

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 19, 2011 at the Village Hall, 1202 4th Street, Orion, Henry, Illinois. The following members were present: Cooper, Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, and Newman. Absent: Lawson and Drucker.

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

It was moved by Newman, seconded by Peterson to approve the minutes of December 5, 2011. Prior to a vote Trustee Stiles said the last item of business in the minutes should be changed to reference Open Meetings Act versus FOIA. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, and Newman. Noes: None. Absent: Lawson and Drucker

It was moved by Peterson, seconded by Stiles to approve the bills for the month: General Fund-\$34,968.26, Recycle Collections-\$1,809.64, Water O&M-\$11,827.57, Sewer O&M-\$11,789.71, Sewer Cap. Impr.-\$1,675.00, Special Tax Allot.-\$77,397.50, and Fines-\$260.99. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, and Newman. Noes: None. Absent: Lawson and Drucker.

It was moved by Peterson, seconded by O'Leary to adopt Calendar Year 2012 meeting dates: Jan. 4* & 16, Feb. 6 & 20, March 5 & 19, April 2 & 16, May 7 & 21, June 4 & 18, July 2 & 16, Aug. 6 & 20, Sept. 5* & 17, Oct. 1 & 15, Nov. 5 & 19, and Dec. 3 & 17. *Wednesday. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, and Newman. Noes: None. Absent: Lawson and Drucker.

President Cooper recognized the Boy Scouts from Troop 123 who were in attendance to earn a Communications badge. Scout Leader Jerry Sheldon said the group would attend again at some point in the future to fulfill requirements for a Citizenship badge.

Trustee Lawson arrived at 7:34 p.m.

Trustee O'Leary said financial information would be forthcoming from the Orion Sanitary District in regard to funding for the sewer relief main project. District board members will tally annual receipts and report back before year's end. In addition, it was found that another lead followed about possible grant funds was tied to median income for which the village could not qualify. Legislators will be contacted in the future about the village's inability to find available grant funds. Trustee O'Leary said if grant funds are not secured, the burden would be borne by village residents in the form of sewer fee increases.

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The minutes of December 19, 2011 continued:

It was moved by Peterson, seconded by O'Leary to adopt Tax Levy Ordinance #2011-9 in the amount of \$193,155. Ayes: Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Lawson, and Newman. Noes: None. Absent: Drucker.

Trustee Peterson said stumps left from the removal of four evergreen trees were ground down and the debris hauled away.

President Cooper said he was appreciative of efforts by Henry County Sheriff's Department deputies who assisted with traffic control for a relative's funeral procession to the cemetery last weekend.

Trustee O'Leary said no response had been received from the consulting firm investigating the gas vapor in the sewer system. A letter had been sent weeks ago requesting reimbursement for electricity use and the purchase of an exhaust fan by the village.

Trustee Newman asked that a new sidewalk be considered on the north side of 15th Avenue when the sewer relief main is installed. He also asked that the street to be disturbed by the construction of the main be reconstructed for heavier traffic. Trustee Newman stressed the danger for walkers who must walk in the street for lack of a sidewalk. He said a moment's lack of concentration is all it would take for a driver to strike a pedestrian in that area. Trustee O'Leary expressed doubt that the street would be disturbed for the construction of the sewer main. He felt all the work would be performed in the grassy area but said he would check with the engineers.

Trustee Peterson asked that a sunken area on 14th Avenue between 6th Street A & 7th Street be investigated.

President Cooper said Deere & Co. showed interest in purchasing the village's road grader for \$25,000. The company wanted to restore the piece of equipment and display it as a showpiece. However, the village would have to lay out \$200,000 to replace the equipment, so a decision had been made to keep the existing road grader.

Clerk Sampson said Mike McCaw from Missman, Inc. reported ADA requirements continue to cause trouble for the streetscape project. The Project Development Report must include removal and replacement of 100' of pavement near the 11th Avenue & 5th Street intersection to correct the grade for crosswalk handicap accessibility. Mr. McCaw felt the pavement issue could be deleted in the design stage of the project, but it would require everything east of Myers Plumbing & Heating to be removed from the project

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area. Trustee Stiles asked if removing part of the project area would reduce the amount of grant funds to be received. Clerk Sampson will contact Mr. McCaw for an answer.

Trustee Newman said a donation from the Orion American Legion Post 255 brings the total of donations for the security camera system in Central Park to \$2,000. Information is expected soon from the Coulter Trust, and President Cooper said the Veterans' Committee will make a donation.

Trustee Newman asked that any interested contractors get in touch with him about upcoming band shell repairs. He said painters, concrete workers, and carpenters will be needed. The 2003 rehab of the structure was done by Stees Construction. Trustee Newman expects a rough draft of the upgrade with cost estimates to be available in February.

President Cooper said he had informal discussions with two people regarding the Burger Patch property at the corner of 12th Avenue and Rt. 150. Though President Cooper was not at liberty to reveal details, he asked the board to consider financial incentives or some type of participation to tear down the existing buildings on the property. Trustee O'Leary pointed out other available property that would not require any demolition expense, and Trustee Newman said the village would need a commitment from a developer on the type of business expected to be constructed on the site. President Cooper pointed out the success Coal Valley experienced by purchasing land along Rt. 6 and attracting restaurants, a dollar store, and other businesses. The Burger Patch property is located in the TIF District and could offer associated incentives.

President Cooper said the Henry County Mayor's Meeting is scheduled for February 9th at WoodDog's Pub & Grub. He said employee health insurance will be discussed and an insurance broker will be the main speaker. Henry County declined to include municipal employees in its employee health insurance plan after being approached by President Cooper.

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

Lori A. Sampson
Village Clerk

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