

The Police Report was presented for the month of July to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Bailey, seconded by Callan, 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 Bailey, to approve and issue warrants for all bills. Motion passed by all "Yea" votes.

Zoning Officer's Report: Zoning Officer LeVault issued two zoning permit(s) in the month of July.

Permit # 772-21 to Jeff Nolen, Nolen Plumbing located at 401 Birch Street, for a new building.

Permit #773-21 to Gina DeSart, located at 403 W First Street, for a fence

President Dowdy asked for a motion to approve the Zoning Report for the month of July. Motion made by Bailey, seconded by Callan, to approve the Zoning report for the month of July. Motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

President's Report:

Mayor Dowdy began a discussion on quotes we received from Sievers Equipment, and Sloan Implement for the purchase of a new sickle bar mower. After much discussion, a motion was made by Blakeman, seconded by Wilson to purchase the Frontier SB3106, rear 3-point sickle bar mower from Sloan Implement in the amount of \$4,290. Mayor Dowdy asked for a vote from the board members. Motion passed with a roll call vote; Bailey "abstained", Callan "Yea", Blakeman "Yea", Ramsey "Yea", Wilson "Yea". Motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

Mayor Dowdy received a letter from the Illinois Department of Public Health. They would like to inform residents that all types of the Covid vaccine are available, (Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson) if people are interested in receiving it,

Bayer is once again putting on "Movie in the Park". It will be held August 20th. Bayer requested that the village spray for mosquitoes 2 days prior to the event.

Mayor Dowdy invited Carol Skinner, North Street, to the table. Ms. Skinner approached the board with a complaint regarding flooding in her neighborhood. Ms. Skinner stated she has cracked walls and floors in her basement due to the flooding. She stated that she has complained 3 or 4 times with no results. She presented pictures to the board of the flooded ditches. Mayor Dowdy recognized the pictures of a different area close to her home, but not at her home. However, he did confirm that there is and always has been a problem with flooding in that area. Ms. Skinner stated she had contacted Rodney Davis about the problem, and he instructed her to contact the Stonington

Village Board. Mayor Dowdy assured her we are looking into improving the drainage in town.

Ray Likes approached the board regarding a fence at 115 S Pine. He stated a discussion was had last year regarding the placement of the fence. At the time, the homeowner stated he would move it, but wanted to do it himself. Mr. Likes said the board needed to follow up on the situation as the fence has not been moved. Mayor Dowdy said he would have the homeowner contacted about moving it.

Mayor Dowdy invited Jeff and Terri Nolen, owners of Nolen Plumbing, to the table. They are upset about the village vacating a portion of Walnut Street and allowing Legacy Grain to take it over for their use. Mr. Nolen talked in length about how he felt the village should not have vacated the street without his approval. He owns a shed on the end of Walnut Street. Mr. Nolen presented the board with copies of 65 ILCS 5/11-91-1, Sec. 11-91-1. He said in Paragraph two, it states the village is required to give a 15 day public notice before any hearing is held to pass the ordinance. Chairman Blakeman informed Mr. Nolen that we brought that to our attorney's attention, but was told it states in Paragraph two that it is for vacating a property in an unincorporated area. The property in question is within the village limits. He stated that he would not have a large enough area to access his shed on the Walnut Street side. Mayor Dowdy informed Mr. Nolen that Legacy Grain had given an easement to the Village of Stonington until 2045 that would allow Mr. Nolen additional access to his building. Said easement will give an additional width of 50' and a distance of 135' to allow him further access. Mr. Nolen stated he was not happy with that easement and said he would take legal action if the situation was not amended. Mayor Dowdy said he will talk to Legacy Grain and ask if they will consider extending the easement to 100 years, but informed Mr. Nolen that the Ordinance to vacate the property is complete, and he would need to direct any further complaints to Legacy Grain.

Village Engineer Report:

Engineer Bingham began his report with a discussion regarding the IL ARPA. He stated he had checked that morning and Stonington was not on the list of those communities that had registered to receive funds. Mayor Bruce Dowdy told him that he had received an email from Office Manager Debbie Niles in regards to this. He stated she had started the process but was waiting on some information from the auditors to complete the registration. Bingham said he wanted to make sure we completed the registration, as Stonington was expected to receive approximately \$115,000 in grants. He discussed different ways these funds could be used. Mayor Dowdy assured him we would be registered by the deadline of September 30, 2021.

Engineer Bingham requested the following disbursement requests for the water project:

Burdick Plumbing & Heating, Inc.	\$98,338.50
Chastain & Associates, LLC	\$7,503.02

President Dowdy asked for a motion to pay the requested disbursement of \$98,338.50 for Burdick Plumbing & Heating, Inc. Motion made by Callan, seconded by Wilson to pay Burdick Plumbing & Heating \$98,338.50. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote. A Roll call was taken, Motion passed with a roll call vote; Bailey "Yea", Callan "Yea", Blakeman "Yea", Ramsey "Yea", Wilson "Yea". Motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

President Dowdy asked for a motion to pay the requested disbursement of \$7,503.02 to Chastain's for the engineering costs. Motion made by Bailey, seconded by Ramsey to pay the requested disbursement of \$7,503.02 to Chastain's for the engineering costs. Motion passed with 5-0 vote.

Engineer Bingham requested approval on some change orders. One involving an electrical upgrade for the water plant project. He stated the Pressure Transducers that were purchased 3 or 4 years ago were broken. They will need to look into replacing those. He also discussed the conduit and wire to the PLC. Motion was made by Ramsey, seconded by Callan to approve the requested change orders.

Bingham stated the chlorine change order was approved by the EPA. Finance contingent on permits from EPA Permit Department. The EPA is not permitting Orthophosphate until the plant is up and running.

Bingham updated the board on the progress of the GIS Surveying. They have approximately 28 hours in so far. They will be creating maps from the information they have received.

Village Attorney Report: Nothing to report.

Superintendent's Report:

Superintendent Heberling discussed the need to improve the storm sewer drainage in town. He informed the board about a conversation he had with Kevin from Legacy Grain regarding drainage. He stated Kevin said Legacy may be interested in partnering with the Village of Stonington to work on improving the storm water drainage in town. They have recently put in a tile from the corner of their property to the ditch. Superintendent Heberling stated as Legacy Grain is improving their equipment and buildings, they have an interest in having good drainage away from their property. He is going to get some estimates on running new tile in town.

Superintendent Heberling updated the board on the completion of the new roof put on the Village of Stonington garage/shop by Trimble Construction.

WATER – The Water Report for June 24 – July 26, 2021, billing period was presented.

GAS – The Gas Report for June 24-July 26, 2021, billing period was presented.

SEWER – The Sewer Report for June 24-July 26, 2021, billing period was presented.

Committee Reports: STREETS & ALLEYS – Trustee Ramsey wanted to remind everyone that school resumes on August 18th. She said that kids would be walking to the bus stops and driver’s need to be aware and be cautious. A discussion was held regarding looking for grants to improve sidewalks to bus stops so that safety can be improved for the school children.

HEALTH & SAFETY – Nothing to report.

FINANCE – Nothing to report.

WATER – Water Chairman Callan advised that Avery Bourne was no longer a Representative for the Village of Stonington. He stated that Stonington would not be in two separate districts anymore.

SEWER – Nothing to report.

GAS – Gas Chairman Blakeman advised the board that the gas rate for Stonington in July was \$3.18. This does not include transportation and operational costs. Blakeman stated he had received two emails regarding a possible emergency situation with energy rates due to the excessive widespread heat. Blakeman will look into types of “code red” programs we could use to notify customers in the future regarding possible extreme rate increases; either by text, phone, or email.

President Dowdy set the date and time for the September Regular Meeting as Thursday, September 9, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Hall.

With no further business coming before the Board, a motion was made by Bailey, seconded by Callan, to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 p.m. Motion passed by all “Yea” votes.

APPROVED:

Bruce Dowdy, Village President

ATTEST:

Jill Gilpin, Village Clerk