next regular committee meeting for 4 p.m., May 11<sup>th</sup> at Village Hall.

It was moved by Stiles, seconded by Drucker to adopt Ordinance #2011-1, Setting Employment Standards for Part-Time Police Officers. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Cline.

President Cooper said he and Trustee Stiles were looking at ways to reduce police department expenditures.

Trustee O'Leary reviewed preliminary plans to eliminate sewer backups in residential basements east of the Catholic Church and announced receipt of a letter from the Illinois EPA accepting the timeline for remediation of the backups. Two plans were presented; one estimated to cost \$120,000 and the other \$220,000. More main televising will be completed prior to choosing one plan over the other, though Trustee O'Leary said the most important piece of the puzzle would be financing. Trustee Drucker urged O'Leary to seek the larger amount if asking for financial aid as that would most likely rectify more of the problem. The village is still waiting on a solid cost estimate from Missman, Inc. Trustee O'Leary told the board, until the problem is rectified, the village can pump from manholes onto the ground in times of sewer backups. He said the IEPA prefers the water be pumped on the ground versus backing up in a basement.

President Cooper congratulated those who won trustee seats at the Consolidated Election: Mel Drucker, Roger Peterson, and Steve Newman. The three men and Jamie Lawson ran

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for three four-year terms. President Cooper said he intends to offer Jamie Lawson's name for appointment to the vacant two-year term at the next meeting.

Board members were instructed to communicate with President Cooper if they wanted to change their committee chairmanships.

President Cooper reminded the board that staff from Congressman Randy Hultgren's office would be at Village Hall from 10-11 a.m., Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>.

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, Lawson, Drucker, and Cline. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Lori A. Sampson  
Village Clerk



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