January 19, 2010

7:30 p.m. The Regular Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees was called to order by Mayor Kearns who led the Pledge of Allegiance. A roll call was answered aye by Hampton, Wildermuth, Rausch, Kearns, Cockrell and Ostendorf. Sandy Stolte, Dick Rohr and Chief Rainey were also present.

Cockrell made a motion; seconded by Wildermuth to approve the minutes from the previous meeting as were presented. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

VISITORS
Ervin & Cheryl Smith and Travis Liefer

WATER & SEWER
Travis Liefer of Rhutasal went over the waterline final payment for Ehert, Inc. in the amount of $16,230.88. Since the seeding was done late in the year if the grass does not come up Ehert will re-seed in the spring.

Kearns made a motion; seconded by Ostendorf to approve the final payment to Ehert in the amount of $16,230.88 for the waterline project. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

Trustee Kearns noted a feasibility study for a new wastewater treatment plant should be done soon as possible due to the age of the plant. Federal funding through the stimulus package may be possible. Travis Liefer to check pricing on a feasibility study.

Rohr noted the IRWA conference will be held 02/16 – 02/18 and would like Gary Idecker and himself to attend. Rohr stated Idecker needs training and Rohr needs the hours for EPA requirements. The total cost for the conference and hotel rooms cost $570.00.

Ostendorf made a motion; seconded by Cockrell to approve Gary Idecker and Dick Rohr to attend the IRWA conference at a cost for $570.00. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

STREETS & ALLEYS
Trustee Kearns noted the easement way, behind the medical building to houses with Spotsylvania address’s was discussed at the public safety meeting. Kearns checked out and it is a utility easement only, not an alley easement. Everybody’s property comes to a common line in the back. The Village has no obligation to maintain or upkeep.

Mayor Kearns asked if the mowers will be ready in time for mowing. Rohr noted the John Deere needs a new deck. Ostendorf asked Rohr if he got the price quotes a zero turn mower. Rohr noted he got a quote for $8000 from Sparta. Rohr to get a quote for a Lazer Z zero turn lawn mower from the Auto Parts Store in town.

Trustee Cockrell asked if the drainage problem was looked at in the alley behind Karber’s house. Trustee Kearns noted there is a high spot in the ditch and also the trash trucks are damaging the alleys causing problems. Kearns will look at again.

PARK
Trustee Rausch asked Rohr if everything is ready to close the north exit at the park. Rohr stated the wood has been ordered and is in and ready to work on this week.

CEMETERY
Trustee Wildermuth asked a couple people to quote mowing the cemetery and no responses were received. Ostendorf stated the average price just to mow an acre is $35, trimming or cleanup not included.

PUBLIC SAFETY
Trustee Ostendorf suggests tabling the ambulance dispatch contract and invoice until the number of calls can be reviewed.
Ostendorf made a motion; seconded by Cockrell to table the ambulance dispatch contract and invoice until the next meeting. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

Trustee Ostendorf noted a public safety meeting was held prior to the board meeting. Total calls for the year 2009 were 310, with 3 missed calls. Ostendorf advised to get another estimate for the paint to be repaired on 19. The suggested bylaws changes are to be emailed to the board for review. The ambulance service was reminded per Chapter 1 Article 4 page 24 of 26, they are staff approved by the Village board and the board does have a very large involvement and will continue to have a large involvement with the ambulance service.

Ostendorf will email the board later this week for availability to schedule a siren demonstration in the near future.

Trustee Cockrell asked the status on ESDA. Chief Rainey noted the manual is about ready to print. Red Cross has equipment and a mobile status and can respond quickly in emergency matters.

MARINA
Trustee Kearns noted a committee meeting was held 01/11/10. On the May 2009 water billing the Smiths asked for sewer credit due to a water leak. The rescinding of the motion was not done properly. Our legal advised the motion will stand issuing credit. Michelle to check minutes for amount of credit to be issued. We are waiting on Smiths lawyer to respond with a letter to our legal counsel.

Trustee Kearns stated he did the best he could researching the quarterly rent and now it should fall in the hands of the Village Treasurer and Village Clerk to reconcile the issue. Cheri Smith noted it was agreed on at the committee meeting if they brought in the 2009 quarterly cleared checks, the issue would be resolved and no more time would be wasted on this. Trustee Cockrell said the statement was made at the committee meeting. Neff noted one of the cleared checks brought in was from the 2008 quarterly rent invoices. Trustee Ostendorf stated the information he was given, was that it came down to 4 checks and the statement was made if you bring us those 4 checks the issue is done. Trustee Ostendorf commented on how much more time we are going to spend on this.

Ostendorf made a motion; seconded by Cockrell to accept the 4 cleared checks brought in by the Marina per the discussion at the committee meeting for the 2009 quarterly rent; making a zero balance going into the 1st quarter of 2010. A vote was answered aye by Ostendorf, Cockrell, Hampton and Rausch. Kearns and Wildermuth voted nay.

Ervin Smith reminded the board the Lower Kaskaskia Stakeholders meeting is Wednesday 01/27/10 at 11:30. Mayor Kearns, Stolte and Cockrell to attend.

Ervin Smith asked about status of setting up a separate bank account for the rent payments. Stolte to check out what is needed to satisfy the state.

Cheri Smith noted they know they are not in compliance with some things but are working very hard to come into compliance. If the board finds the Smiths are not in compliance with something to let them know first, so they can try to correct the matter rather than going to another agency that may cause a stumbling block in getting it done. The Smiths questioned Trustee Kearns at the last board meeting why he contacted AmerenIP about the scaffolding. The lady at AmerenIP left the impression with Cheri that the correspondence from Kearns was that he was trying to harass the Marina. Cheri received a copy of Kearns email to AmerenIP and handed it out to the board. Kearns noted he did not send the email in that intent. The Smiths want the harassment to stop. Ostendorf asked Kearns what the intent was. Kearns stated it was to find out the power companies stand on the electrical scaffolding structure and to follow up. Cheri noted the specs to build the scaffolding still have not been provided by AmerenIP or if they have to build the stairway. The ICC is also working on it. The Smiths noted if the board wants status to ask them directly. Mayor Kearns noted to discuss further at a committee meeting if needed.

POLICE
Trustee Cockrell noted a committee meeting was held 01/09/10 to interview Jake Hoffman and Terry Hamon for full time police officer. The committee recommends hiring Jake Hoffman as full time police office. Ostendorf noted it was a very tough decision to make, that both were good candidates.

Cockrell made a motion; seconded by Rausch to hire Jake Hoffman as full time police officer with rate of pay as the ordinance reads. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

Chief asked the board if Hoffman can take the Blazer home since he lives about 500 feet out of town. To be discussed in committee.

Trustee Cockrell noted the dispatch contract needs to be signed. Also the invoice can be paid in quarterly amounts of $7,194.41. Ostendorf asked Chief if the costs have been verified. Chief said he was going through them and asked Ostendorf if he could get a list of the codes.

Cockrell made a motion; seconded by Hampton to approve the mayor to sign the contract and make quarterly payments. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

Chief noted the in car lap tops are set up on a 60 megabyte plan at $45.00 each lap top. In January the usage went over the amount by $800. If we switch to the unlimited plan which is $7.75 more per laptop the $800 bill will be canceled.

Cockrell made a motion; seconded by Ostendorf to approve the purchase of the unlimited plan at $52.75 per laptop per month for 5 laptops. A vote was answered aye by Cockrell, Kearns, Hampton, Wildermuth and Rausch. Ostendorf voted nay.

PERSONNEL
Trustee Cockrell noted a committee was held 01/06/10. The Freedom of Information Act was discussed as well as FIOA officers. The committee recommends Nancy and Michelle as FOIA officers. Ostendorf and Kearns stated Chief and Sargent should also be FIOA officers.

Cockrell made a motion; seconded by Rausch to make Nancy Ritter, Michelle Neff, Police Chief Rainey and Sargent Buehler the FIOA officers. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

Trustee Cockrell stated Washington’s Birthday is February 22 but it is recognized as a Federal holiday on February 15th and the board meeting is scheduled Feb 15th.

Cockrell made a motion; seconded by Ostendorf to move the board meeting from February 15th to February 16th due to the Federal holiday. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

Trustee Cockrell noted Rohr stated he was not going to move to New Athens and his residency requirement will be coming up soon. Personnel committee recommends to start looking for a replacement. Ostendorf recommended contacting Terry Harp who applied for the position before. Mayor Kearns talked with Rohr about staying on possibly as part-time or as contracted to run the sewer plant. Rohr is in the process of putting together a contract to give to the board as a sub-contractor at the sewer treatment plant.

Trustee Cockrell noted a committee meeting will be held 01/20/10 with the police department.

Trustee Ostendorf noted on Michelle’s time sheet she had 3 days worked through lunch written down. Ostendorf stated he didn’t think that could be done on a regular basis due to compliance with the State of Illinois. Wildermuth noted Michelle is salary so there are different rules.

GRANTS
Nothing new to report.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS
Trustee Ostendorf noted Dr. Wade is interested in building a steel building in town for baseball training. He would prefer to maintain ownership of the building if the Village could provide property to put it on. Ostendorf mentioned the industrial lots. A meeting will need to be set up with Dr. Wade to discuss further.

9:20 p.m. Rausch left.

TIF/BUS DIST
Trustee Wildermuth noted he talked with Kemp. Kemp will still fund a TIF if he can sell a lot. Wildermuth will talk with Giacoletto and White of DMI to start the Business district as previously voted on.

ENGINEER
Nothing new to report

TREASURER
Sandy Stolte presented the monthly treasurer report.

Cockrell made a motion; seconded by Wildermuth to approve the monthly treasurer report. A vote was answered aye by all members present. Rausch absent.

Stolte handed out the total asset report for board to review.

CLERK
Michelle Neff asked to attend a clerk seminar in Peoria for a cost of $50 on February 10. Ostendorf commented that both Nancy and Michelle should attend for cross training. Stolte noted she signed up to attend but could come in to watch the office so both could attend.

Ostendorf made a motion; seconded by Cockrell to approve Nancy Ritter and Michelle Neff to attend the clerk seminar February 10 and use a Village truck or police car. A vote was answered aye by all members present. Rausch absent.

Michelle Neff noted a new server is still needed. A quote from Comp Type was received in the amount of $4821.00. It will work with the current programs we use. Sandy Stolte noted excel and word also needs to be updated at $250 per computer.

Cockrell made a motion; seconded by Kearns to approve the quote of $4821.00 from Comp Type to replace the server and also update 4 computers to the current Microsoft office at $250 per computer. A vote was answered aye by all members present. Rausch absent.

MAYOR
Mayor Kearns asked Rohr about the status on the levy-accredited project. Rohr stated Hoeshler Engineering will hand deliver the paperwork to FEMA and copy us.

OTHER BUSINESS
Sandy Stolte asked about the status on updating the web site. Hampton tried to contact the webmaster and is waiting for a call back. He was supposed to have something the first of the year. Hampton will contact him again.

Trustee Kearns went over the truck tire estimates. The only difference in the tire estimates is a half-inch of thread width, other that that they are the same tire. Vote on at next meeting.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Gary Kearns
Village President
Michelle Neff
Village Clerk