

STATE OF ILLINOIS                    }  
COUNTY OF CHRISTIAN            } SS.  
VILLAGE OF STONINGTON         }

REGULAR MEETING  
August 1, 2022

The Board of Trustees met in Regular Session Monday, August 1, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall.

The Meeting was called to order by Mayor Bruce Dowdy with the following Members present:

- Trustees: David Blakeman, via GoToMeeting; Tara Ramsey, Tammy Wilson, Andrew Callan, Korey Bailey, and Anthony Rusher (Absent)
- Clerk: Jill Gilpin
- Treasurer: Debbie Niles (Absent)
- Superintendent: Jake Heberling
- Village Engineer: Mark Bingham, via GoToMeeting
- Village Attorney: Scott Garwood (Absent)
- Chief of Police: Travis Peden
- Officer Manager: Kari Scott
- Zoning Officer: John LeVault (Absent)

Minutes from the July 6, 2022, 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.

The Treasurer’s Report was presented for the month of July 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 July to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Blakeman, 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 July to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Callan, 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 July to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Ramsey, 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 July to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Callan, seconded by Wilson, 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 Ramsey, 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 July.

Mayor's Report: President Dowdy discussed relocating the speed limit sign on E. North Street. The speed limit sign on W. North Street by the gas plant will not be relocated at this time.

President Dowdy entertained a motion to move the 25-mph speed limit sign from the edge of Nolen's property on E. North Street out to the edge of the park district property. Motion made by Ramsey, seconded by Wilson, to move the 25-mph speed limit sign from the edge of Nolen's property on E. North Street out to the edge of the park district property. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

President Dowdy discussed requiring the Treasurer to attend all meetings. After much discussion, the Treasurer will not be required to attend all meetings. If the Treasurer is requested to attend a meeting, the Treasurer will be compensated extra for the meeting. This change will be added to Chapter 2, Article 2 of the Village of Stonington's Municipal Code. There will be more changes to Chapter 2, Article 2 of the Municipal Code to change the verbiage to make it politically correct. The Ordinance reflecting these changes will be on the September agenda for approval.

Superintendent Heberling reported to the Board that Rex Wheeler and James Lupton received their sewer license on Saturday. They are in the process of getting registered with the EPA.

President Dowdy asked for a motion to approve a fifty cent an hour increase in salary for each of the following licenses that are obtained by a public works employee.

- a. Class B water license
- b. Class 4 sewer license
- c. Fully certified gas license

Motion made by Wilson, seconded by Ramsey, to approve a fifty cent an hour increase in salary for each of the following licenses that are obtained by a public works employee.

- a. Class B water license
- b. Class 4 sewer license
- c. Fully certified gas license

Motion passed with 5-0 vote.

President Dowdy discussed the bid that was received by Trimble Construction, Inc. to repair the roof at the Village Hall in the amount of \$3,637.25. The leak in the roof caused the Village Hall to have termites.

President Dowdy entertained a motion to accept the bid from Trimble Construction, Inc. up to \$3,800.00 in case there is a difference in the original bid amount of \$3,637.25 to fix the roof at the Village Hall. Motion made by Blakeman, seconded by Wilson, to accept the bid from Trimble Construction, Inc. up to \$3,800.00 to fix the roof at the Village Hall. Motion passed with 5-0 vote.

President Dowdy discussed the streetlights. After much discussion, it was decided to send a final letter to homeowners informing them that after August 15, 2022, the remaining eight streetlights will be disconnected unless they want the streetlight switched to their Shelby Electric bill. Superintendent Heberling stated that once Shelby Electric disconnects the streetlights they will be removed.

President Dowdy asked for a motion that after August 15, 2022, the remaining eight streetlights will be disconnected unless the homeowner wants the streetlight switched to their Shelby Electric bill. Motion made by Wilson, seconded by Ramsey, to approve disconnecting the remaining eight streetlights after August 15, 2022. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Village Engineer Report: Nothing to report.

Village Attorney Report: Nothing to report.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Heberling reported that the water plant has been running on liquid chlorine which was switched over two weeks ago. They are waiting on Burdick Plumbing & Heating, Inc. to come and do a line stop and then they will start disassembling the rest of the water plant and hopefully be done by the end of the year.

He reported that gas services to 304 South West, 207 North Maple, and 210 South Pine have been abandoned and that these homes are going to be torn down. The water services have been shut off to these addresses too. He reported a gas service has been added to the CTI shed.

Superintendent Heberling reported a water main was repaired at 202 South Elm.

Superintendent Heberling reported they got all the ditch work completed and installed the culverts.

President Dowdy stated that he spoke to the homeowner of the house on Wabash Street. The homeowner stated that he plans to start refurbishing the home this fall.

WATER – The Water Report for July 1, 2022 – July 29, 2022, billing period was presented.

GAS – The Gas Report for June 27, 2022 – July 25, 2022, billing period was presented.

SEWER – The Sewer Report for June 27, 2022 – July 25, 2022, billing period was presented.

Committee Reports: STREETS & ALLEYS – Trustee Ramsey questioned what is going on with the trains stopping on all three crossings.

President Dowdy said that they are working on the last portion of the construction on the far south intersection. They are using Legacy's rails to bypass their rails while the construction is going on. Because of the way the trains bypass, they can't come through the town at regular speed.

Trustee Ramsey also inquired if the Village's attorney had a monthly retainer fee.

President Dowdy stated that he charges an hourly fee.

HEALTH & SAFETY – Nothing to report.

FINANCE – Trustee Wilson asked about the house next to Jim Cunningham's house.

President Dowdy stated they are waiting for the gas service to be shut off.

Trustee Wilson also questioned about the house on Pine Street.

President Dowdy stated that there is a second mortgage on it and the second mortgage company has not finished all the proceedings yet. The first mortgage is paid off. The owner has given the Village the okay to go onto the property and mow, cut tress, etc. Trustee Wilson asked if there is anything that can be done with all the poison ivy on the property. Superintendent Heberling said that they could spray the poison ivy.

WATER – Trustee Callan reported the was approached by a Village resident that questioned if the Village was going to be receiving a grant to get the sewer fixed.

SEWER – Nothing to report.

GAS – Trustee Blakeman questioned about the property at 402 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street.

President Dowdy stated that property own had been sent a letter and questioned if there had been a response to the letter.

Chief of Police Peden stated that someone has mowed the lawn as close as they could to the house.

Trustee Blakeman reported on the gas prices. The gas prices are running between \$7.44 and \$8.16 today and the futures are \$6.71. He stated that they are predicting gas prices for the winter being \$10.00 plus or higher and they are predicting for December 2023 the futures to be \$10.50.

They are predicting thru December 2023 the futures to be \$10.50 or higher.

President Dowdy stated that he and Superintendent Heberling will be meeting with Missouri Gas to discuss purchasing gas on the futures market. We are not currently getting gas on the futures.

Office Manager Kari Scott stated that the Village's website is back up and running for the payment portal for customers. She also reported that the Village's Facebook page has another 60 followers.

Trustee Bailey announced that he will be resigning his position on the Board, and this would be his last meeting.

President Dowdy thanked Trustee Bailey for his service.

President Dowdy set the date and time for the September Regular Meeting as Wednesday, September 7, 2022, 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 Wilson, to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m. Motion passed by all "Yea" votes.

APPROVED:

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Bruce Dowdy, Village President

ATTEST:

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Jill Gilpin, Village Clerk