STATE OF ILLINOIS	}	REGULAR MEETING
COUNTY OF CHRISTIAN	} SS.	February 3, 2025
VILLAGE OF STONINGTON	}	

The Board of Trustees met in Regular Session Monday, February 3, 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 (Absent)

Others in attendance: Elizabeth Wood, *Breeze-Courier*, Kim Brown, Village resident; Don Bouvet, Village resident; Earl Good, Village resident; Carol White, Village resident; Korey Bailey, Village resident; Jeff Nolen, Nolen Services, Inc.; and Assistant Chief of Police Phil Deal

Minutes from January 6, 2025, regular meeting was presented to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Callan, seconded by Wilson, for approval of the minutes and file them as presented. Motion passed by all "Yea" votes.

Minutes from January 13, 2025, committee meeting was presented to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Kuntzman, seconded by Wilson, for approval of the committee minutes and file them as presented. Motion passed by all "Yea" votes.

The Treasurer's Report was presented for the month of January 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 January to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Callan, seconded by Grover, 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 January 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 January to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Kuntzman, seconded by Callan, 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 January 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 Callan, 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 January.

## President's Report:

President Dowdy asked for a motion to grant the liquor license to Stoney Slots LLC. Motion by Callan, seconded by Ramsey, to grant the liquor license to Stoney Slots LLC. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

President Dowdy asked for a motion to grant the Raffle License 25-26 to Stonington American Legion. Motion by Graham, seconded by Kuntzman, to grant the Raffle License 25-26 to Stonington American Legion. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

President Dowdy discussed parking or storing commercial property on R-1 residential property and how to redefine our ordinance. He scheduled a Committee Meeting for Monday, February 10, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. to discuss further.

President Dowdy welcomed Carol White from 201 S. Locust Street to the table. Ms. White discussed it with the Board and showed videos of her sump pump running since January 21, 2025. She feels the water is coming underground from the North due to the ditch or absence of a ditch in front of her residence. She also stated she has never had this happen with her sump pump in the winter, only in the spring.

Superintendent Jake Heberling stated they tested the water for both chlorine and fluoride and natural groundwater has a little trace of chorine and fluoride and the test showed it was within the range of it being groundwater. He feels there might be old tiles running through which could be causing the problem. He said he would put some dye in the ditch and see if the water being recirculated.

President Dowdy stated as projects allow some of the ditches will start getting cleaned out.

President Dowdy discussed the Ordinance to add the Village of Edinburg and the Village of Stonington and Territory to the Taylorville Enterprise Zone. He explained there is a fee of \$5,000.00 up front. This will allow any business that wants to construct or build or do additions within that zone, to purchase materials tax free. He also stated that a lot of the property falls within the TIF district which allows for TIF funding, and the County helps to promote this.

President Dowdy asked for a Motion to approve Ordinance No. 25-698, An Ordinance to Add the Village of Edinburg and the Village of Stonington and Territory to the Taylorville – Christian County Enterprise Zone and Amending the Intergovernmental Agreement. Motion made by Ramsey, seconded by Kuntzman to approve Ordinance No. 25-698. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

President Dowdy asked for a motion to approve the Certificates for Training for the Police Department chart to be added to the Employee Policy that was discussed at the January 13, 2025, committee meeting. Motion made by Wilson, seconded by Kuntzman, to approve adding the Certificates of Training for the Police Department to the Employee Policy. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

President Dowdy asked for a motion to approve Assistant Chief of Police Phil Deal's salary increase for certificates achieved that was discussed at the January 13, 2025, committee meeting. Motion made by Kuntzman, seconded by Grover, to approve Assistant Chief of Police Phil Deal's salary increase for certificates achieved.

Clerk Jill Gilpin discussed taking out the need for a social security code in Chapter 3, Article 3. Intoxicating Liquors and Article 4. Peddler's License. An Ordinance reflecting the changes will be submitted for approval at the March 3, 2025, meeting.

Superintendent Jake Heberling discussed the possibility of purchasing a Trimble Stick. He explained that once you get a utility located, you can mark it with a Trimble stick and the GPS/GIS will mark it on the maps that the Village already is using, and it is supposed to be able to locate all the sewers. The sales quote he received from Seiler Geospatial is \$1,120.00 for the initial purchase and for the first-year subscription fee is \$1,365.00. After the first year you can buy 10 hours for \$135.00.

President Dowdy asked for a motion to authorize the purchase of the Trimble Stick from Seiler Geospatial for \$1,120.00 and purchase the first-year subscription fee of \$1,365.00. Motion made by Kuntzman, seconded by Graham, to purchase the Trimble Stick from Seiler Geospatial for \$1,120.00 and purchase the first-year subscription fee of \$1,365.00. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

President Dowdy welcomed Earl Good to the table. Mr. Good was concerned about where the Village is purchasing gas from and the notice received about the possibility of the gas rates going up.

President Dowdy stated the Village if still purchasing the gas from Missouri Gas and the notice was just being pro-active for residents to adjust their thermostats.

Korey Bailey thanked the Board for cutting down the tree.

President Dowdy welcomed Jeff Nolen to the table. Mr. Nolen stated that he received a letter from the County Health Department about having clean port-a-potties. Since the County did not know the code he got the State involved and forwarded the pictures to them that the complaint was based on. One of the pictures somebody sent had the mud off the skids and when they brought it in, the mud fell off the skids right behind the truck. He stated that he was cleared by the State and had the EPA involved. He also stated the mud was from ADM. He stated they must pump out the sewage basin before they can be transported which was done and is always done.

Mr. Nolen stated he has documentation and asked the question if someone has been arrested for retail theft, if that person can run for a board position or for mayor.

President Dowdy stated he had discussed with the attorney on a similar matter, and an individual can run for a municipal office if they were convicted of a felony, but that individual could not be sworn in if that person won an election. He stated he would contact the Village attorney and double check.

## Village Engineer Report: Engineer Bingham

Village Attorney Report: Nothing to report.

<u>Superintendent's Report</u>: Superintendent Heberling reported they have to install about 600 feet of water main for Sharpsburg for the Sloans building and Midwest Meter and MBM Construction is going to help since they are working on Sharpsburg Phase 3.

He reported they had a surprise audit for gas from the insurance company and they said the Village is doing great. The insurance company made some recommendations, so they are going to change a couple of things.

He also reported the PLCs went out at the water plant and had to run the water plant manually. The company from St. Louis came and installed a new program. The PLCs is the brain of the system. The service tech from the company stated that if it fails one more than that we might need to look at replacing it. He did receive a bid for \$2,800.00 for a new PLC but wants to see how long this lasts.

Superintendent Heberling asked for clarification on who makes the judgment call on if a tree needs to be cut down if it is in the boulevard.

President Dowdy stated that if the tree is hanging over the residents house it is the resident's responsibility to cut it back but as far as the trees on the boulevard, he is going to contact the Village attorney to find out the responsibilities of the Village.

Superintendent Heberling stated that someone is going to pour a piece of sidewalk garage to the sidewalk because it is in terrible shape and needs to be replaced. His question to the Board is if he can ask for the approach to be poured as well.

President Dowdy stated that it would not hurt to have the approach poured.

WATER – The Water Report for November 27, 2024 – December 30, 2024, billing period was presented.

GAS – The Gas Report for November 27, 2024 – December 30, 2024, billing period was presented.

SEWER – The Sewer Report for November 27, 2024 – December 30, 2024, billing period was presented.

<u>Committee Reports:</u> STREETS & ALLEYS – Trustee Ramsey discussed scheduling the garage sales May 2-3, 2025. She stated she is going to talk to the Salvation Army about bringing a truck for donations.

President reported that this year the Summerfest will be celebrating their 40-year anniversary this year.

HEALTH & SAFETY – Nothing to report.

FINANCE – Nothing to report. WATER – Nothing to report.

SEWER – Nothing to report.

GAS – Nothing to report.

Motion made by Wilson, seconded by Kuntzman, to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues at 8:30 p.m.

Motion made by Callan, seconded by Grover, to adjourn the Executive Session at 9:21 p.m. and return to the regular meeting.

President Dowdy set the date and time for the March Regular Meeting as March 3, 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 Grover, to adjourn the meeting at 9:22 p.m. Motion passed by all "Yea" votes.

APPROVED:

Bruce Dowdy, Village President

ATTEST:

Jill Gilpin, Village Clerk