

STATE OF ILLINOIS	}	REGULAR MEETING
COUNTY OF CHRISTIAN	} SS.	August 4, 2025
VILLAGE OF STONINGTON	}	

The Board of Trustees met for a regular meeting on Monday, August 4, 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 (Absent)
 Village Attorney: Scott Garwood (Absent)
 Chief of Police: Travis Peden
 Zoning Officer: John LeVault

Others in attendance: Assistant Chief of Police Phil Deal; Kim Brown, Village resident; Austin Dowdy, Village resident; Leslie DeVore, Village resident; and, Jessica Stafford, Village resident.

Minutes from July 7, 2025, regular meeting was presented to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Wilson, seconded by Ramsey, that the minutes be approved and filed as presented. Motion passed by all “Yea” votes.

Minutes from July 14, 2025, committee meeting was presented to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Callan, seconded by Grover, 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 July to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Wilson, seconded by Graham, 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 July to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Grover, 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 July to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Kuntzman, seconded by Callan, 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 July to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Callan, seconded by Kuntzman, 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 July 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 Kuntzman, 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 July.

Permit #802-25 to Alexandra Nelch located at 110 S. Delmar for a manufactured home.

Permit #803-25 to Mitch White located at 115 S. Pine for a porch.

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

President’s Report: President Dowdy asked for a motion to approve Resolution 25-458, A Resolution of the Village of Stonington Appointing Director and Alternative Director to the Municipal Gas Commission. Motion by Callan, seconded by Wilson, to approve Resolution 25-458, A Resolution of the Village of Stonington Appointing Director and Alternative Director to the Municipal Gas Commission. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

President Dowdy moved to the next item on the agenda to discuss clarifying the description of the work week for the Chief of Police under Work Responsibilities, in the Employee Handbook.

After much discussion, below is the proposed revised language to reflect a salaried position based on a 50-hour work week. This proposed language will be put on the September Agenda for discussion and approval. If approved it will be added as the description of the work week for the Chief of Police under Work Responsibilities, in the Employee Handbook.

WORK RESPONSIBILITIES

2.01 Work Week

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c. Chief of Police

The Chief of Police is a salaried position. It shall be his or her

responsibility to use their hours to complete a full work week. The working hours are set by the Chief of Police, subject to approval by the Board. It is not contemplated that the Chief of Police, being salaried, shall receive overtime pay or compensation pay.

President Dowdy stated Chad Weber could not attend the meeting to discuss his property.

President Dowdy opened three bids received for the Pine Street property. Bids were from Michael Slinkard for \$2,500.00; Madison and Jordan Martin for \$4,000.00; and Bruce and Jackie Dowdy for \$5,111.00. Motion made by Wilson, seconded by Ramsey, to accept the bid from Bruce and Jackie Dowdy in the amount of \$5,111.00 for the Pine Street property. Motion passed by a 6-0 vote.

President Dowdy discussed the three lots located on Main Street in that there has been an inquiry into purchasing all three lots. After much discussion, the Board decided to advertise for bids to be received by the Friday before the September Board meeting.

President Dowdy moved to the bids received from Quality Construction & Concrete for the two additions to the shop building.

One bid is for an 18x18 ft. addition in the amount of \$17,800.00. Motion was made by Callan, seconded by Grover, to approve up to \$19,600.00 from TIF funds for the 18x18 ft. addition to the shop building. Motion passed with a roll call vote that went as follows: Wilson "Yea"; Graham "Yea"; Ramsey "Yea"; Grover "Yea"; Callan "Yea", and Kuntzman "Yea". Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

The bid for the 30x40 ft. addition to the back of the shop building was discussed. Motion made by Callan, seconded by Kuntzman to approve up to \$45,000.00 from TIF funds for the 30x40 ft. addition to the back of the shop building. Motion passed with a roll call vote that went as follows: Kuntzman "Yea"; Callan "Yea"; Grover "Yea"; Ramsey "Yea"; Graham "Yea", and Wilson "Yea". Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

President Dowdy discussed the electronic recycling program that the Village has provided for a long time. He stated electronics are tossed over the fence on weekends and that will not be able to happen when the new addition is built onto the shop building. The program costs the Village between \$350.00 and \$400.00 a semi load which is 12 pallets and that is what the Village has currently. The electronics are taken to BLH in Taylorville for recycling and anyone that lives in Christian County can take electronics to them for free. If you live outside of Christian County, there will be a cost. A sign will be posted to let residents know that the Village is no longer taking electronics and advise them to contact BLH to coordinate with him.

Assistant Chief of Police Phil Deal reported the new Taser 10s have been received and are waiting for a tablet for the VR headset. He hopes to have it at the next meeting so each Board member can try out the headset and see what it entails. He stated they are

waiting for the mailing labels to send back the Taser 7s to Taser.

Village Engineer Report: Engineer Bingham

Village Attorney Report: Nothing to report.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Heberling thanked the Board for the approval of the additions to the shop building. He stated the Village has sold a lot of water because of Edinburg and he thinks they will probably be getting off our water line soon.

He stated he plans to talk with Kevin at Legacy Grain about the easement for future access. He also reported the tile was installed by the bar and got the catch basin which is part of the bid with Ben Briggs. He is also going to try figure out what can be done with the water around Nolen's.

WATER – The Water Report for May 31, 2025 – June 30, 2025, billing period was presented.

GAS – The Gas Report for May 31, 2025 – June 30, 2025, billing period was presented.

SEWER – The Sewer Report for May 31, 2025 – June 30, 2025, billing period was presented.

Committee Reports: STREETS & ALLEYS – Trustee Ramsey asked if the Berea Baptist Church is in the city limits.

Office Manager Kari Scott stated it is outside city limits.

HEALTH & SAFETY – Nothing to report.

FINANCE – Nothing to report.

WATER – Nothing to report.

SEWER – Nothing to report.

GAS – Nothing to report.

Austin Dowdy stated on Locust Street there is property with excessive lawn mowers and asked if there was an ordinance that covered lawn mowers. President Dowdy stated it would be checked out and that there was no ordinance covering lawn mowers, only vehicles.

President Dowdy also stated that there will be a discussion to explore an ordinance for unoccupied homes and property upkeep. A Committee meeting was scheduled for Monday, August 18, 2025, at 6:30 pm to discuss it.

President Dowdy set the date and time for the September Regular Meeting as September 8, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Hall.

With no further business coming before the Board, a motion was made by Callan, seconded by Kuntzman, to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. Motion passed by all "Yea" votes.

APPROVED:

Bruce Dowdy, Village President

ATTEST:

Jill Gilpin, Village Clerk