

FEBRUARY 6, 2012

REGULAR MEETING

7 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: Loving, Trout, Schmitt, Gibeau, Kness, James (7:05 P.M.), Peterson, and Johnson. Absent: none.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Gibeau to accept the January 2, 2012 regular Board meeting minutes. Roll call votes: Kness – aye, Loving – aye, Trout – aye, Gibeau – aye, and Schmitt – aye. All votes were in favor, and the motion was carried.

Tom Whiting present and gave President Peterson a prepared statement. President Peterson read the statement concerning vehicles on Main Street that were abandoned.

Police Chief Stotts reported on the problem vehicles tagged, and trying to contact the owner but no answer at their door, so notices were stuck in the door. Chief Stotts stated that he did give notice, and there was no valid registration or license.

President Peterson stated that vehicles have to be licensed and stickered with in the Village or it is a violation of the Village's ordinance, which then causes written notification or verbal notification (7 days) by Chief Stotts. President Peterson stated that he told Chief Stotts he had to give notice due to the no valid registration and the vehicles were unlicensed, and that Tom Whiting had 7 days to license his vehicles. President Peterson said that he talked to Tom Whiting about the vehicles, and he said they were not licensed, and President Peterson gave Tom Whiting 7 more days to come in compliance. President Peterson stated that he told Tom Whiting he could cover the vehicles with a tarp, and once they were covered, they would be in compliance.

Scott Frenell present and asked about the semi-trailers behind the Depot. President Peterson told him that the Village is in the process of taking care of them.

Tom Whiting requested the \$100 fee for the tow truck be returned to him, and felt there was an issue with the notification. Chief Stotts stated that he gave Tom Whiting notice two times, and President Peterson gave him notice one time.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Trout to return \$100 to Tom Whiting for the tow truck fee due to a question of the proper written notification to Tom Whiting. President Peterson asked Tyler Whiting, present, to notify Tom, his brother, that the fee for the tow truck of \$100 would be returned to him. President Peterson stated that vehicles in violation can be covered up, not hidden by other vehicles, or put in a garage.

Charles David present concerning tearing down his present house and putting a new one in its place. The board directed Mr. David to the zoning Officer Olson. The Board did notify Mr. David that the house could not be burned down in the Village, but could be torn down and hauled away. Mr. David stated that he was looking at a double wide modular home with a full foundation. Again, the Board directed Mr. David to the Village's zoning Officer David Olson.

Police Chief Stotts presented the January 2012 police report. He demonstrated a new machine to test alcohol present in the air, drink, or breath, and stated the cost was \$325, but could be purchased with SVF/drug and alcohol funds. President Peterson questioned why the Village needed this machine, and Chief Stotts stated that the Village had to use Mercer County to take the person in to check for alcohol. Police Chief Stotts continued his police report with 113,142 miles on the squad, 101 served, 32 tickets, 9 warnings, ILEAS mandatory class for him on March 4,5, and 6, 2012 at a cost of \$175 for the 2 ½ day class, and he requested \$50 for food. Chief Stotts stated that Officer Meier had back surgery today, and that he would be off duty during his recuperation. Chief Stotts reported 1 attempted suicide, 2 more vehicles in violation, a DCFS child case, and would like to change the tow stickers and is checking into that, and is preparing a grant for a new squad. Also, Chief Stotts recommended that Zac Devlin, 507 North Fifth Avenue, New Windsor, take the Power Test and have the Village sponsor him for the class to become a part time officer that would meet one week end a month for six months (beginning the first of September). He said that Mr. Devlin is now a correctional officer for Mercer County and a veteran, and that the schooling would cost \$1,350 and the Power Test would cost \$30, but Mr. Devlin would have to pass the Power Test before he would be accepted into the class.

Motion by James, second by Gibeau to allow Chief Stotts to attend the ILEAS schooling with the Village paying the \$175 fee and the \$50 food allowance. Roll call votes: Kness – aye, Loving – aye, Trout – aye, Schmitt – aye, Gibeau – aye, and James – aye. All votes were in favor, and the motion was carried.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Gibeau to sponsor Zac Devlin for police officer training at a cost of \$1,350, and the Power Test at a cost of \$30, with Mr. Devlin having to pass the Power Test before attending the training. Roll call votes: Trout – aye, James – aye, Schmitt – aye, Gibeau – aye, Kness – aye, and Loving – aye. All votes were in favor, and the motion was carried.

The Board tabled action on the breath machine until they could get Village Attorney Steele's opinion on the matter.

President Peterson reported that former police Chief Clayton Brendal is being sued for action taken in 2010 concerning a renter for Eric Jones, and since Mr. Brendal was the Village's Police Chief at that time, the Village is also named in the case. President Peterson stated that Attorney Steele is aware of the matter, and that Mr. Brendal has stated that Eric Jones, as owner, changed the locks on the property due to no payment and that the renters had left, but the renters returned and asked Brendal if they could break in, and he advised them, that they could not.

President Peterson reported that Ameren IP will be trimming trees in the near future within the Village.

President Peterson stated that the maintenance department had made a list of cracked or broken sidewalks, but that he has asked them to prioritize them listing the worst ones first.

President Peterson reported that the easements for the sewer project are done and legally correct, and that he and engineer Scott Kammerman had met concerning the easements. He also stated that there would be a meeting February 23, 2012 at the Village Hall beginning at 11 A.M. with the two USDA representatives, Attorney Steele, Bi- State's Megan Overton, Engineer Kammerman, Clerk Johnson, and himself to go over the step by step process for the USDA loan/grant application, and that a meeting will be set up every month to continue with the progress of the sewer.

Scott Kammerman present to inform the Board about the breaking up of the sewer project into two phases as recommended by the USDA, and that this approach does look favorable, but the Village would do the loan application commitment on the first phase, and then do the second phase, so that the Village is assured that both phases would be funded.

President Peterson stated that he would have letters sent to all residents who would have easements, and set up a time to meet with them. He also noted that Clerk Johnson is becoming a notary to assist with the paperwork on the signing of the easements.

President Peterson stated that the water superintendant would need to set a date to flush hydrants with notification being placed in the New Windsor Advertiser of the dates, and non-working hydrants be tagged and the Fire Department notified.

President Peterson reported that the Mercer County Highway Department overcharged the Village during the 2011 MFT street oiling and chipping by \$826.96, but that this amount would be refunded to the Village.

President Peterson reported that the MFT fund was audited, and the Village was given a report on what funds can be used for such as mowing of right of ways.

President Peterson reported that the maintenance department used the tractor to put the spreader on the truck, but that they are still looking into a hoist.

President Peterson had Maintenance Supt. Bland have all fire extinguishers checked and upgraded so that they abide by the code.

Motion by Kness, second by Schmitt to donate \$25 to the Sherrard High School post prom. Roll call votes: Kness – aye, Gibeau – aye, Schmitt – aye, Loving – aye, Trout – aye, and James – aye. All votes were in favor, and the motion was carried.

Fire Chief Scott Frenell stated that parking at the Skribbles Day Care and Apartments is difficult for the Fire Department to get into since they park out front, but felt the parking should be on an angle. The Board noted that this was not a Village matter.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Kness to authorize the January 2012 bills. Roll call votes: Loving – aye, Trout – aye, James – aye, Schmitt – aye, Gibeau – aye, and Kness – aye. All votes were in favor, and the motion was carried.

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

Claudine D. Johnson, Village Clerk