

MAY 1, 2006
REGULAR MEETING
7:30 P.M.

Regular meeting of the Village Board held at the Village Hall and called to order by President Peterson with the following members present: Schmitt, Austin, Ryner, Kness, Peterson, and Johnson.. Absent: Molburg.

Motion by Ryner, second by Schmitt to approve the April 3, 2006 regular meeting minutes. Roll call votes: Austin – aye, Kness – aye, Ryner –aye, and Schmitt – aye. All votes were in favor, and the motion was carried.

Mr. Richard Willems present to listen in on the presentation of the sewer system options and drainage problems.

Mrs. Nancy Shull present concerning the water standing and the overgrown grass at the property across from her residence (former Harris Ag) at south Sixth Avenue. The Board noted that the property had been mowed, and Village Attorney Steele (present) stated that a 48 hour notice for abatement can be made. President Peterson stated that when the area becomes a problem, to please notify the Village, and he also asked Police Chief Carr to check on the area as a nuisance.

Sheila Daves present and requested a larger tube to let water drain away from her property, because the last hard rain flooded her property. Trustee Austin went to the property that night, and President Peterson and Trustee Kness looked at the area that night, also. Trustee Austin stated that the surface water was draining, but coming up through Ms. Daves' drains. President Peterson asked Ms. Daves where her drain goes to, and she replied that the drains went to a ditch. She stated that when the rain goes over the road, the water doesn't flow through the culvert. President Peterson stated that the culvert is clean, and the ditch goes to flat ground and then to the field which is higher than the ditch. President Peterson stated that the Village has dug the ditch and put in a new tube with that work done by Bill McMeekan Excavating. Ms. Daves stated that she wants a bigger tube under the road, but she does not know where her tile drains to. President Peterson explained about the drainage tile. The Board asked Ms. Daves to find out where her tile outlet is and come back to inform the Board, and the Board agreed to have John Roegiers, engineer, to take a look at the area to see if there is a problem.

John Roegiers, engineer from Missman, Stanley and Associates, present to report on his meeting with Jenna Link of the Mercer County Health Department and Trustee Kness on the Village's drainage problems. Mr. Roegiers reviewed the situation on the drainage problems, the health department, IEPA, and the known discharge of raw waste that began last July. He stated that the investigation would be costly and that there are a couple of homes that could be dyed and water tested to spot the location, but nothing may be found, but if something is found the next step would be to have the resident fix the situation. Mr. Roegiers stated that it is a Village wide problem, with more problems popping up, and it is an old problem according to original information from the IEPA. He stated that if the problem area by the highway is resolved, it may include 7 – 9 homes on that line, and the water would have to be identified (such as washing machine discharging to a ditch – surface water that is not allowed). The Board noted that Jenna Link of the Mercer County Health Department was invited to come to this meeting, but

was unable to attend. Mr. Roegiers stated that Ms. Link was concerned with having homeowners solving the problem now with that cost, and then more cost if the Village puts in some type of system. President Peterson explained the history of the drainage problems.

Mr. Roegiers stated the Village's options: long term option would be a sanitary sewer system which is very expensive with difficult funding; lots are smaller and checklist would be done when the home is sold to check septic with the undersized lots for septic system, and Jenna Link stated that the multiflow for small lots is used; the other option is to keep the septic tank in service and trap the solids with the Village cleaning out every three years and a treatment system for waste coming off the solids. Mr. Roegiers explained this STEP System and stated that Coyne Center has one with everyone having a septic tank. He said that the undersize septic tank would have to be replaced, and someone would be needed to determine the size needed and what is required by probing the corners to find the size and then taking inventory of the home size. He also stated that a treatment plant and operator would be needed. President Peterson asked what the next step for the Village to take is. Mr. Roegiers stated that the next step is to identify the cost, user charge, and where the treatment plant would be for a STEP System. He stated that Stronghurst has this system, but regulations can change at anytime. Mr. Roegiers stated that the Village would own and operate the septic tank, and it would come down to a numbers game. Trustee Kness stated that Jenna Link of Mercer County Health Department stated that they could ignore the problems until the Village has a system in place. Village Attorney Steele stated that the Village needs to make a decision to do individual treatment with the homeowner to take care of the problem when found and still requiring Mercer County to come in with Jenna Link to assist with running the dye test, or do the STEP System with giving Mr. Roegiers the authorization to look at cost, or a sewer system. Motion by Schmitt, second by Austin to get estimates including the cost of the engineer to work on a study of the two systems, the STEP System with central treatment and the central sewer and collection system through John Roegiers, Missman, Stanley, and Associates Engineers.. Roll call votes: Kness – aye, Schmitt – aye, Ryner – aye, and Austin – aye. All votes were in favor, and the motion was carried. President Peterson stated that he would call Jenna Link of the Mercer County Health Department to help identify the three problem areas.

Police Chief Carr presented the April 2006 police report. He reported warnings, citations, dog complaints, mileage at 25,247, deputies working better duty, and he will meet with Todd Greenman on the IRA. Chief Carr also stated that he and Officer Chapman will do the violations list, that the car was fixed and the camera is back on. The Board requested that the Chief Carr extend his hours due to the summer season and more kids running about. Chief Carr stated that he is still looking to move to the Village. The Board agreed to have a Police Committee meeting next month.

Trustee Ryner stated that on April 24, 2006 the Cub Scouts had a bicycle safety program, and that Chief Carr helped and did a good job.

Nancy Shull present and stated a complaint that she sees Chief Carr on duty during the day too much. The Board stated that Chief Carr has work and duty to do, and may be called out during the day, but that they just asked Chief Carr to extend his hours to later patrols.

Donna Dolan present concerning the burning ordinance. Clerk Johnson gave Mrs. Dolan a copy of the ordinance.

Sheila Daves, present and asked about what the handicap people can use to drive. The Board and Chief Carr stated that it must be a licensed vehicle to be on the streets and alleys.

President Peterson stated he was still trying to contact Brian Easley about the work at his property.

President Peterson reported that maintenance employee Ralph Morrow had fallen and broken his ribs and would not be working for six weeks or longer, but that Richard Bland was back and had a release from his doctor and is mowing.

Village Attorney Steele stated that the employment of minors would be limited to the ages of 16 years and over to use the mower. He was not sure of the Village's worker's comp policy's coverage.

President Peterson stated that the Village did have an individual apply for maintenance work, and that he will meet with him. The Board tabled any action on options for the 16 – 18 year olds mowing. The Board agreed that if there is any maintenance situation, Board members may be called in to help.

President Peterson stated that the ball games have been scheduled for the Ball Park, the Depot Park will have a Memorial Day celebration for the new monument and flag memorial with the Board welcome to attend, and the Park Committee was to look over the parks. Trustee Kness stated that the Ball park back stop fencing needed to be extended higher about ten feet at a cost of \$80 to \$150 so that balls would not come back towards the stand or seats. He stated that the Ball Association would do the work and that they have some materials already.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Austin to extend the baselines and back stop fencing at no more that \$150 in cost. Roll call votes: Austin – aye, Schmitt – aye, Kness – aye, and Ryner – aye. All votes were in favor, and the motion was carried.

President Peterson reported that the watertower had been maintained and the report was that it looks great, and the company will send more information on the OSHA requirements.

Kevin Willems, treasurer, present with the annual treasurer's report for the fiscal year May 1, 2005 through April 30, 2006.

Motion by Kness, second by Schmitt to accept the annual treasurer's report for the fiscal year 5/1/05 through 4/30/06. Roll call votes: Schmitt – aye, Kness – aye, Ryner – aye, and Austin – aye. All votes were in favor, and the motion was carried.

Motion by Kness, second by Schmitt to rehire Blucker, Kneer, and Associates and auditors for the 2006 audit at a cost of \$2,950. Roll call votes: Austin – aye, Ryner- aye, Kness – aye, and Schmitt – aye. All votes were in favor, and the motion was carried.

President Peterson noted that next year is the Village's 150th anniversary and a committee is making plans.

President Peterson reported on the NIMS project.

The weather warning siren test was tabled.

The 2006-2007 committee list was presented.

The 2006-2007 meeting list was presented.

The Board agreed to have a solar light put in on the Depot Park memorial with the cost of materials to be paid by the Depot Park Committee. Trustee Schmitt stated he

would volunteer is labor and recommended the solar light at a cost of \$50, since the memorial walkway was done and there would have to have been trenching done for electricity.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Kness to authorize the April 2006 bills. Roll call votes: Kness – aye, Schmitt – aye, Austin – aye, and Ryner – aye. All votes were in favor, and the motion was carried.

Motion by Schmitt, second by all to adjourn. Voice votes: all votes were in favor, and the meeting was adjourned.

Claudine D. Johnson, Village Clerk