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 Kearns, Hampton, Wildermuth, Ostendorf and Kreher. Chief Buehler, Ira Renshaw and Sandy Stolte were also present.

Trustee Kearns noted audit committee met tonight and went over the bills. The committee questioned the bills for Anderson Pest Control and Baugher Financial. Michelle noted the Anderson Pest Control bill is for spraying the buildings for pest control and the Baugher bill is the 4th qtr payment if for taking care of the health insurance reimbursement program. The committee recommended to pay the bills as presented.

Trustee Kearns made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hampton to approve the audit as presented. A vote was answered aye by Wildermuth, Kreher, Kearns, Ostendorf and Hampton.

Trustee Hampton made a motion; seconded by Trustee Wildermuth to approve the minutes as presented. A vote was answered aye by Wildermuth, Kearns, and Hampton. Ostendorf and Kreher voted present.

VISITORS
Frank Hamilton and Natalie Poston of Aflac, Charlotte Main, Karen Zimmerman and Linda Schneider of the Historical Society

Frank Hamilton and Natalie Poston of Aflac were present to get approval from the board allowing them to offer the employees supplemental benefit packages. There is no cost to the employer and the benefits are paid directly to the employee. This is a voluntary program each employee has the option to choose. Aflac requires three policy holders to be signed up for the program to get the group rate and must go through payroll deduction. Ira to set up a meeting time on Friday at 3 p.m.

Charlotte Main, Karen Zimmerman and Linda Schneider of the Historical Society were present to request the board to vote on allowing the Historical Society use the old village hall for meetings. They would also like to go through old records at the old village hall to look for businesses that used to be in town. The board consensus is to allow the Historical Society to go through old records.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hampton to allow the Historical Society use of the old village hall for meetings. A vote was answered aye by Wildermuth, Kreher, Kearns, Ostendorf and Hampton.

LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS
Trustee Ostendorf questioned if the Village has reached out to any new businesses for the business dist. Trustee Wildermuth noted the developer who is trying to sell the property has tried to get businesses interested. Trustee Kreher and Trustee Ostendorf suggested sending out letters to potential businesses stating our interest. All board members to get a list of businesses and bring to next meeting.

WATER & SEWER
The water rate increase ordinance 2010-08 is tabled until further notice. The Kaskaskia Water District is not raising the water rates at this time but plans to increase next year.

The committee discussed the water tap fee for 901 Spotsylvania and 507 Highland. The committee met on 10/12/10 and recommends Gary Kearns pay $500 instead of the $1000 for the water tap fee to put in another meter. At this time there is only 1 meter servicing 901 Spotsylvania and 507 Highland. Trustee Kearns stated the meter address stayed with 901 Spotsylvania and he thought it should have changed to 507 Highland, since Gary Kearns owned both lots and build the house first on 507 Highland. Mayor Kearns stated before he pays any money again a meter will be set then he will pay, he paid $1000 last year the meter was never set then the board voted to return the $1000. Trustee Ostendorf thought this issue was taken care of last year. Trustee Kearns noted Kathy Nuernberger supplied a document that has both Gary and Debbie Kearns signatures stating Gary will install a water meter when she purchased the 901 Spotsylvania property from Gary. Gary contested it was not his signature and the issue was left between Gary and Kathy to get corrected.
Trustee Hampton said there are three at fault, Gary, Kathy and the Village so the water tap fee should be divided between the three. Gary said the Village cannot make Kathy pay for a tap; it is between him and Kathy.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hampton to approve Gary Kearns to pay $500 water tap in fee for 507 Highland Street. A vote was answered aye by Wildermuth, Kreher, Ostendorf and Hampton. Kearns abstained.

STREETS & ALLEYS
St. Clair Service wants to add on and put a large bin where storage warehouse is. They are requesting the Village vacate that portion of the alley that is adjacent to their property. Currently the old elevator sits in the alley. The Village will file the necessary paperwork with the courthouse at St. Clair Service expense. The adjacent property owners will have to be notified.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hampton to advise that council is in favor to vacate the alley; inform adjacent property owners and vacate at the expense of property owners interested. A vote was answered aye by Wildermuth, Kreher, Kearns, Ostendorf and Hampton.

PARK
Nothing new to report.

CEMETERY
Nothing new to report.

PUBLIC SAFETY
Trustee Ostendorf noted he spoke with Doug Kinzinger and will be setting up a meeting with Gary Kearns to discuss Ambulance.

Trustee Ostendorf noted the tornado siren failed last week during the storm. The current siren is working now but the battery charger and 6 speakers are not working. GTSI quote $2519 for a new battery charger and to replace the 6 speakers. Ostendorf noted he still has the quotes from previously discussions $27,000 for 2 sirens or $22,000 for 1 siren. The previous quote from Connect CTY is $2,562 annual fee for a call system. Ostendorf to get current price quotes. Ostendorf questioned if public safety purchases can be taken out of Ambulance funds. Ostendorf also noted it does not make sense to spend $2519 on repairs to a piece of equipment that still requires human intervention at Village hall and the current transmitter is not narrow band compliant. The siren needs to meet the FCC deadline by 2013. Ostendorf feels the siren should be set up remotely and follow the county guidelines on when to set off. There was discussion on when the county sets off the siren. The county sets off the siren for all programmed sirens in the county even if the tornado is in the northern portion of the county. There were concerns about the siren being set off for New Athens for tornado warning in the northern portion of the county and the siren not being set off if a tornado is nearby in Monroe County. Trustee Kearns thinks the phone system is the ultimate to the siren because all people cannot hear the siren in the middle of the night. Trustee Wildermuth and Trustee Kreher agree with the phone system. Ostendorf recommends moving with both phone system and a new siren system using the funds from the Ambulance account. Tabled to vote on at next meeting. Ira Renshaw to check into the grant through rural development to help purchase a siren. The New Athens News Brief contacted Ostendorf and will put in the brief that donations are needed for a new siren.

Trustee Ostendorf noted the EMT’s election of officers is next week and only 4 people qualify. Tires are needed for one of the ambulances. Nudea quoted 6 tires $1,559.70, Weber’s don’t carry. Mayor Kearns to get quote from Wetzel’s.

POLICE
Trustee Ostendorf noted all cameras’ are working but off loading the information needs to be done on an external drive due to all the space it uses up. Ostendorf got an internet price from Buy.com for a 2TB hard drive for $100 free shipping. Ira Renshaw noted there is an external hard drive in the vault that can be used for now.
James Hendricks must attend the 80 hour transition class for a cost of $1130 which includes tuition, housing and meals being held December 6 through 17th. The state particularly reimburses.

Trustee Ostendorf made a motion; seconded by Trustee Wildermuth to approve James Hendricks to attend the 80 hour transition class for a cost of $1130. A vote was answered aye by Wildermuth, Kreher, Kearns, Ostendorf and Hampton.

Chief Buehler noted a juvenile was on the roof at St. Agatha’s Halloween night. The activity log was handed out. Lt. Hill made his 50th DUI arrest.

A letter of accommodation was given to Lt. Hill regarding his hard work reuniting a missing juvenile with the parents.

A letter of accommodation was given to James Hendricks for his work on an abandoned vehicle that was involved in a traffic crash while D.U.I. and also on a traffic stop where the driver had felony warrants, nine D.U.I.’s., is known to be armed and dangerous and an illegal alien.

Mayor Kearns noted the Bullpen requested a 4 a.m. extended liquor license for Thanksgiving eve. Trustee Kearns, Ostendorf and Hampton are against extending the hours. The Mayor will make his decision and inform the Bullpen. Trustee Ostendorf noted another officer should work Thanksgiving eve from midnight to 6a.m. and charge the bars that extend hour’s event pay for the additional officer.

PERSONNEL
It was discussed if the Village should continue the drug and alcohol testing through Midwest Truckers Association. There are only 3 employees on the plan currently. The board consensus is to discontinue using this service and go by the Village ordinances.

Trustee Ostendorf stated he is embarrassed that he missed or overlooked the limit of accrual on sick time on the personnel policy that was passed recently. He feels we are forcing misuse of sick days and hurting the employees at retirement with IMRF. Ostendorf questioned whose idea it was to put the maximum of 120 hours of sick time in the policy. Trustee Kearns, Wildermuth and Kreher said it was already in the ordinance. Ostendorf is requesting personnel and ordinance to revisit and look into changing.

GRANTS
Ira Renshaw is working on the PARC grant for park improvements. The Safe Route to school grant is progressing. Trustee Wildermuth is questioning if the handicap ramps at the high school were approved. Ira noted the state approved the plan.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS
Nothing new to report

ADA
Nothing to report

ORDINANCE REVIEW
Ira Renshaw noted Trustee Kreher and himself met with Frank Heilegenstein to discuss updating the ordinance book. Heilegenstein will apply the new state laws that have been passed. The quote is $8500.00 which includes 3 copies and a searchable CD.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Kearns to enter into a contract with Frank Heiligenstein to update the ordinance book. A vote was answered aye by Wildermuth, Kreher, Kearns, Ostendorf and Hampton.
It was discussed it should be under a resolution.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Kearns to amend the prior motion making it Resolution 2010-08 to enter into a contract with Frank Heiligenstein to update the ordinance book. A vote was answered aye by Wildermuth, Kreher, Kearns, Ostendorf and Hampton.

TREASURERS TIME
Nothing new to report.

CLERKS TIME
Nothing new to report.

MAYOR’s TIME
Mayor Kearns noted the committee meeting minutes need to be turned in a timely manner.

Mayor Kearns is cancelling the executive session – legal at this time.

OTHER BUSINESS
Mayor Kearns noted the Villages liability insurance was renewed after a few phone calls. The rate did raise about 25% to $85,000. The bill will be in the next audit.

Ira Renshaw noted St. Clair County Intergovernmental Grants Department is requesting building permit fees be waived for any work under the IGD grant. The majority of the rehabilitation and weatherization projects do not require permits.

No Christmas party will held this year. Sandy Stolte noted if we do gifts they have to be taxed. A ham or turkey can be given without being taxed.

Trustee Ostendorf questioned Ira if a salaried employee has a certain amount of hours per pay period. Ira noted the ordinance states the minimum amount of hours required to work, if they don’t work the amount of hours it comes out of sick or vacation time.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 10:05 p.m.

Gary Kearns
Village President

Michelle Neff
Village Clerk