STATE OF ILLINOIS } REGULAR MEETING
COUNTY OF CHRISTIAN } SS. September 4, 2024
VILLAGE OF STONINGTON }

The Board of Trustees met in Regular Session Wednesday, September 4, 2024, 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, Caleb Grover

(Absent), and Scott Kuntzman

Clerk: Jill Gilpin Treasurer: Vacancy

Superintendent: Jake Heberling

Village Engineer: Mark Bingham (Absent) Village Attorney: Scott Garwood (Absent)

Chief of Police: Travis Peden Officer Manager: Kari Scott

Zoning Officer: John LeVault (Absent)

Others in attendance: Mike Blakeman, Auditor, Pulley, Martynowski and Blakeman; Steve Little, Village resident; Kim Brown, Village resident; Marvin True, Village resident; Betty Klay, Village resident; and, Stonington Village Police Officer Phil Deal

Minutes from August 5, 2024, 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.

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

President's Report:

President Dowdy asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 24-695, An Ordinance Levying Taxes For Corporate And Special Purposes For The Current Fiscal Year Commencing On The 1st Day Of May 2025, And Ending The 30th Day Of April 2026. Motion made by Callan, seconded by Wilson, to approve Ordinance 24-695, An Ordinance Levying Taxes For Corporate And Special Purposes For The Current Fiscal Year Commencing On The 1st Day Of May 2025, And Ending The 30th Day Of April 2026. Moton passed with a 5-0 vote.

Steve Little spoke again to the Board inquiring about changing 305 S. Livergood from Residential to being zoned C-1 Commercial to build a garage.

President Dowdy asked for a motion to change the property located at 305 S. Livergood from Residential to C-1 Commercial. Motion made by Callan, seconded by Graham, to approve to change the Residential property located at 305 S. Livergood to being zoned C-1 Commercial property. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

President Dowdy stated this property will be recorded with the Village and the Christian County Clerk that it is zoned as C-1 Commercial. He advised him to meet with Zoning Officer John LeVault and discuss the exact size of the garage. He stated that if it happens to exceed the perimeters, the garage could still be built but it would have to go in front of the Variance Committee to be approved.

The Village received a Chicken application from Marvin True. President Dowdy asked for a motion to approve Marvin True's Chicken Applications. Motion by Kuntzman, second by Wilson, to approve Martin True's Chicken application. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

President Dowdy stated the addition to the Village maintenance shop will be tabled.

President Dowdy discussed the drainage on South County. There is tile that runs in the corner. To improve the drainage, a bid from Briggs Family Farm was received in the amount of \$4,900.00 to run the tile. Mr. Dechert has agreed to pay half of the cost of bid.

President Dowdy asked for a motion to accept the bid from Briggs Family Farm in the amount of \$4,900.00. The Village's cost would be \$2,450.00 and the cost for Mr. Dechert would be \$2,450.00. Motion made by Callan, seconded by Wilson, to accept the bid from Briggs Family Farm in the amount of \$4,900.00. The Village's cost would be \$2,450.00 and the cost for Mr. Dechert would be \$2,450.00. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

President Dowdy welcomed Betty Klay to the table. Ms. Klay said she would like to build a shed on residential property located at 111 Southwest Street to store a boat. President Dowdy advised her to talk to Zoning Officer, John LeVault to set a date to schedule a variance meeting if the size falls outside of residential property perimeters.

Superintendent Jake Heberling discussed being approached by Kevin Walker from the elevator about the drainage of water on the corner of the elevator. A bid was received from KJC Ag Inc. in the amount of \$31,746.51 to install a catch basin, pump station, and tile. Superintendent Heberling stated that Kevin Walker is willing to pay \$25,000.00 of the bid.

President Dowdy asked for a motion to accept the bid from KJC Ag Inc. in the amount of \$31,746.51. Kevin Walker to pay \$25,000.00 and the Village to pay upwards of \$12,000.00 towards the bid, the monthly electrical, and maintenance of the pump. A portion of the \$12,000.00 the Village is responsible for is to come out of TIF Funds or the whole amount can come out of TIF Funds. Motion made by Kuntzman, seconded by Ramsey, to approve the bid from KJC Ag Inc. in the amount of \$31,746.51. Kevin Walker to pay \$25,000.00 and the Village to pay upwards of \$12,000.00 towards the bid, the monthly electrical and the maintenance of the pump. A portion of the \$12,000.00 the Village is responsible for is to come out of TIF Funds or the whole amount can come out of TIF Funds. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

President Dowdy welcomed Mike Blakeman, Auditor, from Pulley, Martynowski and Blakeman. Mr. Blakeman presented the Annual Financial Report for the year ending April 30, 2024, and the Independent Auditor's Report. Mr. Blakeman also presented the comparative analysis dated April 30, 2024. Mr. Blakeman stated the Audit had a clear opinion and the Village had a good year.

<u>Village Engineer Report</u>: Superintendent Jake Heberling gave the Engineer's report in the absence of Engineer Mark Bingham. Superintendent Heberling stated the roads have been oiled and rocked and the cost estimated was \$57,122.00 but the actual cost was \$50,524.00. The extra money must be used by the end of the year and will be used towards sidewalks.

President Dowdy stated that he would like to appoint Kari Scott to the Treasurer's position. President Dowdy asked for a motion to approve the appointment of Kari Scott to the Treasurer's position. Moton made by Wilson, seconded by Kuntzman, to approve the appointment of Kari Scott to the Treasurer's position. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

Village Attorney Report: Nothing to report.

<u>Superintendent's Report</u>: Superintendent Heberling reported the first rounds of gas testing started with USDI. Village employee Billy Brunk completed all thirteen tasks, completed and passed the hand-on training and passed all his tests. USDI recommended that someone still work with him. He also reported at the end of October, Village employees Rex Wheeler and Billy Brunk will be going to Olney for on-call training.

WATER - The Water Report for June 29, 2024 - July 31, 2024, billing period was presented.

GAS – The Gas Report for June 29, 2024 – July 31, 2024, billing period was presented.

SEWER - The Sewer Report for June 29, 2024 - July 31, 2024, billing period was presented.

<u>Committee Reports:</u> STREETS & ALLEYS – Trustee Ramsey stated that she and Ashley LeVault will take over the Village garage sales. She also reported there will be an Ice Cream Social to be held on Sunday, September 8, 2024, from 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. at the American Legion for donations and it is sponsored by the Auxiliary.

HEALTH & SAFETY – Trustee Graham mentioned a sidewalk that was broken near the tile on West Street.

FINANCE – Trustee Wilson reported on the property at 301 S. Pine, there is a swarm of wasps in a hole near the pole and for the Village employees to be careful when mowing.

President Dowdy met with Mr. Barry in Taylorville to find out how they handle situations of property that is dilapidated. Mr. Barry stated Taylorville owns a track hoe and offers the service to the homeowner to tear down the home for free and it is the homeowner's responsibility to pay for the dumpsters. President Dowdy stated he would check into the cost of renting a track hoe.

WATER – Nothing to report.

SEWER – Nothing to report.

GAS – Trustee Callan reported he has had complaints about some property that needs cleaned up.

Chief of Police Travis Peden asked what the Board wanted to do with the old squad car. It is worth \$3,700.00 as is. President Dowdy said to advertise it out for bids to be accepted by Friday, October 4, 2024, and to be opened at the October 7, 2024, at the Regular Board meeting.

Office Manager Kari Scott discussed the Cybersecurity Awareness Training that is a mandatory training employees of a municipality must annually complete. It is not mandatory for elected and appointed officials but are encouraged to complete the training. If training is completed, she requests that you give her the signed paper of completion. She also stated they received the money from the sale of the trailer that was sold at Micenheimer Auction and asked if the Board wanted to use that money to make an extra payment on the excavator. The Board said to use that money to make an extra payment on the excavator.

President Dowdy set the date and time for the October Regular Meeting as October 7, 2024, 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 8:28 p.m. Motion passed by all "Yea" votes.

| APPROVED: | |
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| Bruce Dowdy, Village President | - |
| ATTEST: | |
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