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, Klein and Kreher. Geppert was absent. Sandy Stolte, Lieutenant Buehler, Officer Wilson, Officer Hamon and Jake Owens were also present.

The audit committee asked why the back window was replaced in the Chevy truck. A tool hit the back window and shattered it while public works was working on a water break.

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

Mayor Kearns noted a change in the minutes from sewer plant to lift station under water and sewer.

Trustee Kreher a motion; seconded by Trustee Hall to approve the minutes with the noted change. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Klein, Weber and Hampton.

Lieutenant Buehler was present and read a letter of accommodation for Officer Wilson. On 09/06/12 NAPA Auto Parts store was victim to burglary. Officer Wilson worked with the Illinois State Police Crime Scene Investigator. On 09/12/12 Officer Wilson conducted video interviews with two possible suspects of which who were located during active patrol during that evening during his shift. One suspect confessed to the burglary and criminal damage. Concluding the interview Officer Wilson followed the suspect to his residence in Freeburg and retrieved all stolen items and returned them to the New Athens Police Department. The total amount of stolen merchandise is $18,000 and damage to the door was $2,000. Officer Wilson’s perseverance solved the crime in 6 days, first a full confession from suspect and second the return of all the stolen merchandise to the owner. Lieutenant Buehler thanked Officer Wilson for a job well done. Lieutenant Buehler stated it would not have occurred without Officer Hamon seeing a suspicious vehicle the night of the burglary. Mayor Kearns and Trustee Kreher told Officer Hamon good job. Trustee Kreher said Lieutenant needs to put an article in the News Brief. Officer Wilson stated the warrant application will be taken in tomorrow.

VISITORS
Rick Range, Gerald Kroner and Tim Pruett

Gerald Kroner of EMP was present to discuss their computerized temperature control for energy savings. Local Improvements to check into.

Rick Range of the Little League was present with some information about a league wanting to rent the park next summer. This would be a good opportunity for the Village to make some money to pay for improvements at the park. Rick thanked the police department for the article Officer Hamon put in the paper about the concession stand being robbed earlier this year. Rick noted the article helped the Little League receive about $1,400 in donations from in the community and the surrounding area to replace the items stolen. Rick noted there are some improvements that need to be done. The park committee to meet with Rick Range to discuss.

LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS
Committee meeting to be set up to discuss computerized temperature control.

WATER & SEWER
Tim Pruett of Rhutasel and Associates reviewed the terms of the loan for the new sewer plant. The loan amount is $3,300,000 for 20 years with a principal forgiveness of $825,000.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Weber to authorize Mayor Kearns to sign the loan agreement with IEPa. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Klein, Weber and Hampton.

Tim Pruett noted the notice of award needs to be signed and sent to Plocher.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Weber to authorize Mayor Kearns to sign the notice of award to Plocher. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Klein, Weber and Hampton.

STREETS & ALLEYS
Nothing new to report.
CEMETERY
Nothing new to report

PARK
Committee meeting to be set up with Rick Range.

PUBLIC SAFETY
Michelle noted in Tyler’s absence the lowest bid for 6 radios for public works is $1,794.00 was received from Global Technical Systems for Kenwood VHF 50W 4 channel mobile radios.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hall to purchase 6 Kenwood mobile radios from Global Technical Systems in the amount of $1,794.00. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Klein, Weber and Hampton.

Mayor Kearns noted a committee meeting needs to be held to discuss the Standard Operating Guidelines for EMS. The SOG needs to be compared with the employee policy ordinance. Some of the guidelines do not follow the employee policy and may need to be changed. Trustee Kreher said all the board members need to attend the committee meeting.

POLICE
Officer Wilson showed a tape from a traffic stop where Officer Anderson wore a Wolfcom camera. Five cameras would cost $3,768. One for each of the full-time officer’s and one for the part-time officers to share.

Trustee Weber made a motion; seconded by Trustee Kreher to approve the purchase of 5 Wolfcom cameras at a price of $3,768. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Klein, Weber and Hampton.

Trustee Hampton received a complaint that the park bathrooms not being opened. Trustee Hall asked about the marina bathrooms. Officer Wilson said the marina bathrooms stay unlocked.

PERSONNEL
Jake Owens went over the letter of termination for 6 EMT’s; Barb Curtis, Eric Birkner, David Baker, Tim Stevens, Travis Wiegmann and Luis Wolters. They are being terminated for either inactivity for greater than 6 months, failure to complete KING-LTD retraining or no longer in good standing with IDPH EMS Region.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Weber to authorize Mayor Kearns to sign the termination letter for Barb Curtis, Eric Birkner, David Baker, Tim Stevens, Travis Wiegmann and Luis Wolters. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Klein, Weber and Hampton.

GRANTS
Nothing new to report

PUBLIC BUILDINGS
Nothing new to report

ORDINANCE REVIEW
Nothing new to report

TREASURERS TIME
Nothing new to report

CLERKS TIME
Nothing new to report

MAYOR’s TIME
Mayor Kearns spoke with Hoelscher Engineering and he is trying to come up with a reasonable price for the levee recertification process. Hoelscher recommended the Village to contract directly with a geotechnical company to save money. The levee committee to come up with two more engineering companies to get bids for levee certification. Mayor Kearns talked with the Southwest Illinois Council and was told we are on the right tract, that FEMA does not want negative publicity. It would help if the people in town would also call the senators, congressmen and FEMA. Mayor Kearns to work with the Cathy Meggs to put an article in the News Brief.
OTHER BUSINESS
Michelle asked in Tyler’s absence what needs to be done with the list of vacant properties that the Village mowed. It was discussed to bill them first, and then file a lien if the bills are not paid.

A letter was received from Reliable regarding the annual increase for the trash pickup. The contract allows up to a 5% increase or $.63, but Reliable is only increasing the rate by $.55. The Village currently charges the residents $12.95 and pays Reliable $12.54. It was discussed if the Village should add an additional amount to the $.55 or just pass on the $.55 increase and bill the residents $13.50. The new rate will take effect November 1, 2012.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Weber to approve the trash rate increase of $.55 from Reliable and bill the residents $13.50 effective November 1, 2012. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Hall, Klein, Weber and Hampton.

The Wolf flashing sign was discussed. Mayor Kearns said it may be an ordinance violation and Lieutenant Buehler needs to talk with the owner. There was also a complaint received about trash carts being taken and a derelict vehicle in a yard. Officer Wilson to inform Lieutenant Buehler he needs to handle these issues.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Gary Kearns
Village President

Michelle Neff
Village Clerk