

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., January 4, 2012 at the Village Hall, 1202 4th Street, Orion, Henry, Illinois. The following members were present: Drucker, Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, and Lawson. Absent: Cooper.

President Pro-Tem called the meeting to order and led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Lawson, seconded by Stiles to approve the minutes of December 19, 2011. Ayes: Drucker, Stiles, Peterson, O'Leary, Newman, and Lawson. Noes: None. Absent: Cooper.

Trustees applauded the swiftness at which employees erected and removed Christmas decorations before and after the holiday season. Weather was abnormally warm, making for easier removal.

Trustee O'Leary said Coulter Trust distributed \$7,900 to the village for the purchase of a Flygt sewer pump. He also said there was no word yet from the Orion Sanitary Distirct about their annual revenues but documents were expected soon. Trustee O'Leary hoped to discuss funding the sewer relief main project at the next Finance Committee meeting. Additionally, the sewer department is performing in-house repairs to the jetter equipment in order to save about \$1,500.

Trustee O'Leary said he met with Illinois EPA representatives regarding the status of the gasoline vapor investigation. Golars, the environmental firm hired to evaluate the situation is making progress, and the IEPA indicated that funds might be available to reimburse the village for its expenses related to the issue. Requests for reimbursement would have to be funneled through Golars. Trustee O'Leary was told by the IEPA reps that it is suspected the fuel lays in groundwater 10'-15' below the surface. The reps appeared apologetic that the process had taken 16 years thus far. In relation to the vapor issue, gasoline odors reported somewhat recently by Mr. Daren Brown, 106 11th Ave., were checked by meter for explosive danger and none was found.

Regarding the sewer relief main, the project is in the design stage, which must be completed by January 31st. At the time of completion Trustee O'Leary will know the exact location of the proposed main.

Clerk Sampson said an aide from Representative Rich Morthland's office was tasked to search for grant funds for the village's sewer relief main project. A list of agencies and state and federal officials already contacted was sent to Morthland's aide. Thus far, the search has been fruitless, and Clerk Sampson said the aide was not hopeful nor was Jane Burrs, who works for U.S. Congressman Randy Hultgren. Ms. Burrs told Clerk Sampson

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that she looked everywhere for funding and came up with nothing that wasn't tied to low-to-moderate income guidelines. President Pro-Tem Drucker said the village was a victim of the current administration's abolishment of earmark funding and a district of junior legislators among other things.

Trustee Lawson said the street superintendent was working on a village truck, which might need to be replaced in the future. He also said good weather was reducing the need for overtime hours and the purchase of salt.

President Pro-Tem Drucker said the old civil defense generator had outlived its usefulness and should most likely be disposed of. He asked the board to consider methods of disposition.

Trustee Newman will meet with John Fellman of Missman, Inc. next week to review plans for improving and maintaining the band shell in Central Park. He will report back to the board with a recommendation. Trustee Newman asked that interested painting, concrete, and building contractors contact him.

Trustee Newman said the Coulter Trust gave \$10,000 for the Central Park camera security system and another \$10,000 to be used toward the work on the band shell. The donation for the camera system brings that total to \$12,000 with promises still outstanding from the Orion Fall Festival Committee and the Veterans' Monument Committee along with an anonymous individual.

The next Finance Committee meeting was set for Wednesday, January 18, 2012 at 4 p.m. at Village Hall.

President Pro-Tem Drucker asked the board to table the Medicom franchise renewal until village attorney John Ames could be present. He also explained to the board that the village would benefit from any price increases in the cable company's service since the village's fee is based on a percentage of income.

President Pro-Tem Drucker said President Cooper was still interested in offering a TIF incentive program for the Burger Patch property. The board agreed that the incentive might be worth considering if the interested purchaser would turn the property into a revenue producer. Trustee Newman said he would only agree to a deal if the economics made sense and it was in the best interest of the community.

In other business, President Pro-Tem Drucker said Tennant Truck Lines is seeking another business to locate in its Orion facility once the truck business moves to Colona.

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Also, Casey's General Store will soon begin staying open 24 hours per day. There are no regulations preventing such service, however, the company will have to abide by appropriate liquor license regulations for selling package liquor.

The board discussed adding more Christmas decorations to Central Park's display next year. It was noted that since the removal of several evergreen trees the decorations displayed didn't fill the park as they had previously.

Trustee O'Leary said he would man the landscape waste site on Saturday, January 14th from 8-10 a.m. for Christmas tree disposal.

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

Lori A. Sampson
Village Clerk

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