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 Hill, Terry Hamon, Jeff Fields, Jake Owens, Tom Weber, Tyler Liefer, and Sandy Stolte were also present.

The Next Era bill was discussed and needs to be reviewed with the AmerenIP bill so we make sure we are not getting billed twice. The Vasquez bill was for repairs for the public bathrooms at the marina.

Trustee Klein noted an audit committee meeting was held April 19th to go over the fiscal year.

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

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

VISITORS
Britney Hill, Brenda Whitlow, Cathy Meggs, Barbara Williams, Betheny Caswell and Jim Williams

Brenda Whitlow was present to request the street be blocked off on St. Clair while they are having an auction May 12th. The board was in consensus to allow them to block off the street. Chief Hill said the police will set up the barricades the morning of the auction.

Cathy Meggs was present to ask the village to include the trailer park and people who reside outside of town on the phone alert system. Cathy said 45 people in the trailer park and 2 people in rural New Athens are interested in the phone alert system. Trustee Kreher thought the fire department voted to do a phone alert system. Trustee Weber said Doug Kinzinger is researching it. Trustee Kreher and Trustee Weber to check into where the fire district stands. Cathy asked in the mean time can the people outside of the village can they be added to the village’s system until there is a system for the fire district. Trustee Hall and Trustee Kreher stated we cannot spend village tax payer money outside of the village limits. Cathy also asked about a shelter for tornado warnings. Trustee Geppert said the village has a plan set in place for after a disaster and when she asked before nobody wanted to be responsible for a shelter for tornado warnings. The liability changes after a disaster. Public safety to discuss.

LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS
Nothing new to report

WATER & SEWER
Tyler Liefer noted a public hearing will be held May 21st to discuss the new sewer plant.

Trustee Weber stated 1101 Lela Drive had a water leak under the house and they requested a credit. The water did not go into the sewer. It was recommended to issue a credit for the sewer portion in the amount of $55.00

Trustee Weber made a motion; seconded by Trustee Kreher to allow a credit in the amount of $55 for the sewer portion of the water bill at 1101 Lela Drive. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Klein, Weber, Hampton and Geppert.

STREETS & ALLEYS
Tyler Liefer asked the board how many times a week does the board recommend spraying for mosquitoes. The board discussed and decided to start with 2 times a week for 3 hours each time. Any water standing around needs to be taken care of.

Trustee Klein noted where the Schaffer truck is sitting; now there are two more vehicles. Chief Hill to check into.

CEMETERY
Nothing new at this time

PARK
Trustee Hampton noted the skate rink needs repair and should be kept up. Officer Hamon talked with the kids that use it and they would help keep it clean. On the west side water and mud run onto the rink when it rains and the weeds need to be cleaned up as well as filling in the cracks and sealing the rink. Tyler Liefer to get cleaned up and get pricing to fix the rink.
Sandy Stolte noted $500 was donated to the park from the Commercial Club.

Trustee Hall said the village park pavilion still needs repair. The gutter is hanging off and the roof needs fixed. Tyler Liefer to get a price for repairs. Mayor Kearns said this should be a group effort with organizations in the community. Local improvements committee to work on this project. Trustee Weber said the home coming committee is working on getting the stage painted before the homecoming.

PUBLIC SAFETY
Jake Owens stated a soda machine is needed for the ambulance shed. The volunteer fund currently purchases the soda. It was discussed if should purchase a new machine and where to put it. Trustee Hall said he has an old soda machine he is not using he would give to the ambulance shed. Jake to get a price and bring back to the board for the wall he wants removed in the shed to make more room. Code Red is holding a conference May 11th in which Jake and Tommy will attend. EMS week is May 20-26 and the EMT’s will be wearing some of the retro clothing. Jake will be holding in the future a power point presentation for the file of life forms to be handed out.

Trustee Geppert noted that her and Jake needed to discuss the special needs people for the disaster plan.

The Cencom agreement for the ambulance and police needs to be signed. Trustee Kreher stated several fire districts are looking into going through O’Fallon for dispatching instead of Cencom due to the cost and mistakes that are being made. The rate went from $13.67 per call to $14.08. The dispatching fees for 2012 for police are $12,414.79 and for ambulance is $5,823.42. Trustee Kreher asked Chief Hill if he has gone though the bill to make sure we are not getting doubled billed. Chief Hill stated he called Patty 4 times since the beginning of the year to meet with her and she keeps saying they are talking about it and talking about the contracts and will get back to him, but she has not gotten back to him yet. Chief Hill said the bill for $12,414.79 was just received today and they have not gotten rid of calls yet so it is not an accurate bill. Chief Hill said he will sit down with Patty this week to figure this out.

Chief Hill stated ID’s for the board members who did not have ID’s were ordered 3 ½ weeks ago.

POLICE
Chief Hill stated on the derelict properties in town there is a notice on the doors that give phone numbers for property management and there is a call menu number for police departments. Chief Hill called and said they will have the grass mowed by Thursday for eight of the eleven houses on the list. The two lots by the Bullpen were purchased in a tax sale by a local resident and are supposed to keep cut. Chief Hill stated the yellow house on East Street is the only house public works should have to mow. Mayor Kearns saw no need to hire a lawn service at this time and the village to keep track of what they are mowing.

Chief Hill noted ILEAS, SILEC and Central Management yearly membership dues are due.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hampton to approve to pay the dues for ILEAS, SILEC and Central Management. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Klein, Weber, Hampton and Geppert.

Trustee Hampton noted there is a benefit poker run on June 3rd which starts and ends at the Bullpen.

PERSONNEL
Trustee Kreher noted a committee meeting was held April 19th and Kreher requested to go into executive session at the end of the meeting.

Trustee Kreher has EMT applications for Gregory Sherrell and Matthew Krupp for part-time EMT’s. Background checks are clean.

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

GRANTS
Nothing new to report

PUBLIC BUILDINGS
Trustee Hampton noted the Historical Society will be using the upstairs at the old village hall to store items.
Attorney Ehlers will need to draw up a liability waiver for the Historical Society to sign. Trustee Hampton to check if they have liability insurance and if they do they will have to name the village as additional insured. The commercial club is now holding their meetings at another location.

**ORDINANCE REVIEW**

Chief Hill stated the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board reviewed the part-time police ordinance and require a description of the qualifications and a statement of the number of hours the part-time officer may work within a calendar year are restricted. Tyler Liefer to make changes to the ordinance and bring back to the board for a vote.

Trustee Klein asked if background checks are being done when hiring police officers. Chief Hill said now they are being done and have been for the past 6 months. Chief Hill stated he changed the application from 1 page to 14 pages.

**TREASURERS TIME**

Sandy Stolte noted we received the quote for the annual audit from Allison Knapp and Siekmann, LTD with it not to exceed $9,450 and if TIF reporting is required an estimated additional fee in the range of $350 - $1,250. Sandy called the surrounding communities to check how much they pay for annual audits and who they used. Sandy recommended using Allison, Krupp and Siekmann, LTD this year, but check into pricing for next year.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Klein to approve the annual audit be done by Allison, Knapp and Siekmann. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Klein, Hampton, Weber and Geppert.

Sandy noted 2 new computers and 1 refurbished computer were purchased for the office. The power outage damaged Nancy’s computer and they needed to be upgraded.

**CLERKS TIME**

Nothing new to report

**MAYOR’s TIME**

Mayor Kearns noted we received the invitation for the boat trip from Lower Kaskaskia Stakeholders and the cost is $100 donation per person. The board to let the Mayor know who wants to attend.

Mayor Kearns reviewed the termination of contract and part-time position for Ira Renshaw. Ira retired as Village Administrator effective 04/27/12 and plans to stay on part-time as operator of the wastewater treatment plant with a salary of $1400 per month for one year.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Weber to approve termination of contract and hiring Ira Renshaw as part-time employee of the wastewater treatment plant with a salary of $1400 per month. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Klein, Hampton, Weber and Geppert.

The homecoming committee is requesting parade donations. The board discussed to do the same as last year and donate $400.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hampton to donate $400 to the New Athens Parade Fund. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Klein, Hampton, Weber and Geppert.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Trustee Hampton questioned about the sale of property in the TIF. Mayor Kearns called Bob Elkin and said the agreement stays with the Westmore the developer and that a TIF is a financial tool for the developer. The building was sold after the redevelopment agreement was signed. Mayor Kearns suggested if there are still questions, we need to ask our attorney or Mark Noonan to explain.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Geppert to enter into executive session for personnel with Sandy Stolte present at 9:03 p.m. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Klein, Hampton, Weber and Geppert.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Klein to return to regular session at 9:10 p.m. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Klein, Hampton, Weber and Geppert.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hampton to approve the increase in salary of $5,000 for
superintendent of public works Tyler Liefer based on his performance level and contract. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Klein, Hampton, Weber and Geppert.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Gary Kearns
Village President

Michelle Neff
Village Clerk