

STATE OF ILLINOIS }
COUNTY OF CHRISTIAN } SS.
VILLAGE OF STONINGTON }

REGULAR MEETING
December 6, 2021

The Board of Trustees met in Regular Session Monday, December 6, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall.

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Bruce Dowdy with the following Members present:

Trustees: David Blakeman, via GoToMeeting; Tara Ramsey, Tammy Wilson, Andrew Callan, Korey Bailey, and Anthony Rusher
Clerk: Jill Gilpin
Treasurer: Christine Lerch, via GoToMeeting
Superintendent: Jake Heberling
Village Engineer: Mark Bingham
Village Attorney: Scott Garwood (Absent)
Chief of Police: Travis Peden
Officer Manager: Debbie Niles
Zoning Officer: John LeVault (Absent)

Others in attendance: Kari Scott, Village Employee

Minutes from the November 1, 2021, regular meeting was presented to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Callan, seconded by Bailey that the minutes be approved and filed as presented. Motion passed by all “Yea” votes.

The Treasurer’s Report was presented for the month of November to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Wilson, seconded by Rusher, that the Treasurer’s Report be approved and filed as presented. Motion passed by all “Yea” votes.

The Gas Report was presented for the month of November to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Blakeman, seconded by Ramsey, that the Gas Report be approved and filed as presented. Motion passed by all “Yea” votes.

The Water Report was presented for the month of November to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Callan, seconded by Wilson, that the Water Report be approved and filed as presented. Motion passed by all “Yea” votes.

The Sewer Report was presented for the month of November to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Rusher, seconded by Bailey, that the Sewer Report be approved and filed as presented. Motion passed by all “Yea” votes.

The Police Report was presented for the month of November to the Board for their

approval. Motion made by Wilson, seconded by Rusher, that the Police Report be approved and filed as presented. Motion passed by all “Yea” votes.

Bills against the Village were presented for the approval of the Board. Motion made by Rusher, seconded by Ramsey, to approve and issue warrants for all bills. Motion passed by all “Yea” votes.

Zoning Officer’s Report: Zoning Officer LeVault issued no zoning permits in the month of November.

Mayor’s Report: Mayor Dowdy asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 21-679, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 9. Streets, Article 1. General Provisions, Section 9.108 Fences, Hedges, Trees, Visibility of The Municipal Code of The Village of Stonington, Christian County, Illinois. Motion made by Rusher, seconded by Callan, to approve Ordinance 21-679, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 9. Streets, Article 1. General Provisions, Section 9.108 Fences, Hedges, Trees, Visibility of The Municipal Code of The Village of Stonington, Christian County, Illinois. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

Mayor Dowdy began the discussion about propane tanks. Since the gas prices have been increasing, there has been a question asked if propane tanks are allowed within the Village limits. Currently, the Village Municipal Code does not say one way or the other if propane tanks are allowed at residences. One of his concerns is who is responsible if there is a leak because this would no longer be the Village’s gas service.

Trustee Rusher suggested if propane would be allowed within the Village limits, it should be only allowed to outbuildings and set a limit for the size of the propane tank.

Village Engineer Report: Engineer Bingham requested disbursement requests and a change order for a six-month time extension. The change order is a no cost change order because the equipment for the chlorine and gas to chlorine changeover has been delivered but the pumps are on back order until March 31, 2022. In the meantime, Burdick Plumbing & Heating, Inc. is trying to get as much as they can ready to finish up the project when the chlorine pumps are delivered.

Engineer Bingham requested the following disbursement requests for the water project:

Burdick Plumbing & Heating, Inc.	\$20,709.00
Chastain & Associates, LLC	\$3,742.72

President Dowdy asked for a motion to pay the requested disbursement of \$20,709.00 to Burdick Plumbing & Heating, Inc. and \$3,742.72 to Chastain & Associates, LLC for engineering costs and to approve the change of order for a six-month time extension. Motion made by Callan, seconded by Rusher, to pay Burdick Plumbing & Heating, Inc. \$20,709.00 and \$3,742.72 to Chastain & Associates, LLC for engineering costs and to approve the change of order for a six-month time extension. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

Village Attorney Report: Nothing to report.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Heberling reported that Village employees James Lupton and Rex Wheeler are now certified to be on call for gas calls. It will take about three years for them to be 100% qualified to deal with gas. They will be on call starting this month. He also reported that the gas prices have went down \$1.20 in the last month.

Trustee Callan inquired if they have been buying new tools that were approved to replace the old tools. Superintendent Heberling said that he has bought a few new tools and is spreading out the purchases.

WATER – The Water Report for October 30 – November 30, 2021, billing period was presented.

GAS – The Gas Report for October 30 – November 30, 2021, billing period was presented.

SEWER – The Sewer Report for October 30 – November 30, 2021, billing period was presented.

Committee Reports: STREETS & ALLEYS – Nothing to report. (Ramsey)

HEALTH & SAFETY – Trustee Rusher reported that Police Chief Peden has received a couple of applicants for part-time officers and was inquiring how to proceed. He feels that there needs to be a committee meeting scheduled to discuss salary.

A Health & Safety Committee meeting was set for Wednesday, December 15, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. to discuss part-time officers and propane tanks.

Police Chief Peden reported he is going to sign a Memorandum of Understanding, much like a mutual aid agreement, to help if there is a problem in the Village for example a drug house. The Memorandum of Understanding includes Taylorville Police Department, Kincaid, Edinburg, Assumption, and Moweaqua except for the Sheriff's Department. He reported that last month he went to Edinburg to help with a situation they had with an armed subject.

FINANCE – Nothing to report. (Wilson)

WATER – Nothing to report. (Callan)

SEWER – Nothing to report. (Bailey)

GAS – Trustee Blakeman confirmed Superintendent Heberling's report on the gas prices going down. The daily prices for gas are between \$3.63 and \$4.07 and the 12-month futures are down to \$3.58. The futures were \$4.00 or \$5.00.

Trustee Callan made a motion to move into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. Motion seconded by Rusher. The Board went into Executive Session at 7:35 p.m. to discuss personnel issues.

President Dowdy asked for a motion to adjourn the Executive Session at 8:37 p.m. Motion by Callan, seconded by Wilson, to adjourn the Executive Session.

The Board then returned to regular session.

Discussion of a part-time office employee and Treasurer's position will be added to the agenda for the Health & Safety Committee meeting set for Wednesday, December 15, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

President Dowdy set the date and time for the December Regular Meeting as Monday, January 4, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Hall.

With no further business coming before the Board, a motion was made by Rusher, seconded by Callan, to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 p.m. Motion passed by all "Yea" votes.

APPROVED:

Bruce Dowdy, Village President

ATTEST:

Jill Gilpin, Village Clerk