

STATE OF ILLINOIS                    }       HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING  
COUNTY OF CHRISTIAN            } SS.       October 19, 2021  
VILLAGE OF STONINGTON         }

The Health & Safety Committee met on Tuesday, October 19, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. at the Village Hall.

The Meeting was called to order by President Bruce Dowdy with the following members present:

Trustees: David Blakeman, on phone; Tara Ramsey; Tammy Wilson, Andrew Callan, Korey Bailey, and Anthony Rusher  
Chief of Police: Travis Peden  
Zoning Officer: John LeVault

Others in attendance: Ray Likes, Village resident

President Dowdy reported being in contact with Missouri Gas and they do contract out gas on the futures market, but the Village does not contract it now. So, at this point the prices of gas are up to high to try to buy something on the futures. The Village is working on trying to get to the point where the gas can be bought on the futures should the prices get back down. Missouri gas has bought it on the futures market, and they do price it out at a blended price. They are saying right now that the gas prices are up for the panic of going into winter, but they say the prices should drop down some by winter.

A letter has been drafted to send out to Village residents about the gas prices right now. The prices are twice the normal price it was last year on the futures market, but it is not as bad as the fiasco that happened earlier this year. The letter is making residents aware what the gas prices right now and what they can look for in their homes, like drafty windows, programmable thermostats, etc.

President Dowdy reported that the billing software the Village currently uses has the capability to send out notifications via email. It also has the option to send out notifications to cell phones but that is an option has to be purchased. Office Manager Debbie Niles is checking into the price of that package. She will also be sending out a letter with the next bills to notify the residents to fill out to sign up via email. The Village's website has the capability of sending out notifications to cell phones and emails.

Trustee Blakeman reported the only advantage of using Code Red is they already have everyone's phone number in the area that has our zip code.

President Dowdy reported that the water plant has a radio tower issue at the moment. The aerator stainless tank that sits out in the back was pumping water out of it just as fast as it was coming in. So, since there is no communication to the well pump to shut it off, it is now running manually until the company can get here that's in charge of those radio

units to fix it.

Trustee Rusher asked if there was a safety net program that automatically kills the pumps when there is lost communication.

President Dowdy reported that the radio systems are part of the grant and they have not been done yet.

President Dowdy moved on to the updating of Ordinance 9/108 Fences, Hedges, Trees, Visibility.

Village resident Ray Likes presented a copy of suggested changes to the Ordinance.

The Committee went through Mr. Likes suggested changes to the Ordinance and discussed the pros and cons.

There were issues with an 8-inch setback and if both neighbors have an 8-inch setback then 16 inches is not enough to get between them to mow.

Mr. Likes feels the Zoning Officer should have tools of the trade and said that prior Zoning Officers had “kits” to do their work. He presented a “Zoning Officer Tools of the Trade” list that he feels the Zoning Officer should have.

After much discussion, the Committee made changes to Mr. Likes suggested changes to the Ordinance. The suggested changes will be presented at the November 1, 2021, Board meeting.

With no further business coming before the Board, a motion made by Rusher, seconded by Ramsey, to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 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