

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., August 15, 2011 at the Village Hall, 1202 4th Street, Orion, Henry, Illinois. The following members were present: Cooper, Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Lawson, and Drucker. Absent: None.

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

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Lawson to approve the minutes of the meeting held August 1, 2011. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Lawson to approve the bills for the month: General Fund-\$29,667.99, General Depreciation-\$1,865.61, Water O&M-\$8,731.95, Sewer O&M-\$7,891.11, Sewer Depreciation-\$225.00, Motor Fuel Tax-\$2,500.94, C. R. Hanna Trust-\$145.39, Love Trust-\$885.00, and Fines-\$788.94. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Newman to fund supplemental streetscape engineering in the amount of \$7,500. Prior to a vote Trustee Lawson said he was concerned about the extra expenses and was fearful that there would be more to come. It was explained that the Finance Committee recommended moving forward with the additional engineering in order to determine whether existing curb ramps were within ADA guidelines or would require an upgrade. If an upgrade is required, the village would then need to make a determination to go forward or discontinue the project. Trustee Lawson said the project hadn't moved forward and plans submitted had been rejected twice. He was concerned that more financial setbacks could be in store for the village. Trustee O'Leary said if it was determined that curb ramps had to be reconstructed to meet new ADA guidelines, he would be opposed to continuing on with the project. Reconstructing curb ramps could cost the village an extra \$53,000. The motion was called for a vote. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, and Drucker. Noes: Lawson. Absent: None.

President Cooper said East Moline Director of Parks, David Lambrecht, gave the go-ahead for the village to pick up lights and posts for the Love Park baseball diamond. Trustee Lawson said he would make arrangements to get the materials.

Trustee Peterson said the sand volleyball area had fewer wasps than before being treated with a chemical. The area is improving but not yet open for play.

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The minutes of August 15, 2011

Trustee Drucker relayed a complaint about trash in Love Park to Trustee Peterson. Trustee Peterson said he picks up trash frequently and was unsure of how to stop the littering by others.

President Cooper discussed police coverage for the Orion Fall Festival event. He said a couple of shifts remained uncovered but the sheriff's department was continuing to look for deputies to fill those shifts. Trustee Stiles said he would contact the sheriff's department about having its Zone 2 deputy in the area.

Trustee O'Leary said the sewer superintendent was attempting to get information on the status of the gas vapor investigation. The village would like to avoid having to operate the manhole fan during the winter months. President Cooper said he spoke with a representative of the environmental company investigating the 1995 spill and it was confirmed that the contamination was serious, rated five or more on a scale of one to ten. The investigation contains four steps and only step one has been completed. The company will next determine the spread of the contamination, then formulate a remediation plan, and lastly, perform cleanup. President Cooper reminded the company rep that the issue was one of safety for village residents. He also said he left a message with an IEPA official regarding the pace of the investigation and had not yet received a reply.

Trustee Lawson said the seal coat program had been completed and Street Superintendent Neil Dahl was readying 14th Street for blacktop. He had also been assisting with installing a concrete approach for the east shed.

President Cooper shared information with Trustee Lawson about new race routes for the 2011 Fall Fest and asked that barricades be available to the race organizers on Saturday of Labor Day weekend. Some of the race route will include recently seal-coated streets and runners will have to be cautious while traversing those areas.

Trustee Drucker said it had been re-emphasized to the water superintendent that services scheduled for disconnection should be completed within a 5-day timeframe.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by O'Leary to adopt Ordinance #2011-4, amending Chapter XXVI of the Municipal Code to increase water rates to users outside the village limits commencing with August consumption. Prior to a vote Trustee Drucker explained to the board that the increase would be done in two stages, with a 50% increase immediately, followed by another 50% increase in one year. The rate would end up being twice the rate paid by village residents. Trustee Drucker said he felt it was unfair for those outside village limits to receive the same benefits as those of village residents.

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He used his own judgment in deciding the extent of the increase and noted that other communities have higher fee structures for those living outside corporate limits. The motion was called for a vote. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: Newman. Absent: None.

It was announced that Jane Burrs, Case Worker for U.S. Congressman Randy Hultgren, will be at Village Hall to meet the public on Tuesday, September 20th, from 9:30-10:30 a.m.

President Cooper complimented Main Street Orion on its Little Miss Pageant held the previous weekend. He said he hoped it continued as an annual tradition. President Cooper said bids would be let on August 25th for the guardrail installation at the 7th Street bridge. The Henry County Highway Department is handling the bid letting process. The successful bidder will begin work as soon as possible.

Senator Mike Jacobs has consented to visit Orion and meet with appropriate officials to discuss the sewer relief main project and the need for funding. President Cooper and Trustee Drucker talked to Senator Jacobs on several occasions and were promised funds if the capital bill was approved. After several months of no response from the Senator, President Cooper made a final call to his office staff and demanded an answer. The time and date of the meeting is yet to be determined.

President Cooper reported that he met with BankORION President, Jim Dingman, and a few others to discuss park improvements and a community center. He asked the village board to consider the aspect of creating a park district, which could include those outside the village limits as well as village residents. President Cooper pointed out that many outside the village utilize the ball diamonds, playground equipment, and shelters, and those people should have a stake in paying for those amenities. Construction costs are being investigated in regard to a community center.

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

Lori A. Sampson
Village Clerk

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