

STATE OF ILLINOIS } REGULAR MEETING
COUNTY OF CHRISTIAN } SS. October 6, 2025
VILLAGE OF STONINGTON } }

The Board of Trustees met for a regular meeting on Monday, October 6, 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 (Absent), 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; and Earl Good, Village resident.

Minutes from September 8, 2025, regular meeting was presented to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Kuntzman, seconded by Ramsey, that the minutes be approved as amended and filed as presented. Motion passed by all "Yea" votes.

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

President's Report: President Dowdy asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 25-704, An Ordinance Levying Taxes For Corporate And Special Purposes For The Current Fiscal Year Commencing On The 1st Day Of May 2026 And Ending The 30th Day Of April 2027. Motion made by Callan, seconded by Wilson, to approve Ordinance 25-704, An Ordinance Levying Taxes For Corporate And Special Purposes For The Current Fiscal Year Commencing On The 1st Day Of May 2026, And Ending The 30th Day Of April 2027. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

President Dowdy discussed striking the language regarding health insurance in 5.01 b. of the Employee Policy. Motion made by Kuntzman, seconded by Wilson, strike the language regarding health insurance in 5.01 b. of the Employee Policy. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Superintendent Jake Heberling discussed the multiple bids received for a new LED sign. The bids were from Bendsen Signs & Graphics, Inc., Ace Sign Co., ID Signs, and Lilly Signs, LLC. After much discussion, Grover made the motion, seconded by Ramsey, to spend up to \$42,000.00 TIF funds for a 3 x 8 ft., 10 mm LED sign from Bendsen Signs & Graphics, Inc. Motion passed with a roll call vote that went as follows: Wilson "Yea"; Ramsey "Yea"; Grover "Yea"; Callan "Yea", and Kuntzman "Yea". Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Superintendent Jake Heberling discussed bids received for the two targeted areas for the water main projects which are a 900 ft. water main project near the firehouse and a 600 ft. water main project down Anonymous Street. The bids discussed were from E.L. Pruitt, Petersburg Plumbing & Excavating, and Burdick Plumbing & Heating Company. After much discussion, motion made by Callan, seconded by Ramsey, to spend up to \$175,000.00 which includes EPA paperwork, to Burdick Plumbing & Heating Company for the water main project. Motion passed with a roll call vote that went as follows: Kuntzman "Yea"; Callan "Yea"; Grover "Yea"; Ramsey "Yea", and Wilson "Yea". Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

President Dowdy asked for approval to increase Travis Peden's salary by \$.50/hour due to insurance being removed. Motion made by Kuntzman, seconded by Grover, to approve Travis Peden's salary by \$.50/hour due to insurance being removed. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

President Dowdy welcomed Earl Good to the table. Earl was inquiring if the Village had

received any bids for the empty lots owned by the Village. President Dowdy stated no bids had been received.

President Dowdy stated that Village Attorney Scott Garwood is working on a draft of an Ordinance regarding old houses or uninhabitable homes and he hopes to present it to the Board at the November meeting for review.

Assistant Chief of Police Phil Deal wanted to inform the Village Board and residents that he has contacted Norfolk Southern to try to keep one of the intersections open within the Village limits. He also stated that Norfolk Southern owns the railway and has federal authority to block up to 15 miles of railroad.

Village Engineer Report: Nothing to report.

Village Attorney Report: Nothing to report.

Superintendent's Report: Nothing to report.

WATER – The Water Report for August 1, 2025 – August 29, 2025, billing period was presented.

GAS – The Gas Report for August 1, 2025 – August 29, 2025, billing period was presented.

SEWER – The Sewer Report for August 1, 2025 – August 29, 2025, billing period was presented.

Committee Reports: STREETS & ALLEYS – Trustee Ramsey reminded everyone that the garage sales are this weekend.

Office Manager Kari Scott stated the dumpsters will be available starting Monday, October 13, 2025, until they are full or will be picked up Monday, October 20, 2025.

HEALTH & SAFETY – Nothing to report.

FINANCE – Trustee Wilson wanted to remind everyone Halloween is coming up and trick-or-treating will be Thursday, October 30, 2025, and Friday, October 31, 2025, from 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm.

President Dowdy reminded for the month of October the curfew is 9:00 pm for children ages 16 and under.

WATER – Trustee Callan reported he had been approached from a resident inquiring about sidewalks, and the resident stated their name has been a list for three years. Superintendent Heberling asked for the name to make sure it is on the list.

Trustee Callan had an inquiry about the weeds in the alley behind Lonnie's house.

Chief of Police Peden stated he talked to the residents and told them that the issues with the weeds in the alley has been handled.

President Dowdy stated he has received information that hopefully the tree on the garage will be gone by the end of the month.

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 7:48 p.m.

Motion made by Callan, seconded by Grover, to adjourn the Executive Session at 8:33 p.m. and return to the regular meeting.

President Dowdy set the date and time for the November Regular Meeting as November 3, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Hall.

With no further business coming before the Board, a motion was made by Kuntzman, seconded by Wilson, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. Motion passed by all "Yea" votes.

APPROVED:

Bruce Dowdy, Village President

ATTEST:

Jill Gilpin, Village Clerk