

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., July 6, 2011 at the Village Hall, 1202 4th Street, Orion, Henry, Illinois. The following members were present: Cooper, Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, and Drucker. Absent: Newman and Lawson

President Cooper called the meeting to order and led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Cooper said Trustee Newman was absent due to a wedding anniversary and Attorney John Ames was absent due to a meeting conflict. Trustee Lawson previously told another trustee he would be out of town at the time of the board meeting.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Stiles to approve the minutes of the meeting held June 20, 2011. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Newman and Lawson.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Stiles to approve a recommendation from the Plan Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals to grant a variance request by BankORION to rezone Lot 8 in Block 5 of the Original Town (Deanington) from multi-family residential to commercial. Prior to a vote, Trustee Drucker asked if the drainage concerns expressed by a neighbor to the parcel had been addressed. Mr. Larry Greims, representative of BankORION, said the bank had hired an engineering firm who advised them to consult a contractor for drainage issues. He also said he would discuss it with Street Superintendent Neil Dahl. Mr. Greims stressed that the bank intended to be a good neighbor. The lot to be rezoned will be used for employee parking and a storage building. If the plan is approved by the village board, it still faces approval by the bank's board of directors, according to Mr. Greims. The motion was called for a vote. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Newman and Lawson.

Main Street Orion Director Deb Ford requested permission to close 13th Avenue between 4th and 5th Streets for a music concert in Central Park on July 23rd. The board asked Director Ford to notify an adjoining property owner of the street closure. The board agreed by consensus that the street could be closed for the concert.

Trustee O'Leary said the pump for the 10th Avenue lift station had been ordered. He also said Sewer Superintendent Chris Lundburg would contact Jody Kershaw from the Illinois EPA to determine the status of the gas vapor investigation. Trustee O'Leary was concerned about the ventilation fan operating continuously through another winter, at the expense of the village. He was also disappointed that the EPA had not kept the village apprised of the vapor investigation. Trustee O'Leary hopes to get compensation to recoup expenses to cover lining the 1st Street main, purchasing the fan, and renting the instrument to measure gas vapors.

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
OF
VILLAGE BOARD

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
COUNTY OF HENRY)
VILLAGE OF ORION)

The minutes of July 6, 2011 continued:

President Cooper said employees were working on the installation of drain tile on 14th Street between 14th Avenue A and 15th Avenue. The west side of the street has been completed. The receiving ditch along 14th Avenue A will be shaped and seeded when all drain tile has been installed and is found to be working properly. Trustee Drucker asked drivers to travel slowly to avoid creating a lot of dust during construction.

Trustee Drucker said the water superintendent was busy assisting the street department. He said the west ground tank has some algae growth on its exterior and will be attended to by Water Superintendent Arnie Sandberg at a later date.

President Cooper said Trustee Newman had previously expressed concern about controls for activation of the tornado siren. He wanted to make sure vandals could not access the controls.

Trustee Drucker set the next Finance Committee meeting for July 13th at 4:00 p.m. at Village Hall.

Clerk Sampson said \$511 had been received from the village's insurance company for payment of lightning damages to the police computer and printer. The payment was reduced by the village's deductible and depreciation of the affected equipment.

Trustee Peterson said Wallace Engineering had completed the survey of Love Park. Property is ready to be exchanged between the village and Woodley family. He also said light bulbs were changed in the light fixtures at the ball diamonds. Assisting were Luke Weber, Park Superintendent Arnie Sandberg, and Trustee Lawson.

Trustee Peterson said the spruce trees in Central Park are affected by needle cast and will need to be cut down. There is no suitable treatment for the disease.

President Cooper told the board Stan Erdman of Triple E Sales requested the village allow street use for golf carts and ATVs. Apparently, other communities have garnered revenue by charging for licensing fees. President Cooper read from a document that indicated street use of golf carts had increased in many communities, especially among the Baby Boomer set, though he admitted the use of such equipment could open the door to abuse. Orion already has a problem with snowmobiles in the winter and allowing more non-licensed forms of transportation would most likely increase those problems. President Cooper said ATVs could create a noise problem for the community, and others felt it would be difficult to police the use of such equipment. Trustee Stiles said he might be willing to consider the use of golf carts on the street, in light of recent gasoline prices. The matter was tabled due to low interest in the issue.

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
OF
VILLAGE BOARD

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
COUNTY OF HENRY)
VILLAGE OF ORION)

The minutes of July 6, 2011 continued:

President Cooper reported on a meeting regarding the emergency plan for the village. Newly elected fire chief, Dan Myers, requested a meeting with the village and emergency personnel to fine tune the plan. Fire, ambulance, police, and village officials were in attendance. President Cooper said changes were recommended, which will be compiled by Chief Myers and returned to the village. Deb Ford offered the use of MSO's Facebook site to spread information in the case of an emergency. She said the site has a wide following and it would be a good tool to get information out to the public.

President Cooper thanked the Orion 4th of July Fireworks Committee for the lighted parade and fireworks display over the past weekend. He heard many compliments from attendees.

President Cooper said the village's new contact for the BNSF Railway, Paul Fiechtner, Supervisor of Structures, was unable to provide a time line on completion of guardrail installation at the 7th Street bridge. Mr. Fiechtner refused President Cooper's request to speak to the board by speakerphone at the board meeting, but President Cooper did learn from Steve Brandau, Henry County Highway Superintendent, that the county and township were having discussions with the railroad about the guardrails. President Cooper was told that the county would possibly be letting the project out for bid on behalf of the railroad. The process of advertising the project for bid, letting the bid, and scheduling the contractor could take several weeks. The county first needed to come to an agreement with the railroad for reimbursement of associated costs. President Cooper said if a dire emergency exists that requires use of the bridge, emergency personnel will set aside the barricades and cross the bridge; however, the general public should never move the barricades to use the structure. Trustee Drucker suggested the county pursue a direct award of the guardrail project due to its emergency status, and Trustee O'Leary said Congressman Bobby Schilling had offered to assist Orion with issues, even though his district does not include the village.

President Cooper said the McCaw Medical Clinic was once again asking for a handicapped parking space in front of its facility on 11th Avenue. He visited the clinic and saw the need firsthand. A nearby fitness center had previously been asked to inform its clients to not park in front of the medical clinic, but on the day President Cooper visited the clinic, parking on the street was full and none of the cars in front of the clinic belonged to patients of Dr. McCaw. President Cooper pointed out that a handicapped parking space exists in front of a local pub and restaurant and asked the board to consider granting the McCaw request and be ready to act on it at the next meeting.

Trustee O'Leary thanked Clerk Sampson for sending a thank you letter to the Orion Sanitary District after its donation of funds for purchase of a necessary lift station pump.

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
OF
VILLAGE BOARD

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
COUNTY OF HENRY)
VILLAGE OF ORION)

The minutes of July 6, 2011 continued:

Clerk Sampson thanked Trustee Peterson and his wife for tending to the Central Park flower garden, noting that it looked beautiful.

President Cooper said thanks should also go out to Clerk Sampson and Deputy Clerk Sandy Mizen for pulling weeds at Village Hall on their own time one evening.

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

Lori A. Sampson
Village Clerk

ERROR: undefined
OFFENDING COMMAND:

STACK: