

REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF ST. ANNE
KANKAKEE COUNTY, ILLINOIS
Village Hall, July 13, 2009, 7:00 P.M.

President O'Connell called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Clerk Blum called the roll, and the following trustees answered present: Sirois, Jennings, Blanchette, Lee, Meier and Romein. Treasurer Leveque, Deputy Clerk Sifrit, Chief Abrassart, Engineer Niel Piggush, Auditor Rick Blanchette, media representative Gladys Goreham and village resident Susie Smith were also in attendance. Attorney Cloonen was absent. Clerk Blum reported the roll, and the President declared a quorum to exist for the transaction of the public business.

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

QUORUM

When recognized, Auditor Blanchette explained that appropriations had to cover all expenditures. He said that he and President O'Connell would be working on an operating budget. He then went over each of the categories in the proposed ordinance. He said that the line items were largely in line with last year's amounts. He explained that the village was currently over-funded with the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) because of the early deaths of a couple of village employees in the 1990's. He said that he made the capital expenditures high in case the village receives grants. He then talked about estimated revenues and remarked that sales tax receipt are down.

PRESENTATION
OF BUDGET &
APPROP. ORD.

President O'Connell asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the last regular meeting. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to approve the minutes. It was moved by Trustee Romein and seconded by Trustee Lee that the above minutes be approved. Upon voice vote, all trustees present voted favorably, and President O'Connell declared the motion carried.

MINUTES
APPROVED

President O'Connell then asked if there were any questions on the Treasurer's Report as printed and distributed to village officials. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to approve the above report. It was moved by Trustee Lee and seconded by Trustee Blanchette that the treasurer's report be approved. Upon roll call vote, all trustees present voted favorably, and President O'Connell declared the motion carried. The Treasurer reported that about \$50,000. in real estate tax revenues had been received from the county and that the village had just received about \$14,000. from the state (local share of state income tax and sales tax).

TREASURER'S
REPORT

Clerk Blum explained that Emily Sifrit had agreed to accept the position of Deputy Clerk as an unpaid official. She had joined the officials at the board table because she wanted to learn more about the clerk's job. Clerk Blum said that he welcomed her interest. He said that he would be glad to have someone else trained to take the minutes of the meeting in case he had to be absent. He also said the Deputy Clerk Sifrit would be joining the Municipal Clerks of Illinois and would try to get a scholarship to attend their fall academy in Springfield.

CLERK'S
REPORT

President O'Connell asked that a proclamation in support of the decennial census be adopted. He said that the census bureau would send the village promotional items if the proclamation were to be adopted.

PRESIDENT'S
REPORT:

It was moved by Trustee Sirois and seconded by Trustee Romein that the census proclamation be adopted. Upon voice vote, all trustees present voted favorably, and President O'Connell declared the motion carried. [A copy of this proclamation follows these minutes]. The President then presented a copy of his report. [A copy of the report follows these minutes]. He said that some of the E-mail accounts are up and running on the village website. Trustee Blanchette pointed out that the meeting day and time shown on the village website are wrong. President O'Connell said that he would get that fixed. He asked everyone to take note of the list of village goals that he caused to be passed around. He then said that the treasurer had given him a list of delinquent water accounts and that the village needed to take action to collect these accounts. Trustee Sirois said that simply red tagging the houses often has an effect. He added that there was still a short list of those who had not responded at all to the warning letter. President O'Connell said that there was still no way to know about state funds. There was still no state budget. The President then reported that he and Trustee Sirois had met with Mike Van Mill of the county planning department. Trustee Sirois passed around a report from Mr. Van Mill identifying St. Anne businesses. These businesses will be sent a questionnaire to determine their concerns. An ad hoc citizen's committee will be created to make recommendations to improve the downtown area. This committee would report to the board's Building and Zoning Committee. Trustee Sirois said that he hoped that the committee would be a diverse group representing different ages. President O'Connell said that business owners would be surveyed even if they do not live in the village. Trustee Meier asked if the committee would look for grants. The President said that that might happen, but the main job of the committee would be to work with Mr. Van Mill on the current project.

Trustee Lee then read the monthly Police Department report as follows: 13 traffic citation(s), 19 written warning(s), 3 misdemeanor traffic arrest(s), 0 DUI(s), 3 accident report(s), 1 vehicle(s) towed, 21 general case report(s), 8 miscellaneous report(s), 0 felony arrest(s), 0 misdemeanor arrest(s), 1 arrest(s) on warrant, 0 juvenile detention report(s) and 2 agency assist(s). Officers worked 474 regular hours and no over time hours. They drove 3,121 miles. \$472.76 in fines and \$20. *for the vehicle fund were collected from the county. Trustee Lee then read a letter from Pastor Ron Murphy opposing the stop signs which were recently installed on Sheffield St. at St. Louis Ave. and Sixth Ave. President O'Connell asked how much analysis had been done before placing the stop signs. Trustee Sirois said that none had been done. Chief Abrassart said that the grade school had requested and received permission to block the street at dismissal time and had received the permission to do so. The Chief said that cars headed west and stopped at St. Louis Ave. block the school buses from passing. He said that a no parking zone on the south side of Sheffield just east of St. Louis could be created. Trustee Meier said that many drivers think that the stops at both Avenues are four-way, and they are not. The President said that their should be better planning on matters such as this. Chief Abrassart said that the attorney had sent him a letter stating that Charles Martin had pled guilty and had paid the fine. There was a brief discussion of pit bull dogs. The Chief said that the dog which

CENSUS
PROCLAMATION
ADOPTED

LIST OF
GOALS

PAST DUE
WATER BILLS

PLANNING
EFFORT

POLICE
REPORT:

STOP SIGNS
AT G. SCH.
DISCUSSED

VICIOUS DOGS
DISCUSSED

had recently attacked another pet was supposedly gone from the village, but he said that there were still others. He then listed a number of them. President O'Connell said that he would seek further information on vicious dog ordinances.

Trustee Sirois reported that the closing on the property for the new well had been held on June 3. Engineer Piggush reported that the well would be outside the well house for easier maintenance. He then said that American Environmental, the consulting engineers for Mac's Convenience Stores, had submitted a revised budget including a natural gas line and communications systems. He said that a permit should be issued by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) within two weeks. He said that the project could be put out for bids as soon as the budget is approved. The Engineer then said that the application for a grant to install zoning valves in the water system was on track. He said that he had been working on the specs for the project. Trustee Sirois said that Public Works Director Gary Dionne and representatives from the Fire Protection District needed to confer on the exact locations for valve placement. The Trustee then said that landlords should be notified when tenants allow utility bills to go unpaid. He then read from a state statute that allows property to be liened for delinquent utility bills. He said that it is clear that there are legal means to lien such properties. He said that we would need to obtain the property identification number. Engineer Piggush said that he could obtain those. The Engineer then reported that the application for a grant to repair and provide drainage on Eastern Illinois Ave. was on hold until a state budget is adopted. On the matter of paying Phoenix Fabricators their final payment, Engineer Piggush expressed his opinion that the payment should be made. Treasurer Leveque said that the money to pay the \$25,835. was in the general fund but that paying it that way would mean problems in the near future. President O'Connell said that he would call the company to see if terms could be worked out for payments. Engineer Piggush reported that the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) had contacted him about the recent water main breaks which had required digging up Dixie Highway to make the repairs. He said that the village should always get a permit even if an emergency requires that permit to be after the fact. He also said that IDOT wants the highway patched. It was unclear how far south a proposed state project to resurface the highway would go. If the resurfacing will include the places where the highway was dug up, then IDOT would agree to a temporary cold patch. The Engineer said that he would attempt to get information.

Trustee Romein reported that seven building permits had been issued for the month of June for \$24,720. in improvements. \$320. in permit fees and \$50. in electrical inspection fees were collected for the month. The trustee then reported that the building inspector had talked to Adan Zarate and Ralph Wilkening concerning the lack of a means of egress from the rear of their downtown business buildings. He said that the building inspector would send them a letter asking for action.

Trustee Jennings reported that new tires had been purchased for one of the squad cars.

PUBLIC WORKS
REPORT:

NEW WELL
PROJECT

WATER VALVE
GRANT

UTILITY BILL
COLLECTION

E. ILL. AVE.
GRANT

PAYING
PHOENIX
FABRICATORS?

PATCHING
DIXIE
HIGHWAY

BLDG. &
ZONING
REPORT

EQUIPMENT
REPORT

Trustee Meier reported that the finance committee had reviewed the bills, had found them to be in order and recommended their approval for payment. It was moved by Trustee Lee and seconded by Trustee Romein that the payment of the bills be authorized. Upon roll call vote, all trustees present voted favorably, and President O'Connell declared the motion carried. It was then moved by Trustee Meier and seconded by Trustee Jennings that the annual budget and appropriate ordinance be adopted. Upon roll call vote, all trustees present voted favorably, and President O'Connell declared the motion carried.

FINANCE
REPORT:

BILLS PAID

APPROP. ORD.
ADOPTED

Trustee Romein handed out his suggestion for getting building code enforcement to be more consistent. He said that he felt that the building inspector should make the code book available to contractors. He said that he intended to buy a newer copy of the code book. Trustee Lee reported that the street light at the south end of South Elm Ave. is a village light but is on private property. He said that the village could remove it, and the homeowner would be responsible if he wished to have a light at that location. Trustee Lee then said that he had an issue which he wished to discuss with the Police Committee. President O'Connell asked that the committee also discuss abandoned cars.

NEW &
UNFINISHED
BUSINESS

President O'Connell asked if there was any other business to come before the meeting. Hearing none, the president asked for a motion to adjourn. It was moved by Trustee Romein and seconded by Trustee Lee that the meeting be adjourned. Upon voice vote, all trustees present voted favorably, and President O'Connell declared the motion carried. The President then adjourned the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Approved by me this _____ day

VILLAGE CLERK

of _____, 2009

VILLAGE PRESIDENT