

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., December 5, 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 Peterson to approve the minutes of November 21, 2011. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Main Street Orion Director Deb Ford thanked the board for its contribution of \$500 to Saturday with Santa. She said the organization purchased \$1,100 worth of toys and had a great turnout at the event.

Trustee Newman said John Fellman from Missman, Inc. re-estimated the cost of engineering for the Central Park band shell at \$3,500. The original budgeted amount of \$1,500 was planned to cover only engineering for a concrete floor under the structure. In the time since the budget was approved, other defects had been found and an extension of the band shell deck was being considered. The band shell is also of a tricky design with numerous odd angles, which makes the project more time consuming. Trustee Newman said approximately \$6,000 exists in funds allotted for the band shell and he proposed utilizing more of those funds to complete the engineering so an estimate of repair can be formulated. It was moved by Newman, seconded by Drucker to approve the expenditure of \$2,000 above the budgeted amount to allow Missman, Inc. to determine necessary repairs to the Central Park band shell and a cost estimate for those repairs. Prior to a vote on the motion Trustee Lawson asked if funds were available to pay for the improvements. Trustee Stiles suggested searching for grants based on the historical nature of the project, and Trustee Drucker suggested checking with charitable foundations around the country that might fund such a project. Trustee Newman said since the cost of the improvements is unknown he had not allocated any funding for the repairs but did intend to search all viable sources. Trustee Lawson expressed doubt that the village was acting wisely by committing funds for engineering when funds to do the actual project were not available. He also said the village should shop around for engineering services and not automatically choose the same firm to do all projects. The motion was called for a vote. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Mr. Tom Engelmann was present to discuss the audit for FY2011 financial records. He pointed out his yearly cautionary note about a lack of segregation of duties, which was included in a separate letter to the board. Since village staff is too small to provide

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adequate segregation of duties, the board was urged to continue appropriate oversight. Mr. Engelmann said he performed normal analytical and other procedures and did not notice anything out of the ordinary. He noted that cash reserves have increased over the past few years, which he regarded as a good sign. It was moved by Newman, seconded by Drucker to approve payment of \$5,595 to Tom Engelmann for preparation of the FY2011 audit. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

Trustee Drucker reminded the board of the tax levy hearing scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on December 19th. He also said the next Finance Committee meeting will be held December 14th at 4:00 p.m. at Village Hall.

Discussion was held regarding the Orion Fire District's request to hold a joint department training exercise in Love Park on April 21st. Finding no conflicts with scheduled baseball games, the board agreed the OFD could utilize the park.

Trustee Stiles said the radios purchased for the Starcom system used by the Henry County Sheriff's Dept. will become outdated soon and new radios and/or repeaters will be necessary. Part of the change is due to federal narrowbanding mandates. Trustee Stiles said radios for village employees will need to meet the new requirements as well, and Clerk Sampson and Henry County Deputy Joe Femali are working together to get prices on the equipment and search for possible grant funds.

Trustee Stiles said Orion Division deputies and others raised funds for the Cops for Kids program, which provides money to underprivileged children to shop for Christmas gifts for themselves and family members. Police officers help the children with shopping and then take them to a Quad City area restaurant for supper. Trustee Stiles thanked the deputies for their participation in the program.

Trustee O'Leary asked that 7th Street between the railroad bridge and 15th Avenue be patrolled frequently for speeding drivers.

Trustee O'Leary said village attorney John Ames sent a letter to the environmental firm investigating the gasoline vapor issue. The letter requests reimbursement for the purchase of the exhaust fan and the electricity to operate it.

It was reported by Trustee O'Leary that Missman, Inc. has completed the topographic survey for the sewer relief main project and will be verifying property lines. The design phase of the plan must be completed by January 15, 2012 according to the IEPA timeline. Trustee O'Leary had not yet heard from the Orion Sanitary District about the possibility

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of funding the project. Another potential grant opportunity arrived at a dead-end when it was learned the village would have to meet low-to-moderate income guidelines. Trustee O'Leary said another letter will be written to all state and federal legislators after the first of the New Year requesting funding assistance. Trustee Drucker suggested the letter use strong but courteous language and that those contacted be asked to provide a yes or no answer. President Cooper said he also wants to ask legislators to appear in person at another meeting of the board.

Trustee Lawson said though he had not had a recent opportunity to talk with the street superintendent, the street department was ready for the winter season.

Trustee Lawson said he would pick up lights and poles in East Moline after the ground freezes. He said the lights would need to be detached from the poles in order to transport them safely. The lights and poles will be utilized on the small baseball diamond in Love Park.

Trustee Drucker said the water superintendent was performing pre-winter duties at both pump houses.

President Cooper said he attended a mayors' meeting in Woodhull last week where many issues affecting municipalities were discussed, among them employee health insurance. The mayors talked about forming a municipal group in an effort to obtain more reasonable premiums. President Cooper said an insurance broker also suggested joining with Henry County. He said the issue is planned for more discussion at the February mayors' meeting, which he proposed be held in Orion and said all trustees would also be invited. It was moved by Drucker, seconded by Lawson to approve a budget of \$200 for hosting the February mayors' meeting at an establishment in Orion. Prior to a vote on the motion Trustee Stiles reminded the board of the need to comply with all FOIA regulations if attending the February meeting. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, Lawson, and Drucker. Noes: None. Absent: None.

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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