

STATE OF ILLINOIS	}	REGULAR MEETING
COUNTY OF CHRISTIAN	} SS.	April 7, 2025
VILLAGE OF STONINGTON	}	

The Board of Trustees met for a regular meeting Monday, April 7, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall.

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

Trustees: Tara Ramsey, Tammy Wilson, Andrew Callan, Jeff Graham, Caleb Grover, and Scott Kuntzman

Clerk: Jill Gilpin

Office Manager/Treasurer: Kari Scott

Superintendent: Jake Heberling

Village Engineer: Mark Bingham

Village Attorney: Scott Garwood (Absent)

Chief of Police: Travis Peden (Absent)

Zoning Officer: John LeVault

Others in attendance: Kim Brown, Village resident; Earl Good, Village resident; Jodi Rusher and Jenny Prasun, Stonington Summerfest; Corey Bailey, Village resident; Alexandra Nelch; and, Assistant Chief of Police Phil Deal

Minutes from March 3, 2025, regular meeting was presented to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Callan, seconded by Wilson, that the minutes be approved and filed as presented. Motion passed by all "Yea" votes.

Minutes from March 19, 2025, Public Hearing was presented to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Ramsey, seconded by Kuntzman, that the minutes be approved and filed as presented. Motion passed by all "Yea" votes.

Minutes from March 19, 2025, the Finance Committee meeting was presented to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Wilson, seconded by Graham, 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 March to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Wilson, seconded by Ramsey, 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 March to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Callan, seconded by Graham, 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 March to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Grover, seconded by Kuntzman, 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 March to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Kuntzman, seconded by Wilson, 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 March to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Graham, seconded by Ramsey, 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 Wilson, seconded by Graham, to approve and issue warrants for all bills. Motion passed by all "Yea" votes.

Zoning Officer's Report: Zoning Officer LeVault issued two zoning permits in the month of March.

Permit #798-25 to Dale Klay located at 501 W. Second Street for an addition.

Permit #799-25 to Clayton Nichols, 212 W. Brown Street for a concrete approach and sidewalk.

President Dowdy asked for a motion to approve the Zoning Report for the month of March. Motion made by Callan, seconded by Kuntzman, to approve the Zoning report for the month of March. Motion passed by a 6-0 vote.

President's Report:

President Dowdy requested a motion to appoint Mike Blakeman of Pulley, Martynowski & Blakeman as the Village Auditor. A motion was made by Wilson, and seconded by Grover, to rehire Mike Blakeman of Pulley, Martynowski & Blakeman as the Village Auditor. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

President Dowdy moved to the discussion to increase the water and sewer rates. There was discussion on raising the rates by 3% as set in the ordinance and discussed concerns about the water rate for SNAWS. After much discussion, this was tabled to the May 5, 2025, meeting.

The Village received three applications to be considered and allowed to gather garbage in the Village of Stonington. The applications received were from Cleeton's Sanitation Service, Tovey; Carey's Disposal, Mt. Auburn; and Area Disposal Service Inc., a GFL Environmental Company. Motion by Graham, second by Kuntzman to allow Cleeton's Sanitation Service, Carey's Disposal, and Area Disposal Service Inc. a GFL

Environmental Company to gather garbage in the Village of Stonington. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

The Village city wide garage sales are set for May 2-3, 2025, and the plan is to have dumpsters available for clean-up on May 5-May 9, 2025, or until they are full.

President Dowdy welcomed Jodi Rusher and Jenny Prasun to the table as co-chairs of the Stonington Summerfest. This year the Summerfest will be celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the theme is "Party Like It's 1985" to be held June 13, 14, and 15, 2025. She requested the same streets to be closed like in the past and mentioned they did need help with garbage cleanup.

President Dowdy asked for a motion to grant the liquor license to the Summerfest Committee for use June 13, 14, and 15, 2025. Motion by Wilson, seconded by Kuntzman, to grant the liquor license to the Summerfest Committee for use June 13, 14, and 15, 2025. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

On behalf of the Summerfest Committee, she asked for a donation from the Village.

President Dowdy asked for a motion to donate \$2,000.00 towards the Summerfest. Motion made by Callan, second by Grover, to donate \$2,000.00 towards the Summerfest. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

President Dowdy welcomed Engineer Bingham to the table to discuss the IEPA Loan Engineering Agreement. He discussed the planning approval for the EPA which is for the new well, water tower painting, water main, and water treatment plant additional rehab. The next steps to move forward are to start the full loan application and design plans and get ready for construction. He stated the water treatment plant is the priority for capacity wise and he is looking for Board direction to go ahead and start getting the application prepared for the well and water treatment plant and get the plans together.

President Dowdy asked for a motion to amend the previous engineering contract to approve for design and construction phase services and engineering services. Motion made by Ramsey, seconded by Wilson, to amend the previous engineering contract to approve design and construction phase services and engineering services. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

President Dowdy welcomed Alexandra Nelch to the table. She asked the Board for approval to put another mobile home at 110 South Delmer. There was much discussion on the process and requirements for utility hookups.

President Dowdy stated that as long as the mobile home meets the criteria as far as the value and the wheels being taken off that it would be fine to move a mobile home onto the property.

Village Engineer Report: Engineer Bingham talked briefly about the motor fuel tax. He

stated it was closed out last year and gave an update on what was spent and what was allocated. He stated the rebuild Illinois funds of \$61,422.48 had to be spent and an oil and chip program was done along with a little bit of concrete sidewalk work. So, it was closed out at \$62,979.39.

Village Attorney Report: Nothing to report.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Heberling reported Tim Bollinger asked for the Village to hold off until fall to do the tile work. Superintendent Heberling spoke to Mrs. White and as long as there are no issues, she was okay with that. He stated that Tim Bollinger said if there is flooding, the Village could tile across the field and not have to pay for crop damage. Superintendent Heberling stated Danny Likes is also having drainage problems and Tim Bollinger would like to get a plan to help both Danny Likes and Mrs. White.

Superintendent Heberling stated they installed the tile on the Deckert field located off of South County.

Superintendent Heberling gave an update on Sloan's that the water main is complete and it has passed the EPA inspection.

Superintendent Heberling updated the Board that the wells and all the pumps are installed and there are a couple things they are going to do to finish up the project.

Superintendent Heberling scheduled a gas training from USDI on May 8, 2025, at 6:30 pm at the Stonington Firehouse and anyone is invited to participate.

Superintendent Heberling reported they installed another water service at Sharpsburg for phase three.

There was much discussion about monitoring the pressure in the fire hydrants and Engineer Bingham suggested moving forward is to do a system wide flow testing to get the fire hydrants tested.

President Dowdy stated there has been a lift station triggering an alarm and since they are old school they do not trigger a siren and that this is something that will be talked about in the future to upgrade. There were also discussion for the need of flow meters at the sewer plant.

President Dowdy reported the storm sires are inoperable at this time. Assistant Chief of Police Phil Deal stated Global will be looking at them on Wednesday and he suggested that Global program Jeff Graham and Corey Bailey's radios, so they have the capability to set off the siren in the event neither he nor Chief of Police Peden are available. He would also like to schedule the siren to go off the second Tuesday of every month at 10:00 am for testing if there is no bad weather.

WATER – The Water Report for January 31, 2025-February 28, 2025, billing period was presented.

GAS – The Gas Report for January 31, 2025-February 28, 2025, billing period was presented.

SEWER – The Sewer Report for January 31, 2025-February 28, 2025, billing period was presented.

Committee Reports: STREETS & ALLEYS – Nothing to report.

HEALTH & SAFETY – Nothing to report.

FINANCE – Nothing to report.

WATER – Nothing to report.

SEWER – Nothing to report.

GAS – Trustee Callan reported he has a concern from a resident that there were unclothed mannequins in a store window in town.

Trustee Ramsey stated they are going to get dressed.

Trustee Callan also inquired about the Pine Street property being demolished.

President Dowdy stated it is not on the books, but it can be put on the May 5, 2025, agenda.

There was discussion about cars blocking the alleyway near the Post Office and installing a sign to state no blocking alleyway.

Sharpsburg Water meetings are last Monday of the month at 7:00 pm at the Extension Office in Taylorville.

President Dowdy set the date and time for the May Regular Meeting as May 5, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Hall.

With no further business coming before the Board, a motion was made by Wilson, seconded by Ramsey, to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m. Motion passed by all “Yea” votes.

APPROVED:

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Bruce Dowdy, Village President

ATTEST:

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Jill Gilpin, Village Clerk