

## Regular Meeting October 6, 2011

The Village Board of Trustees met at 7:00 P.M., local time, to hold their regular monthly meeting. Officers and Trustees present were President Ackerman, Clerk Duden, and Trustees Cler, Crozier, Ehler, Hethke, Jones, and Severins. President Ackerman led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guests included Dave Atchley (MSA), Dave Downing (Ameren), Frank Buck, Nicole Keeney (Rantoul Press), and Tim Dillman. Downing presented the Village Board with a franchise agreement and a check for \$4,050.00 for the yearly fees.

As each Trustee and Officer had been given printed copies of the minutes from the last meeting, Trustee Hethke made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes. It was seconded by Trustee Cler. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no). Trustee Cler made a motion to accept the minutes as read. It was seconded by Trustee Crozier. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no).

As each Trustee and Officer had been given printed copies of the bills to be considered for payment, Trustee Jones made a motion to dispense with the reading of the bills. It was seconded by Trustee Ehler. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no). Trustee Jones presented a bill for \$1,121.80 from the Gifford Community Celebration, requesting assistance with paying for the permanent electric that had been installed at the park. After discussion, Trustee Ehler made a motion to reimburse the GCC for \$1,121.80 for the permanent electric at the park. It was seconded by Trustee Severins. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no). Trustee Cler made a motion to pay the bills. It was seconded by Trustee Crozier. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no).

As each Trustee and Officer had been given printed copies of the Treasurer's Report, Trustee Hethke made a motion to dispense with the reading of the Treasurer's Report, except for the summary. It was seconded by Trustee Severins. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no). The balance in Village accounts as of August 31, 2011 was \$525,282.90. Total money received for the month of September 2011 was \$92,849.87, plus \$17.46 from CD 38170 and \$39.04 from CD #15399. Total expenses for the month were \$52,707.80, leaving a balance on September 30, 2011 of \$565,481.47.

The Police Report was read by Chief Weary. In Investigative Matters, there were 18 incidents and two reports. In Traffic Matters, there were 24 incidents, 11 warnings, and 11 citations.

### **WATER AND SEWER REPORT**

Trustee Jones reported activity for the month of September 2011.

Total gallons of water pumped-----2,285,000

Average daily consumption (gal.)-----76,156

Jess Childress's report further stated he had to raise pumps and clean debris from the impellers at the wastewater plant on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup>; dug up a broken water service in the alley behind the old Colonial Pantry building and replaced the yolk, water meter pit, and installed a touch read meter; mowed at the office, water plant, corner by the Spreader, and wastewater plant; replaced leaking fire hydrant on Park Street in front of Farmers Ag Service; sprayed and pulled weeds around lagoons and sand filters; dug up both culverts on New Street and covered them with road pack until next spring; cleaned all chlorine lines and pumps at the water plant; read all water meters and remotes; backwashed all pressure filters at the water plant; put an inspection catch basin in on Eiler Drive to clean tile; dug a new sump pump line to the valve vault at the wastewater treatment plant; logged all

water bill receipts and made all deposits; sent out 14 letters for non-payment of water and sewer bills; put in six new touch read water meters; put rock around sidewalks in front of the Village Hall.

### **STREETS AND ALLEYS REPORT**

Trustee Cler said there is no street work to report at this time, but that Park Street in the vicinity of Florida Drive needs to be raised about 6 inches, except that would dump water on the properties of the residents in that area. Discussion followed. Cler said that next year all of the streets will be oil and chipped.

### **SANITARY AND STORM REPORT**

Trustee Ehler suggested that in regard to the tile project in the alley behind Robin's Body Shop, that the Village purchase the materials now, even though Kalin Kocher won't be able to begin the project until next spring. The estimated costs for the materials is \$16,700. Discussion followed. Trustee Ehler made a motion to purchase the materials now at an estimated cost of \$16,700. It was seconded by Trustee Cler. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no).

### **POWER LIGHTS AND TELEPHONE REPORT**

Trustee Severins has reported two lights out, but they haven't been replaced at this time. In regard to the flags and poles, he has been looking at 25' telescoping pole. We would like to have one installed in front of the Village Hall and one placed at the park. We have a village resident interested in paying for the flag and pole at the park in memory of his father. There was discussion regarding the girth of the pole, whether to have a 3" pole or larger version. It was decided that the pole in front of the Village Hall could be smaller, but would need a thicker, heavier gage pole for the park.

### **RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT**

Trustee Ehler explained the EBay process involved in selling the Dodge truck. He said it is now sold, after a few problems with buyers. Trustee Crozier presented current ordinances regarding nuisances and unsightly properties. After discussing the issues with our attorney, it was decided to send a certified letter informing the resident that they will have so much time to bring the property up to Village codes, and if there are no signs of improvement at that time, the Village will begin proceedings to demolish the property. Discussion followed. It was decided to have Chief Weary compile a list of properties he deems to be a nuisance, present that list to the Board for approval. Trustees Crozier and Jones will go with Weary to inspect the list of properties. The next step would be to talk to the residents, and if there are no visible improvements by June 2012, then a certified letter will be sent. Crozier said that any costs incurred for demolition the Village could pass on to the resident.

### **FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE REPORT**

Trustee Hethke said he still needs to find some good fill dirt to complete the sidewalk construction. Trustee Ehler said he could supply that for him. Hethke also he, Dave Atchley, and Neil Baker are currently working on a grant for the park with a deadline of May 1, 2012. He said the estimated costs for bringing the playground up to insurance codes is about \$60,000. That would include a flat, safe surface under all of the equipment.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Trustee Ehler said he talked to Michael Schluter about the grade school paying for the crossing guard instead of the Village, and he said it will be discussed at the next monthly school board meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

President Ackerman presented a franchise agreement from Mediacom. The Village had their choice of how long they wanted the contract to be, whether it is one year or five years. After discussion it was decided to accept a one year contract. Trustee Ehler made a motion to accept Ordinance #305, which is a one year franchise agreement with Mediacom. It was seconded by Trustee Cler. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no).

President Ackerman presented Ordinance #306, which is the Tax Levy for fiscal year 2011-2012. Trustee Ehler made a motion to accept Ordinance #306, Tax Levy for f/y 2011-2012. It was seconded by Trustee Crozier. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no).

President Ackerman asked if anyone would know the dates when the gas pumps were removed from the old gas station on Route 136 across from the Spreader. After discussion it was decided to ask some of the older residents in town.

Treasurer Duitsman said LOCIS has contacted him in regards to direct debit module where residents can pay their water and sewer bills directly from their accounts at their banks. The cost to purchase equipment and set it up is \$750 and then there is a \$10 monthly fee, plus a small fee for training Childress. It was decided to have Childress meet with Leon from LOCIS and present the Board with more information at the next meeting.

Trustee Crozier said the phone number they had hoped to use for Childress to forward Village calls would not work, since it is an automated machine at the water plant. He said he will investigate the costs of installing another line to the Village Hall for that purpose and have cost estimates at the next meeting.

Tim Dillman said he would like to discuss the ground behind the sewer plant and issues with trees and roots. Trustee Ehler said the Board planned to go into executive session to discuss the issue.

Trustee Ehler made a motion to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing how to handle the situation of trees and roots invading properties in and around the sewer plant. It was seconded by Trustee Cler. All Trustees concurred in a roll call vote (6 yes, 0 no). The Board of Trustees met in executive session at 8:04 P.M.

The Regular meeting reconvened at 8:34.

Trustee Ehler moved the meeting be adjourned. It was seconded by Trustee Crozier. All Trustees concurred in a voice vote. The meeting was properly adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

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Village Clerk

Approved by me this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of November 2011.

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President of the Board