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, Hall, Weber, Geppert, Klein and Kreher. Officer Chuck Wilson, Jake Owens, Tyler Liefer, Ira Renshaw and Sandy Stolte were also present.

Trustee Klein questioned the bill for the village attorney regarding Boyer and Birkner. A judgment was made for Boyer to make payments to the village through the village attorney. Mayor Kearns to ask Attorney Ehlers if attorney fees can be recouped for this case. The board will go into executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss litigation regarding the other.

Trustee Hall made a motion; seconded by Trustee Geppert to pay the audit bills as presented. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Weber, Geppert, Klein and Hampton.

Chief Hill arrived.

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

VISITORS
Britney Hill

LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS
The board discussed the West More Redevelopment Agreement and if the village should proceed with sending to West More.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hampton to approve to proceed with sending West More the Redevelopment Agreement contract. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Klein, Hampton, Weber and Geppert. Hall voted nay.

The Dollar General store grand opening will be held March 10th at 10 a.m.

WATER & SEWER
Tyler Liefer reported Walden inspected the sewer line on Hanft Street to Church Street. The sewer pipe is not caved in at this time, but there are cracks in the pipe. The sewer pipe could be slip lined to repair. Ira suggested to slip line from Becherer’s corner to Hanft Street then up to Church Street which would be about 800 to 1000 feet. Ira needs authorization to send out for bids.

Trustee Weber made a motion; seconded by Trustee Kreher to authorize Ira to get bids for slip lining the sewer pipe as discussed. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Klein, Hall, Hampton, Weber and Geppert.

Tyler Liefer noted the 1994 public works truck is in need of a new front end and tires. The truck has over 100,000 miles on it and it would be better to replace. The state bid for a ¾ ton 4x4 is $19,500. Tyler to get more information.

STREETS & ALLEYS
The 2012 MFT package needs to be approved under Resolution 2011-10.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Weber to approve Resolution 2011-10 for the 2012 MFT package. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Klein, Hall, Hampton, Weber and Geppert.

CEMETERY
Nothing new at this time

PARK
Trustee Hampton noted the swing set has been ordered for the park. A thank you letter needs to be sent out to those who donated money towards the purchase of the swing set. The concession stand needs some work, Trustee Hampton to talk with Rick Range for his help.

PUBLIC SAFETY
Trustee Geppert received a quote for a Motorola pager that was damaged by a fire truck running it over will cost $1661.75 to replace. Michelle noted we received a check to have it replaced from the village’s insurance company.
Trustee Geppert made a motion; seconded by Trustee Weber to approve the purchase of a Motorola pager at a cost of $1661.75. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Klein, Hall, Hampton, Weber and Geppert.

Jake Owens noted the new cabinets will be painted tomorrow and that will complete the project. Sean O’Brien resigned. The volunteer group will be holding a banquet at the The Bullpen for current EMT’s as well as anybody that has belonged can attend the happy hour. The calls year to date are 60. We are still waiting on the delivery of the Autopulse system. The TB shots have been completed. Jake is working on getting the waivers signed. Copies need to be filled at Village Hall.

POLICE
Chief Hill noted there is a grant for a new police car in the amount of $20,000. The paperwork has been turned in and those awarded will be announced March 31st. If the village gets the grant the village would have to spend $4574 for the difference between the car and the grant monies. Everything will transfer to the new car except for the center console. If Lieutenant Buehler continues to teach DARE he will need to attend the mandatory training June 13, 14 & 15. The cost is $150 plus $135 for lodging per night.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hall to approve Lieutenant Buehler to attend the DARE training classes with the village covering the expenses. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Klein, Hampton, Weber and Geppert.

Chief Hill and Officer Wilson are doing more work with the dogs and will be called to court. Currently all the K-9 records are stored on paper. There is an internet based program that will keep the files on the internet for $80 per year. Chief Hill noted the cost is $40 each.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hampton to approve the purchase of a K-9 records software program for a total cost of $80 per year. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Klein, Hampton, Weber and Geppert.

Chief Hill noted the new updated law books are $185.00 Mayor Kearns said this is a business expense.

Chief Hill asked if the board would renew the membership to Southern Illinois Police Chief Association at a cost of $60.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Weber to approve the membership to Southern Illinois Police Chief Association at a cost of $60. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Klein, Hampton, Weber and Geppert.

Mayor Kearns commended Chief Hill and Officer Wilson for taking drugs off the streets in New Athens.

PERSONNEL
An add needs to be placed in the paper to hire part-time public works for one position. Fred Meister and Gerald Badgett will work the summer again this year. Ira noted they will be switching positions from last year. It was discussed to advertise in the Brief and put fliers out. Trustee Kreher to review the applications he already has and when he gets more applications the committee will meet to review.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Geppert torehire Fred Meister and Gerald Badgett for part-time summer help and give Tyler Liefer permission to have them start when needed. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Klein, Hampton, Weber and Geppert.

Trustee Kreher has an application for Clayton Miles for part-time EMT. Background check is clean.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Geppert to approve hiring Clayton Miles as part-time EMT when needed as per Jake Owens. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Klein, Hampton, Weber and Geppert.

GRANTS
Mayor Kearns noted the 2012 CDBG has been sent, the 2012 park grant has been approved. Tyler Liefer stated on the DECO grant, the village can submit projects that already have been completed after July 1, 2011. Ira Renshaw and Tyler Liefer recommended using Korte and Littjohn water line project in the amount of $29,713; Rhutsal architect and engineering fees for water line project in the amount of $7,000; purchase of new police charger in the amount of $24,574; zero turn mower in the amount of $12,800; and police car equipment in the amount of $16,468.
Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Klein to authorize using the following completed projects for the DECO grant: Korte and Liutjohn water line project in the amount of $29,713; Rhutsal architect and engineering fees for water line project in the amount of $7,000; purchase of new police charger in the amount of $24,574; zero turn mower in the amount of $12,800; and police car equipment in the amount of $16,468. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Klein, Hampton, Weber and Geppert.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS
The AC unit went out at the doctor’s office. Ira had Neal’s replace it for $4100, the same price as the other one he replaced last year. The old ac unit was 35 years old.

Trustee Geppert made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hall to approve the purchase of an ac unit for the doctor’s office for the amount of $4100. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Klein, Hampton, Weber and Geppert.

Ira Renshaw noted the only rental space being used in the basement of the medical building is by the dentist for his dental equipment which is on the original lease.

Trustee Hampton stated Tyler Liefer and himself checked out the old village hall stairs. Hampton said the stairs are good structurally, but there is dry wall falling down in the stair well. Hampton said Tyler would clean up the stairs and upstairs so the historical society could store items at their own risk, not for public view just for storage. Trustee Kreher stated if they wanted to use the upstairs for public display, they would need to come to the board with a plan and possible insurance. The board is in consensus to allow the historical society to use the upstairs for storage only at their own risk.

ORDINANCE REVIEW
Ira Renshaw talked with Frank Heiligenstein about the TIF ordinance and it does not need to be added in the ordinance book.

TREASURERS TIME
Nothing new at this time

CLERKS TIME
Nothing new at this time

MAYOR’S TIME
Mayor Kearns requested executive session to discuss litigation.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Geppert to enter into executive session at 8:24 p.m. to discuss litigation with Sandy present. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Klein, Hampton, Weber and Geppert.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Geppert to return to regular session at 8:42 p.m. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Klein, Hampton, Weber and Geppert.

OTHER BUSINESS
Mayor Kearns reminded the board the elementary school DARE graduation is March 20th at 7 p.m. and St. Agatha’s DARE graduation is April 2nd at 1:30 p.m. Mayor Kearns also invited the board to the ribbon cutting ceremony March 10th at Dollar General.

Trustee Hampton noted the boy scouts are meeting tomorrow and will discuss the cleanup day. It will be held in the beginning of May for boy scouts, residents, FFA, community service, and anybody that wants to help. Trustee Hampton would like to have hot dogs, chips and soda for the kids that help.

Trustee Kreher stated one of the down falls of the way they are picking up trash now is if it is a windy day when dumping the recycling carts paper blows out and falls on the ground.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Gary Kearns
Village President

Michelle Neff
Village Clerk