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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 Geppert, Hall, Hampton and Kreher. Klein and Weber were absent. Sandy Stolte, Ira Renshaw and Chief Hill were also present.

Trustee Geppert made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hampton to approve the minutes as presented. A vote was answered aye by Geppert, Kreher, Hall, and Hampton.

VISITORS
Britney Hill

LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS
Mayor Kearns noted the Elkins group is requesting $300,000 with a 75/25 split for the TIF redevelopment agreement. Trustee Hall questioned why we should offer TIF funds since the Dollar General building is already being built. Mayor Kearns said the Village already passed a resolution stating they would be TIF eligible if the TIF passes. Ira questioned if the TIF eligible items have to be paid by prevailing wages. Mayor to call Mark Noonan to get answer. The Elkins group needs to make a formal request first, then Ira recommend Noonan review to make sure all expenditures are TIF eligible. Mayor Kearns stated the Dollar General opening date has been delayed to mid-February due to weather. Hampton said he contacted Walgreens and CVS and they are not interested in coming to New Athens at this time.

WATER & SEWER
The water leak at 1023 Spotsylvania was discussed. The leak was in the back yard and did not drain into the sewer system. It was recommended to credit the sewer portion of her water bill by $180.00

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hampton to issue credit on the sewer portion of 1023 Spotsylvania’s water bill in the amount of $180.00. A vote was answered aye by Geppert, Kreher, Hall, and Hampton.

The payment request to Korte & Luitjohan needs to be approved and signed by the mayor. The first payment is $49,504.00 for work completed on the Johnson Street water line project through 11/23/11.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hampton to approve the pay request of $49,504.00 for Korte & Luitjohan on the Johnson Street water line project. A vote was answered aye by Geppert, Kreher, Hall, and Hampton.

Trustee Kreher noted a committee meeting was held to discuss replacing the sewer jet machine. Ira contacted Lenzburg if they were interested in purchasing the old sewer jet machine, Lenzburg to get back to us if they want to purchase it. The committee recommended buying a new sewer jet machine. The cost of a new sewer jet machine is approximately $47,800 and should be put out for bids.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hampton to put the purchase of a new sewer jet machine out for bid. A vote was answered aye by Geppert, Kreher, Hall, and Hampton.

Becky Hoover requested the trash charges be removed from the water bill since trash service is not being used at this time. The board is in consensus if the water is on the trash must be charged.

STREETS & ALLEYS
IDOT is planning on replacing the stop lights to LED signal heads. The state is helping fund this project and the Village would only be responsible for $504.00 of the $10,080.00 replacement cost.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hampton to enter into an agreement with IDOT to replace the stop lights with LED lights. A vote was answered aye by Geppert, Kreher, Hall, and Hampton.
PARK
Trustee Hampton asked if a small swing set could be purchased for the area by the t-ball diamond. Ira to check into
the price.

CEMETERY
Nothing new to report.

PUBLIC SAFETY
Mayor Kearns still needs to talk to Jake regarding the donation letter.

POLICE
Chief Hill noted the lock on the police department door needs repair. It doesn’t always open. Ira to take a look at
the lock. The new police car will be done Friday. Bianca got her first suspect apprehension in Marissa during a
burglary. Chief Hill said all but one burglar’s have been arrested in the burglary cases in town.

Trustee Hall questioned why he seen police writing speeding tickets on highway 13 three mornings in a row. Chief
Hill stated they do not only write speeding tickets on highway 13, but that is how they also make some of the drug
arrests. Mayor Kearns stated a section of highway 13 is in the village limits and they divide their time up with
patrolling highway 13 and in town.

PERSONNEL
Trustee Kreher noted a committee meeting was held to review the candidates for Superintendent of Public Works.
The committee feels the best choice for the Village is Tyler Liefer. The salary that will be offered is $35,000 per
year while in training.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hampton to offer the Superintendent of Public Works position
to Tyler Liefer for $35,000 per year. A vote was answered aye by Geppert, Kreher, Hall, and Hampton.

Trustee Kreher requested executive session to discuss personnel with Ira and Sandy present.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hampton to enter into executive session at 8:19 p.m. to discuss
personnel with Ira and Sandy present. A vote was answered aye by Geppert, Kreher, Hall, and Hampton.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hampton to return to regular session at 8:27 p.m. A vote was
answered aye by Geppert, Kreher, Hall, and Hampton.

Trustee Kreher received an application from Joshua Bird as part-time EMT. Background checks have been done.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hampton to hire Joshua Bird as part-time EMT. A vote was
answered aye by Geppert, Kreher, Hall, and Hampton.

GRANTS
Ira Renshaw stated the Village received a notice of grant award in the amount of $15,000 to purchase a tractor
mower.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Geppert to approve Mayor Kearns to execute the grant
agreement for the $15,000 for a tractor mower. A vote was answered aye by Geppert, Kreher, Hall, and Hampton.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS
Nothing new to report

ORDINANCE REVIEW
Nothing new to report.
TREASURERS TIME
The treasurer report needs to be approved. Monthly financials were also handed out.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hampton to accept the monthly treasurer report as presented. A vote was answered aye by Geppert, Hall, Kreher and Hampton.

Sandy noted $10,000 was transferred to General from Water to cover expenses.

The tax levy ordinance 2011-08 needs to be voted on. The tax levy is based on 105% from last year’s numbers as approved in the last board meeting.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hampton to approve Ordinance 2011-08 for the tax levy. A vote was answered aye by Geppert, Kreher, and Hampton. Hall voted nay.

CLERKS TIME
Nothing new to report.

MAYOR’s TIME
Mayor Kearns noted a thank you was received from Dennis Auto Sales for the purchase of the new police car.

OTHER BUSINESS
Ira said he received a contract from Blue Star Energy to purchase electric at a cheaper rate. It was discussed to let our lawyer review it.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hall to have Attorney Ehlers review the contract with Blue Star Energy and give advice. A vote was answered aye by Geppert, Kreher, Hall and Hampton.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Gary Kearns
Village President

Michelle Neff
Village Clerk