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

Mayor Kearns held a moment of silence for Fred Meister.

The audit committee asked about the separate bills from Next Era. Michelle said Next Era told us the energy portion would show up on the Ameren bills and we would not be billed separately before signing the contract. After the contract was signed 2 accounts are being billed separately due to too many meters on the account. A spreadsheet to be put together to see if we are saving money.

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

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

VISITORS
Cathy Meggs, Elaine Davis, Deann Bergmann, Becky Jones, Clyde Scherle, Deb Scherle, Steve Ritter and Tim Pruett

Cathy Meggs was present regarding Chief Hill and the police department. Mayor Kearns stated the department will run as normal with one man short. Mayor Kearns had no further comment at this time.

Elaine Davis, Deann Bergmann and Becky Jones were present about the flashing billboard sign at Wolf’s Tavern in a residential area. They all have talked with Jason about the light. They would like the sign turned off at 10 p.m. during the week. They have also called about loud music. Trustee Kreher stated it would be easier to sight for noise than a lighted sign. Elaine said the light is also a nuisance. Mayor Kearns will have Lt. Buehler contact Jason and he will also contact Jason. Officer Wilson noted when he was called for complaints in the past the same bartender is working.

Clyde and Deb Scherle had a water service turned on at a business and is being charged for trash service. The only trash the business has is saw dust and particle board. Reliable will not pick up construction materials, so he has to haul away. Clyde is asking for the trash to be removed from the business water service.

Trustee Weber made a motion; seconded by Trustee Klein to waive the trash service fee from 1010 Spotsylvania and issue a credit for the one month that was charged. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Geppert, Klein, Weber and Hampton.

LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS
Trustee Weber noted Tyler received the preliminary plans and plat for Casey’s. Weber said to have Rhutasel review the plans and it should be stated in the ordinance book to bill Casey’s for the cost of Rhutasel reviewing the plans.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Klein to approve Rhutasel to look over the plan and plat from Casey’s. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Geppert, Klein, Weber and Hampton.

WATER & SEWER
Tim Pruett of Rhutasel and Associates noted the Mayor signed the notice to proceed for tomorrow. Plocher assured Tim they would be done before 12 months.

STREETS & ALLEYS
Trustee Weber said the new truck received replaced a truck that did not have a snow plow. We currently have three trucks with snow plows. Tyler would like to have a snow plow for the new truck so all the trucks would have snow plow. The cost from Woody’s is $5,300.

Trustee Weber made a motion; seconded by Trustee Kreher to purchase a snow plow from Woody’s for the new public works truck. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Geppert, Klein, Weber and Hampton.
CEMETERY
Nothing new to report

PARK
Trustee Hampton to schedule another committee meeting regarding tournament ball at the park next year.

PUBLIC SAFETY
Jake Owens requested to have 40 copies made of the Standard Operating Guidelines with the changes the board made at the last meeting.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Klein to allow 40 copies be made of the Standard Operating Guidelines with the changes the board previously voted on. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Geppert, Klein, Weber and Hampton.

Jake noted Luis Wolters was issued a letter of termination previously and had 30 days to appeal. Lewis sent in letter and wished to be reinstated; he has completed the training needed and said he was busy with paramedic classes.

Trustee Geppert made a motion; seconded by Trustee Kreher to rescind the letter of termination for Luis Wolters. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Geppert, Klein, Weber and Hampton.

Mayor Kearns reminded the board the ambulance contracts are expiring in December. Trustee Geppert to schedule a public safety meeting with everybody invited.

POLICE
Officer Wilson said the digital camera is no longer working. They need a durable and reliable camera. We have cameras from the LESO program but do not have any chargers.

Trustee Hampton made a motion; seconded by Trustee Geppert to allow the police department to purchase a new camera at a cost up to $400 if chargers cannot be purchased for the cameras from LESO. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Klein, Geppert, 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
Nothing new to report

GRANTS
A DECO grant in the amount of $80,000 was received. The money was deposited into the water and sewer accounts. Sandy Stolte said the money needs to pay off the line of credit.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS
Trustee Hampton noted himself and Bryan Rausch has not been able to schedule a time to work on the old village hall.

Trustee Geppert stated the senior center is closing November 28 due to lack of funds. A committee meeting to be scheduled to discuss what to do with the building.

ORDINANCE REVIEW
Nothing new to report

TREASURERS TIME
Sandy noted she will start to work on the tax levy.

CLERKS TIME
Nothing new to report
MAYOR’s TIME
Mayor Kearns received 2 letters from FEMA regarding the levee de-accreditation. New Athens will be notified when FEMA will receive funding to begin a study in our area. Tyler, Mayor Kearns and a surveyor from Kearns place of work shot the 395 contour line of the downtown area. Copies of the map will be at Village Hall.

OTHER BUSINESS
The liability insurance from IMLRMA increased to $100,485. Last year cost $96,000. New this year they are offering and minimum – maximum option with is very risky. We will be getting another quote at the next board meeting.

Trustee Weber noted at the last board meeting the board approved Amann to upgrade the electric in the triangle but there was still a question on how many posts were needed. Weber talked with Tyler and 8 more posts are needed for the Christmas displays. The additional cost is $75 per post.

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Klein to approve 8 posts to be installed by Amann Electric at $75 per post. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Geppert, Klein, Weber and Hampton.

Terry Poltisch was present to follow up on derelict properties. Officer Wilson said some violation letters were sent out by Lt. Buehler, but he was not sure what the addresses are. Mayor Kearns can get a cost from Attorney Ehlers for a letter to be sent out to the derelict properties. Mayor Kearns noted it could become very costly for the Village. Terry Poltisch to get Trustee Kreher addresses to check on and report back to the board.

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

Trustee Kreher made a motion; seconded by Trustee Hampton to return to regular session at 8:51 p.m. A vote was answered aye by Kreher, Geppert, Klein, Weber and Hampton.

Mayor Kearns stated Lt. Buehler will be acting in the capacity of Chief. Lt. Buehler is not being made interim Chief. He is the next in command. Dallas Hill is on administrative leave and will be paid regular salary until a decision is made.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Gary Kearns
Village President

Michelle Neff
Village Clerk