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. Tyler Liefer and Sandy Stolte were also present. Chief Hill arrived at 7:34 p.m.

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

VISITORS

LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS
Tyler Liefer noted the medical building parking lot resurfacing was complete and now they will work on striping the lot.

WATER & SEWER
Mayor Kearns noted the agreement needs to be amendment with IDNR for the new sewer plant. The elevation where the lift station will be needs to be built up.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hall to approve the amendment of the license agreement with IDNR for the new sewer plant. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Klein, Weber, Hampton and Geppert.

Clyde Scherle requested a credit on their water bill due to a leak they had in their yard. They average 4,000 gallons per month and with the leak they used 10,000 gallons.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hall to approve a credit in the amount of $22.00 on the sewer portion of the water bill for Clyde Scherle. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Klein, Weber, Hampton and Geppert.

STREETS & ALLEYS
Trustee Kreher stated he received a memo regarding a complaint from Laumbattus about trash carts being left on their property after trash is pick up. Trustee Kreher suggested to send a letter to the responsible party and if it continues will have to inform the police.

Trustee Hall noted the edge of the street is collapsing by Ed Cockrell’s house.

Arlene Geppert will tell Larry with the State the ditches need to be mowed by Machetes. The weeds are high making it hard to see when pulling out of the parking lot.

Trustee Hampton noted the ditch that was filled in behind the funeral home fills up with water and water sets on the street. Mayor Kearns stated that is a natural water way and should not have been filed in. Tyler Liefer to draft a letter to the funeral home.

CEMETERY
Nothing new to report

PARK
Tyler Liefer received 2 bids to cut down a tree by the community building and grind the stump. Kurtz bid $250 and Deterding bid $440.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hampton to accept the low bid from Kurtz in the amount of $250 to cut down a tree and grind the stump. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Klein, Weber, Hampton and Geppert. Hall abstained.

PUBLIC SAFETY
Trustee Geppert noted the committee met September 11th to discuss the ambulance contracts. Mayor Kearns talked with Jim Stolte about extending the ambulance contract with Lenzburg until December 1st. An extension contract to be drawn up for Lenzburg.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hampton to approve extending the contract with the Village of Lenzburg for October and November. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Klein, Weber, Hall, Hampton and Geppert.
Sandy Stolte reviewed the year to date operating expenses and revenues.

Tyler Liefer spoke with IE Communications about portable radios. IE Communications said they are almost as expensive and don’t work as good. Tyler to get another quote for radios for public works.

Trustee Geppert stated Lieutenant Buehler needs to write an order from ordinance 3-1-8 regarding the bat issue at a residence. Chief Hill said he will inform Lieutenant Buehler.

POLICE

Chief Hill said he has a letter for the trustees that everything has been taken care of with LESO and Tracy Nicoles and we have a new service agreement with them.

Chief Hill stated he received a letter from Wolfcom’s legal department and the outstanding invoice was cancelled.

Chief Hill spoke of Officer Hamon’s probation letter and said he reviewed the employee code and could not find anything regarding who puts an employee on probation. Chief Hill stated he is kind of upset nobody questioned him regarding this matter and that his phone is always on. Chief Hill stated Hamon was doing other things than what was stated in his plea of stress. Chief Hill said Mayor Kearns agreed with the probation and now that it was voted on to take Hamon off of probation we can’t go back and put him back on probation. There was a burglary in town and there was over $10,000 worth of items taken from the NAPA store. They entered through the back door and the suspect Chief Hill interviewed said he was in there for over 2 hours stealing items. There were also 2 other people involved. Chief Hill stated that was part of the reason Hamon was put on probation status. The NAPA store is on the main drag and at 2 o’clock in the morning where is our police officer at was the question Chief Hill asked Hamon. Chief Hill stated Hamon told him he was patrolling. Chief Hill stated himself and Officer Wilson recovered everything that was stolen. Officer Wilson and Chief Hill interviewed one person and sent him home; he was 18 years old. They are trying to find out who the other two are. Mayor Kearns stated Hamon is also a part-time officer in Marissa and at this time they are not letting him come back to work until he receives more help for a possible problem. Mayor Kearns stated he is totally upset that he did not know nothing about what Trustee Klein brought up at the last board meeting about the probation. In the least it should have been discussed with Trustee Kreher chairman of personnel and Mayor Kearns. Mayor Kearns said in the future if he, Trustee Kreher or Chief Hill makes a decision, if anybody has any problem or questions about the decision they should discuss with Mayor Kearns, Chief Hill or Trustee Kreher to get in sight on why the decision was made. Chief Hill said there was no time to discuss with the board due to doctor’s release allowing Hamon to return to work. Chief Hill had to act that day and give some type of punishment for what he had done, but was not necessarily punishment. Trustee Weber asked what Hamon had done? Mayor Kearns stated one night while Hamon was at work; he decided to put his problem on a police department computer, in essence typing out a plea for help. Chief Hill stated it happened after he caught him at his house for 4 1/2 hours the night before. Mayor Kearns noted if anybody needs to hear more about it will need to be in closed session.

Mayor Kearns noted mail addressed to the police department is being opened not by the police department. Anything that is marked police department it is to be opened by the police department. If there is something that needs to go back to the front it will be Chief Hill’s responsibility to bring it back.

Trustee Hall said there are rumors again about the police dog having puppies. Chief Hill said the vet contacted him Thursday night and told him 3 board members and Nancy from the office called the vet’s office. Trustee Hall said he called the vets office and they would not give him any information. Cheryl from the vet’s office told Chief Hill if they get subpoenaed they will go back and charge the Village for all the services provided. Chief Hill stated he trains dogs for others as a side job. Mayor Kearns told Chief to get the dog spayed. Chief Hill said he would have a letter in everybody’s box from BAC showing all the vet records as well as the vet records from his vet in Greenfield. Chief Hill said the Village dog did not have puppies and did not ever have puppies. Chief Hill said now Bianca is aggressive to other dogs since she got spayed. Trustee Klein asked Chief who trains the dog and is there a maintenance record. Chief Hill said he trains the dog as well as Brian Dowdy and the records are kept on-line. Trustee Klein asked if Bianca is certified and insured. Chief Hill said he would show the letters to Klein. Trustee Hall asked if the dog is up to date on all shots. Chief Hill said yes. Trustee Klein asked Chief how we know we will get all the papers from the vet. Chief Hill stated he has all the records from the vet, but if you want the vet to send a sealed signed envelope he will have them send it. Chief Hill stated he has enough dogs to breed and have puppies with if he wants them. Chief Hill said she won’t have them anymore so everybody says. Trustee Klein asked how many cases the dog has broke. Chief Hill did not know the exact number but stated a week ago on
RT13 she found 19 grams of marijuana, but there are quite a few between Mirka and Bianca.

PERSONNEL
Tyler Liefer asked about hiring another part-time person since we are short on part-time public works. Tyler said Paul McCloskey was interested. Tyler should not need him for more than 3 months.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hampton to hire Paul McCloskey. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Klein, Weber, Hampton and Geppert.

Mayor Kearns noted the Birkners agreed on the settlement amount. Michelle handed the board copies of the checks for the Birkners for the board to review.

GRANTS
Nothing new to report.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS
Mayor Kearns noted a letter was received from Diana Little of the grants department stating the Senior Center grant has been fulfilled and the current owners are free to sell, lease, or dispose of property as they wish. The obligation of the grant has been fully met. The Village, Prairie Du Long Township and New Athens Township own.

Trustee Hampton got the supplies free to tuck-point the old Village Hall. He will get with Bryan Rausch to do the work.

ORDINANCE REVIEW
Nothing new to report

TREASURERS TIME
The monthly treasurer report needs to be approved.

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

CLERKS TIME
Nothing new to report

MAYOR’s TIME
Mayor Kearns asked if the board was interested in buying an ad from Royal Publishing school pocket calendar. There the high school is asking the Village to purchase an ad for the yearbook. The board discussed to only purchase one ad for the school yearbook. Last year’s add cost $50.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Geppert to purchase an ad for the school yearbook in the amount of $50. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Klein, Weber, Hall, Hampton and Geppert.

OTHER BUSINESS
Mayor Kearns noted himself; Don Hall, Rich Klein, David Kreher and Sandy Stolte attended the FEMA meeting to discuss the levee. FEMA is going to start the de-accreditation of the levee systems. Anybody under the 396.6 elevation level will be required to purchase flood insurance if they have a mortgage. Mayor Kearns told Holscher the Village will use the engineer that will safely put his stamp on the least amount of work deemed necessary to stamp it. Trustee Kreher said we need to get bids for the accreditation letter. Mayor Kearns appointed a levee committee: Arlene Geppert, Don Hall and Rich Klein who will also be chairman. Sandy reviewed the St. Clair County taxes and taxes collected for the levee system by the county.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Gary Kearns
Village President

Michelle Neff
Village Clerk