

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., November 7, 2011 at the Village Hall, 1202 4th Street, Orion, Henry, Illinois. The following members were present: Cooper, Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, and Drucker. Absent: Lawson.

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

President Cooper said Trustee Lawson was out of town but did contact him prior to the meeting.

It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Stiles to approve the minutes of October 17, 2011. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: Lawson.

Deb Ford, Main Street Orion Director, said MSO received the Lt. Governor's Award for Excellence in Downtown Revitalization under the Economic Restructuring arm of the program. The award was given for MSO's success in attracting a pharmacist to the community, but Director Ford stressed the cooperation that was needed from individual residents, the village board, BankORION, and others in order to create an environment for a new pharmacist. Director Ford thanked those who assisted with the project and pharmacist Marci Kenney for choosing to locate her business in Orion. President Cooper recalled the effort put forth by a search committee that included himself, Jerry Meyer, and Bill Kalman, and the concern of the community about the sudden closing of the former pharmacy.

Mr. Ron Thompson said part of a tree to be removed from Central Park will be used as the Christmas tree in the band shell this year. The tree will be erected and decorated on November 20th around 2:00 p.m. and volunteers were solicited to help.

A no parking ordinance was tabled until the next meeting.

In regard to prior discussions about heavy farm equipment traveling on village streets, President Cooper said village code allows implements of husbandry to travel off the truck route no matter what their weight. He said a change in the code would be necessary to control that type of traffic. Trustee Drucker said he spoke with someone in the 8th Street area who was opposed to changing the truck route from its current location to 15th Avenue and 7th Street. He informed the person that discussion about the route changes was preliminary and those streets would have to be improved before they could handle heavy truck traffic. Trustee Drucker said the board might want to consider limiting the use of streets during freeze/thaw cycles.

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The minutes of November 7, 2011 continued:

Trustee Drucker said the water superintendent was working on minor equipment maintenance issues. In searching for parts, the water superintendent was able to ferret out products of good quality at a reasonable cost. President Cooper said Water/Park Superintendent Arnie Sandberg also helped moved bleachers from Love Park to the high school property for a well-attended football game last week.

Trustee Newman presented a draft of volunteer guidelines for anyone wishing to do volunteer work for the village. He asked the board to review. Trustee O'Leary objected to the requirement of a three-week notice before any volunteer activity could be performed. Trustee Newman said the length of time was established in order to give the village an opportunity to coordinate materials, publicity, and employees, if needed. President Cooper suggested the language could be changed from 'three weeks' to 'upon approval'. The board will discuss again at a later date.

Trustee Newman said he met with John Fellman from Missman, Inc. to review the condition of the band shell. Various items were discussed including deck extensions, digging out the underside of the structure to make more headroom, and the underlying support of the structure. Trustee Newman said funds had been budgeted for the preliminary engineering services. In a conversation with Landmarks Illinois, Trustee Newman found the organization would only grant a maximum of \$1,000 for such a project. He will apply for those grant funds and at the behest of Trustee Drucker, will also look for other preservation foundations that could be a source of funding. Trustee Newman said he talked with Anthony Rubano of the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, who opposed the installation of security cameras inside the band shell but agreed that permanent deck extensions would not change the character of the structure. Trustee Newman will take into consideration Mr. Rubano's concerns about the cameras.

President Cooper said the soonest the streetscape project, if it receives final IDOT approval, could be bid is March 2012. Two issues are holding up the project: the slope of the sidewalk on the south side of 5th Street near Amador Chiropractic and the diagonal parking on 4th Street between 10th & 11th Avenues. A variance is being sought for the parking and the sidewalk issue has been referred to Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan for an opinion. Trustee Drucker questioned the final cost of handicapped ramps and was told that had not yet been determined.

President Cooper learned some communities use MFT funds to install sidewalks as well as pay the labor to perform the work. He said that could be an option for Orion. He also said he had seen crews from Missman, Inc. doing survey work for the east sewer relief main project.

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The minutes of November 7, 2011 continued:

Trustee Drucker said the Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for 4 p.m. on November 9th at Village Hall. The tax levy and several other important items will be discussed.

An ordinance annexing property adjacent to Love Park was tabled until the next meeting.

Trustee O'Leary said the sewer department was prepared for rain events predicted for the next couple of days. He also said he was looking into a source of funding for the east sewer project and would report on the results of that soon. Trustee O'Leary thanked Clerk Sampson for her assistance in the search for funds, though no grants seemed to be available to the village. He also said no further information was available regarding the gas vapor investigation.

President Cooper said he was disappointed with the article in a Quad City newspaper portraying storm water from an overflowing creek as a village problem.

President Cooper said he gave the Veterans' Committee permission to close 12th Avenue between 4th and 5th Streets on November 13th for its annual memorial service.

The board agreed that the landscape waste site could be opened later in the season if the remaining dates of November 19th and 21st are not adequate to accommodate the timing of trees shedding leaves. Management of the site is working well and residents are thankful it is open for use.

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

Lori A. Sampson
Village Clerk

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