STATE OF ILLINOIS	}	REGULAR MEETING
COUNTY OF CHRISTIAN	} SS.	June 5, 2023
VILLAGE OF STONINGTON	}	

The Board of Trustees met in Regular Session Monday, June 5, 2023, 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, Anthony Rusher (Absent), Jeff Graham, and Caleb Grover Clerk: Jill Gilpin (Absent) Treasurer: Debbie Niles Superintendent: Jake Heberling (Absent) Village Engineer: Rajita Singhal (Absent) Village Attorney: Scott Garwood (Absent) Chief of Police: Travis Peden Officer Manager: Kari Scott Zoning Officer: John LeVault (Absent)

Others in attendance: Kim Brown, Village Resident, Rev. David Knoblich, Village Resident, and David Blakeman, Village Resident (Via GoToMeeting)

Minutes from May 1, 2023, 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 May 1, 2023, adjourned 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.

The Treasurer's Report was presented for the month of May 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 May to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Callan, seconded by Wilson, 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 May to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Graham, seconded by Ramsey, 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 May to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Graham, 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 May to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Callan, 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 one zoning permit in the month of May.

Permit # 787-23 to Mary McLean located at 504 W Wabash for a fence.

President Dowdy asked for a motion to approve the Zoning Report for the month of May. Motion made by Wilson, seconded by Graham, to approve the Zoning report for the month of May. Motion passed by a 5/0 vote.

<u>President's Report</u>: President Dowdy asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 23-690, An Ordinance Appropriating Taxes For Corporate And Special Purposes For The Current Fiscal Year Commencing on the 1st Day of May, 2023, And Ending The 30th Day Of April, 2024. Motion made by Wilson, seconded by Ramsey, to approve Ordinance 23-690, An Ordinance Appropriating Taxes For Corporate And Special Purposes For The Current Fiscal Year Commencing on the 1st Day of May, 2023, And Ending The 30th Day Of April, 2024. Moton passed with a 5/0 vote.

There was a brief discussion regarding Triangle Pub's application for TIF Funding to make improvements to their building. The discussion was tabled because the Pub is up for sale.

Although Superintendent Jake Heberling was absent, he asked that the board be informed of two gas valves located near Rt 48 that are leaking and need repaired. Those repairs are scheduled for Wednesday, June 14th.

Jake also wanted to let the board know that he is waiting on parts for the Maple Street lift station. As soon as they are in, Petersburg Plumbing will begin the repairs.

Mayor Dowdy informed the board that the Morrissey property on Locust St. had been sold and will be demolished within the next 6 weeks. Chief Travis Peden asked how long a house can sit abandoned and in disrepair before the gas needs to be terminated. He stated there are properties in town that have been empty for quite some time and the gas has not been terminated. Further discussion will take place regarding his question. Mayor Dowdy stated that the Water Plant Project is not completed yet as they are still working on the punch list with Engineer Rajita Singhal. There is a problem with the water plant being able to communicate using the current cell phone plan. Office Manager Kari Scott stated she is in the process of getting a new AT&T plan that will work with the water plant dialers but is having some issues getting it set up. She will continue to work on it and update the board on the progress. Bruce said that the contractors do not get paid until the punch list is completed. Trustee Andrew Callan asked if we would be able to work with our former Engineer Mark Bingham in the future, even though he has left the firm and has started his own engineering company. Mayor Dowdy said yes, that has been discussed and is in the plans.

Mayor Dowdy told the board that he was asked if the Village would spray for mosquitoes outside of the village limits. He informed them we would not do that.

Public Comments: Village Resident and former Village Trustee David Blakeman stated that the policy on Part Time Police Officer's working for the village a minimum of two years after the village had sent them through training was in the employee handbook but not in the village ordinances.

Village Engineer Report: Engineer Rajita Singhal -No Report

Village Attorney Report: Nothing to report.

Superintendent's Report: Items were discussed during the President's Report

WATER – The Water Report for May 2023, billing period was presented.

GAS – The Gas Report for May 2023, billing period was presented.

SEWER – The Sewer Report for May 2023, billing period was presented.

Committee Reports:

STREETS & ALLEYS – Trustee Tara Ramsey read the ordinance that Nokomis has regarding vacant houses in town. Mayor Dowdy asked Office manger Kari Scott to get a copy of that ordinance.

Tara also asked how tall grass in yards is determined according to village ordinances. Chief Peden stated grass over 8" tall is not allowed. Tara stated that there is a yard on Main Street that has tall grass, and no one lives there. Peden stated that he had already spoken with the owner, and she was supposed to have mowed it. He will contact her again.

HEALTH & SAFETY – Nothing to report. (Rusher)

FINANCE – Nothing to report. (Wilson)

WATER – Nothing to report. (Graham)

SEWER - Nothing to report. (Grover)

GAS – Trustee Andrew Callan said that he spoke with former part time officer, Kyle Corriveau. He said that Kyle is doing well and misses everyone at the village.

Chief Travis Peden handed out a spreadsheet that was given to him by the Moweaqua Police Chief listing area wages for police. He stated that the Village of Stonington pays the lowest wage than any other town for part time police officers. Mayor Dowdy said they will review the pay scales and discuss further in the future.

Office Manger Kari Scott informed the board that the financial audit begins on Tuesday, June 6th. She also asked the board about a decision they made regarding the part time office position. She said past minutes stated the part time office person could work 950 hours a year, compared to the 999 hours allowed by IMRF guidelines. She asked if that could be changed if need be. The minutes also stated the part-time person could work a maximum of 18 hours per week. She asked if that was an average or a definite number. Mayor Dowdy answered that if the part time employee gets close to the 950-hour mark, they can revisit their decision. He also said the 18 hours per week is an average number of hours they can work.

Mayor Dowdy mentioned that they need to meet with CTI regarding the service at the village buildings. He will be in next Thursday to meet with Kari to discuss the village need for phones and internet service.

Dowdy spoke with former Village Trustee David Blakeman who was in attendance via GoToMeeting. He let him know that we have a plaque for him to thank him for all the years that he served the village as a trustee, and we will get it to him.

President Dowdy set the date and time for the July Regular Meeting as July 5, 2023, 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 7:29 p.m. Motion passed by all "Yea" votes.

APPROVED:

Bruce Dowdy, Village President

ATTEST:

Jill Gilpin, Village Clerk