March 15, 2010

Regular Board Meeting held at Village Hall 905 Spotsylvania, New Athens

Page 1

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 Cockrell, Kearns, Hampton, Wildermuth, Rausch and Ostendorf. Tim Buehler, Ira Renshaw and Sandy Stolte were also present.

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

VISITORS
Terry Politisch, Ervin and Cheryl Smith, Mark Noonan, Chris Birkner, Ron Birkner and Arlene Geppert

WATER & SEWER
Trustee Kearns noted Resolution 2009.10 CDBG Application final copy needs to be passed.

Cockrell made a motion; seconded by Kearns to approve Resolution 2009.10 CDBG Application final copy for water line project as presented. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

Ostendorf made a motion; seconded by Cockrell to give the mayor authority to sign documentation regarding the CDBG without subsequent board approval. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

Trustee Kearns reviewed the video and report from Walden regarding the restriction in the manhole and blockage of sewage lines.

Jeff Lehr called Trustee Kearns regarding a sewer backup in his basement. Trustee Kearns noted the manhole was clogged. The manhole was sewer jetted and is clear.

STREETS & ALLEYS
Ira Renshaw commented about the note on the agenda, that it was premature regarding the authorization for Rhutasel to proceed with engineering and bidding for safe routes to school grant. The letter we received from IDOT is that they have no objections to proceed without a historical survey. The approval should be next.

Ira Renshaw noted Resolution 2009.09 MFT needs to be passed. The items we did not get done last year were included on the 2010 MFT.

Cockrell made a motion; seconded by Wildermuth to approve Resolution 2009-09 MFT funding as presented. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

Ira Renshaw noted there was a storm sewer failure on Illinois and Van Buren St. Last Friday an emergency repair was done. This week a 12’ x 12’ area will need to be poured to fix correctly.

Tree bids need approval. Kurtz bid $1500.0 with no clean up and Deterding is $1800.00 (doesn’t state clean up or not), both for 4 trees. Ira to check if Deterding includes cleanup, if Deterding includes cleanup go with Deterding.

Cockrell made a motion; seconded by Ostendorf to authorize Ira Renshaw to proceed with tree bids not to exceed $1800.00 in the best interest of the Village. A vote was answered aye by all members present.

PARK
Trustee Rausch noted a committee meeting was held March 2, 2010 with Little League to discuss the upcoming season. Little League is requesting recycling bins for cans. The dumpster needs to be removed from the park. Concession stand needs lots of work. Trustee Hampton to make sure the electric gets done in the pavilion. Ira to look at the Park permit rental fees. Ira to access who owns what equipment and come up with replacement costs, then come up with a cost to rent it.
TIF/BUS
Mark Noonan of DMI was present to discuss the area to be included in the Business District. Mark noted you don’t want to include too many houses in the Business Dist. Mark Noonan is to stick with the original map and come back in 2 weeks with a blight analysis.

CEMETERY
Trustee Wildermuth had nothing new to report.

PUBLIC SAFETY
Arlene Geppert attended an ESDA meeting in Freeburg. The plan is ready to distribute. The board to receive their copies via email or disc. Sandy Stolte taking the plan to Kinko’s to copy and bind. NIMS test to be taken by Trustee Cockrell, Trustee Wildermuth, Trustee Hampton, and Trustee Kearns.

Setting off tornado warning/watch was discussed. To be discussed further at committee meeting.

Cheryl Smith asked about a storm shelter for the campers at the Marina. To be discussed further at a committee meeting.

Trustee Ostendorf noted a committee meeting was held prior to the meeting tonight. Tom Weber stated the new by-laws are still not complete. Don Birkner stated the volunteer ambulance service personnel are paid as an incentive to the members. The ambulance service has a meeting scheduled for April 1, 2010. Eric Brinker’s membership was discussed.

Trustee Ostendorf noted Wayne Juenger was present at the committee meeting to discuss the skunk problem. A permit was received from IDNR. The Mayor requested the purchase of a pellet gun so the duty officer can have available to shoot skunks. Chief Buehler to check pricing.

POLICE
Trustee Ostendorf noted a mandatory meeting was held at 6 p.m. prior to the board meeting. A S.W.A.T. form was filled out. Terry Hamon will assume court duty officer responsibilities. Accrual of comp time was discussed. Sunday shifts will be worked by the person scheduled. Gary’s Restaurant is off limits unless responding to a call. Trustee Kearns questioned if the duty officer is allowed to go to Gary’s on lunch break for dinner. Trustee Ostendorf said no because stuff is being said at Gary’s Restaurant that is degrading to some officers, the board and the Village. Comp time abuse was discussed. The police committee recommends Bill Rainey is returned to status of patrolman effective immediately and Tim Buehler is appointed interim Chief. Trustee Cockrell stated he would recommend Tim as interim Chief but did not advise Bill as patrolman and should be relieved of duty.

Mayor Kearns appointed Tim Buehler as interim Chief for the Village of New Athens.

Ostendorf made a motion; seconded by Wildermuth to accept Mayor Kearns appointment of Tim Buehler as interim Chief. A vote was answered aye by Cockrell, Hampton, Wildermuth, Rausch and Ostendorf. Kearns voted nay.

Ervin Smith thanked the police department for a couple of cases that were solved.

PERSONNEL
Trustee Cockrell noted a committee meeting was held March 4th to review summer help applications. The committee recommends hiring Dennis Heintz as grounds keeper, Fred Miester Sr. as grounds keeper at cemetery and Ben Junge as janitor. Trustee Kearns asked if interviews were held. Trustee Cockrell stated no.

Cockrell made a motion; seconded by Ostendorf to hire Dennis Heintz as grounds keeper, Fred Miester Sr. as grounds keeper at cemetery and Ben Junge as janitor. A vote was answered aye by Cockrell, Hampton, Wildermuth, Rausch and Ostendorf. Kearns voted nay.
GRANTS
Trustee Cockrell, Mayor Kearns, Sandy Stolte and Ira Renshaw attended the St. Clair County grants meeting held last Wednesday.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS
Nothing new to report.

ENGINEER
Not present

TREASURER
Sandy Stolte presented the monthly treasurer report.

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

Sandy Stolte handed out a monthly summary of funds. Sandy noted tax income is down by $72,000 year to date when compared to last year.

Sandy Stolte attended an internal control seminar and will work with audit committee to set up a procedure.

CLERK
The clerk noted city stickers came in and we have started selling them.

MAYOR
Nothing new to report.

Rausch left.

OTHER
Ira Renshaw received a letter from the Corp. of Engineers and will inspect the levee by September 2010.

Ira Renshaw and Edd Cockrell will attend a workshop Monday at Casino Queen put on by the Department of Army.

Cockrell made a motion; seconded by Hampton to go into executive session at 9:14 p.m. including Ron Birkner, Michelle Neff, and the board. A vote was answered aye by Cockrell, Kearns, Hampton, and Wildermuth. Ostendorf voted nay.

Ostendorf made a motion; seconded by Cockrell to go return to regular session at 9:23 p.m. A vote was answered aye by all present.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Gary Kearns
Village President

Village Clerk
Michelle Neff