

MARCH 2, 2015

REGULAR MEETING

7 P.M.

Regular meeting of the Village Board held at the Village Hall and called to order by President Schmitt with the following members present: Loving, Trout, Whiting, Kness, Schmitt, and Johnson. Absent: Gibeau.

Motion by Trout, second by Whiting to accept the February 2, 2015 regular meeting minutes. Roll call votes: Loving – aye, Kness – aye, Trout – aye, Schmitt – aye, and Whiting – aye. All votes were in favor, and the motion was carried.

Mr. Eric Jones present concerning his property on Main Street. Mr. Jones asked the Board if permission had been given to Sheila Shull, adjoining property owner, to drive on his property. They stated they had not, and President Schmitt stated that he had told Ms. Shull that she needs to stay on her property and get a permit from IDOT for an entrance off the highway. President Schmitt also stated that this is a civil matter between Mr. Jones and Ms. Shull, and the Village has five feet in at the pole as an easement.

Ms. Sheila Shull present concerning the ticket she received for leaving a fire unattended. President Schmitt read the complaint and said that the matter was up to the judge, Chief Stotts, and Attorney Mark Kelly on the \$75 ticket she received. Ms. Shull stated that she felt harassed by the Village. She complained of a light shined by the Police Chief at 4 A.M. and beating on her door, that she would not answer, and she called Mercer County Sheriff's Department. Chief Stotts stated he shines a light when people are walking in the dark or alleys, and that he had tried to contact her at her home.

Ms. Shull complained about the court costs and fees, and that she had wanted to pay the \$75.00 ticket, but the judge set the fee at \$599. She said she would not pay that amount, and the next hearing date is May 7, 2015. The Board stated that it is up to the judge

John Hamilton present with a complaint on a semi-truck running eleven hours across the street from his home. Mr. Hamilton stated that the truck ran for 6 ½ hours and blew smoke at his property. Chief Stotts reported that he had talked to the owner's boss, and the matter should be settled, because the owner found a new place to park the truck. The Board acknowledged that school buses on Fifth Avenue run over an hour to warm up, and those semi-trucks should only run one hour.

Wilbur Brooks present to complain that Chief Stotts was working in Swedona, and was in Alpha twice, and last week was at the east end of Aledo. Chief Stotts stated that at 8:12 A.M. he had been at the State's Attorney's office in Aledo on a police matter, that there had been an accident with two cars hit in New Windsor, but caught in Alpha with two tickets issued, and that he is called out by Mercer County, and also does reciprocal work with other Villages. Chief Stotts told Mr. Brooks that he had not

run radar in Viola at the Casey's, and the Board stated that Viola used the Village's police vehicle while theirs was being worked on. Chief Stotts stated that he communicates with Mercer County every day, and when he signs on and off.

Police Chief Stotts presented the police report for February. He reported 69 service calls, 9 tickets, 12 warnings 11 call outs, 140,779 miles on the Impala squad and 99,981 miles on the Durango squad, and that he had attended a pipeline safety meeting. Chief Stotts recommended that the Board place ads for police chief applications so that the Village would have someone in place when he retires.

The Board set the CDAP Sewer Hearing for 6 P.M., Monday April 6, 2015 at the Village Hall prior to the regular meeting at 7 P.M.

The Board considered registering 4-wheelers and golf carts in the Village to anyone owning such a vehicle with the owner being at least 16 years of age, insured, licensed, with 2 visible head lights in front and a 2 tail lights in the back.

A Committee meeting of trustees Whiting, Trout, and Kness was set for 10 A.M. Saturday, March 7, 2015 at the Village Hall to prepare an ordinance for a sticker and registration of 4-wheelers and golf carts.

Motion by Whiting, second by Trout to authorize the February 2015 bills. Roll call votes: Kness – aye, Whiting – aye, Loving – aye, Trout – aye, and Schmitt – aye. All votes were in favor, and the motion was carried.

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

Claudine D. Johnson, Village Clerk