

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

The Board of Trustees met for a regular meeting on Monday, July 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 (Absent), 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: Kim Brown, Village resident; Earl Good, Village resident; Jeff Good, Village resident; and Jason Bliesner, Business owner

Minutes from June 2, 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.

The Treasurer's Report was presented for the month of June 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 June to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Callan, 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 June to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Callan, 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 June 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 June 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 no zoning permits in the month of June.

President’s Report: President Dowdy asked for a motion to approve Ordinance No. 25-702, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 3. Licenses And Permits, Article 1. General Provisions, Section 3.308 Closing Hours Of The Municipal Code Of Ordinances Of The Village Of Stonington, Christian County, Illinois. Motion made by Kuntzman, seconded by Ramsey, to approve Ordinance No. 25-702. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

President Dowdy asked for a motion to approve Ordinance No. 25-703, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 6, Traffic, Article 8. Operation Of Golf Carts Section 6.802 E) And Article 9. Operation Of Off-Road Utility Vehicle On City Roadways Section 6.901 A) 3, Of The Municipal Code Of Ordinances Of The Village Of Stonington, Christian County, Illinois. Motion made by Wilson, seconded by Graham, to approve Ordinance No. 25-703. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

President Dowdy asked for a motion to grant the liquor license to Casey’s General Store. Motion by Callan, seconded by Kuntzman, to grant the liquor license to Casey’s General Store. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

President Dowdy asked for a motion to grant the liquor license to The American Legion. Motion by Graham, seconded by Wilson, to grant the liquor license to The American Legion. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

President Dowdy moved to the discussion of 203 S. Livergood Street. The owners would like to make these two separate tax parcels so they can sell the parcel with the gas station. The new tax parcels will be 201 S. Livergood Street and 203 S. Livergood Street.

President Dowdy asked for a motion to separate 203 S. Livergood Street into two tax parcels, 201 S. Livergood Street and 203 S. Livergood Street. Motion made by Ramsey, seconded by Kuntzman, to approve the separation of 203 S. Livergood Street into two tax parcels, 201 S. Livergood Street and 203 S. Livergood Street. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

It was discussed and approved to close 4th Street on July 26, 2025, starting at 3:00 PM for approximately an hour for the PTSD bike run that will be stopping at the Beer Vault Saloon and closing 4th Street on September 18, 2025, for bike night at the Beer Vault Saloon.

Superintendent Jake Heberling asked about adding an 18' x 18' addition to the shop where the recyclable TVs are to have an area to store gas pipes, tools, and other items to keep in the same location. He received a quote from Quality Construction & Concrete in the amount of \$17,800.00. After much discussion, this will be checked to see if the addition is TIF eligible.

President Dowdy asked if the property located at 301 S. Pine Street should be listed for sale and ask for sealed bids. President Dowdy stated that the Village has close to \$11,000.00 wrapped up in the property between tearing it down and ripping out most of the trees. After much discussion, this will be listed for sale in the Breeze-Courier and on the Village's Facebook page to ask for sealed bids to be received by the Village at the end of July to be opened at the August meeting.

President Dowdy brought up the discussion of uninhabited properties and feels this is going to require several meetings to discuss. He discussed an Ordinance that Pana has regarding houses that are uninhabitable or unusable as well as businesses. He is going to obtain a copy of Pana's Ordinance and sent it to the Trustee's to look over. He feels this would be a way to improve the Village.

President Dowdy welcomed Jeff Good to the table. Jeff inquired what it would take to amend the TIF District to add a historical property.

President Dowdy's understanding when he asked the same question was that there might be more luck in creating a new TIF district than to try and add property to an existing TIF district. This question will be emailed to the TIF consultant to get answered.

Village Engineer Report: Nothing to report.

Village Attorney Report: Nothing to report.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Heberling reported Edinburg is pulling water from the Village right now until they get the raw water main fixed and could continue another six weeks. The water plant is permitted for 85 gallons a minute per filter. When we built the water plant, it could go up to 113 gallons a minute per filter. After talking to Bruce, he contacted Engineer Mark Bingham who submitted the paperwork to the EPA to see if they would approve that for the Village.

President Dowdy stated the new BFDs have been running great but they run warm inside the building so Joe May has ordered a smaller min split to install in order to keep the system cool inside.

WATER – The Water Report for May 1 – May 30, 2025, billing period was presented.

GAS – The Gas Report for May 1 – May 30, 2025, billing period was presented.

SEWER – The Sewer Report for May 1 – May 30, 2025, billing period was presented.

Committee Reports: STREETS & ALLEYS – Trustee Ramsey mentioned before next year's baseball season, to find a solution as to where people can park. This year there were issues as to where people can park and how they can park in the vicinity of the park. She also mentioned she sent a picture of a diagram to other coaches to show where they can park.

Trustee Ramsey commented on Nokomis' vacant house Ordinance and will send a copy to the rest of the Board.

HEALTH & SAFETY – Trustee Graham reported to the Board that Chief of Police Officer Travis Peden received a nice "Thank You" from the Library Board for the donation of the coloring books, pencils, and lollipops for the kids throughout their summer program.

FINANCE – Trustee Wilson discussed that there are discussions about the houses in town that need to clean up their yards and questioned if they are receiving warning and tickets.

Chief of Police Peden reported that he had taken care of the majority of the houses that had tall grass.

WATER – Nothing to report.

SEWER – Nothing to report.

GAS – Nothing to report.

President Dowdy set the date and time for the August Regular Meeting as August 4, 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 Kuntzman, to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m. Motion passed by all "Yea" votes.

APPROVED:

Bruce Dowdy, Village President

ATTEST:

Jill Gilpin, Village Clerk