

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT
AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
VILLAGE OF STOCKTON
JO DAVIESS COUNTY, ILLINOIS
September 13, 2011**

ROLL CALL

President Brandt called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and asked the Clerk to call the roll. The following responded: Rich Curtiss, Dan Kunz, Jackie Lickes, Howard Rowe, Kevin Stewart and Tim Zueger. Also present were Steve Rice, Doug Wierema, Don Luke, Dale Roberts, Irene Logemann, Lil Townsend and Sally Fischer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

President Brandt announced that Mike Mudge will be coming to the meeting later because of conflict with another Village meeting. A motion was made by Rowe and seconded by Lickes to approve the agenda with the change. All members voting aye; the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Brandt asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the regular meeting of August 9, 2011. Hearing none, he asked for approval. A motion was made by Zueger and seconded by Rowe to approve the minutes of August 9, 2011. All members voting aye; the motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT

President Brandt asked for approval of the Treasurers Report and annual Treasurers Report as submitted by Treasurer Sally Fischer. A motion was made by Rowe and seconded by Zueger to approve the August Treasurers Report as well as the Annual Treasurers report. Voting aye: Curtiss, Kunz, Lickes, Rowe, Stewart, Zueger. Voting nay; none. Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

A motion was made by Zueger and seconded by Rowe to authorize the payment of claims as submitted on List A and List B. Voting aye: Kunz, Lickes, Rowe, Stewart, Zueger, Curtiss. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

POLICE

A motion was made by Zueger and seconded by Stewart to approve the Police Report for the month of August as submitted by Chief Wierema. All members voting aye; the motion carried.

WATER & SEWER

A motion was made by Kunz and seconded by Zueger to approve the Water Report as submitted by Dale Roberts and the Sewer Report as submitted by Don Luke for the month. All members voting aye; the motion carried.

STREET

A motion was made by Lickes and seconded by Zueger to approve the Street Department Activity Report for the month as submitted by JR Gardner. All members voting aye; the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ken Van Horn voiced his concern of residents walking and jogging in the streets rather than using the sidewalks.

NEW BUSINESS

AUDIT

Steve Jordan of WIFPLi LLP attended the meeting to present the 2010/2011 Fiscal Year audit. Jordan started the presentation with the “Communication with those Charged with Governance”. This report would show findings if they encountered difficulties in performing and completing the audit. The “Control Deficiencies Report” which was next referred to explains internal control procedures. He stated a good system of internal control procedures requires segregation of duties so that no one individual can handle a transaction from its inception to its completion. It is the opinion of the audit staff that the village does not currently have a large enough staff to satisfy these requirements, but strong supervision and review by the Board can compensate for this weakness. Jordan reviewed the “Financial Report” and went through the audit page by page and called attention to various items. A motion was made by Zueger and seconded by Rowe to approve the annual audit as presented. Voting aye: Lickes, Rowe, Stewart, Zueger, Curtiss, Kunz. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 550 – GENERAL PENALTY

President Brandt noted everyone received a copy of Ordinance No. 550, “An ordinance amending Title 1, Chapter 4, Section 1 of the Municipal Code of the Village of Stockton, Jo Daviess County, IL.” Clerk Young stated this ordinance addresses any and all ordinances involving fines and has not been amended since 1982 and it will now match state statute. A motion was made by Lickes and seconded by Stewart to pass Ordinance 550 as presented. Voting aye: Rowe, Stewart, Zueger, Curtiss, Kunz, Lickes. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 551 – DOGS RUNNING AT LARGE

President Brandt asked the Clerk to read Ordinance No. 551 entitled “An Ordinance amending Title 4, Chapter 5, Section 1 of the Municipal Code of the Village of Stockton, Jo Daviess County, IL”, which pertained to dogs running at large. A motion made by Zueger and seconded by Kunz to pass the ordinance as read. Voting aye: Stewart, Zueger, Curtiss, Kunz, Lickes, Rowe. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 552 – DISTURING PEACE OR QUIET

Clerk Young read Ordinance No. 552 entitled “An Ordinance amending Title 4, Chapter 4, Section 3 of the Municipal Code of the Village of Stockton, Jo Daviess County, IL.” A motion was made by Zueger and seconded by Stewart to pass the ordinance as read. Voting aye: Zueger, Curtiss, Kunz, Lickes, Rowe, Stewart. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 553 – DEFINING “DANGEROUS” OR “VICIOUS” DOGS AND LISTING THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF OWNERS OR KEEPERS OF SUCH DOGS.

The last ordinance read by Clerk Young was No. 553 entitled “An Ordinance adding Title 4, Chapter 5, Section 7 to the Municipal Code of the Village of Stockton, Jo Daviess County, IL.” A motion was made by Lickes and seconded Zueger to pass the ordinance as read. Voting aye: Curtiss, Kunz, Lickes, Rowe, Stewart, Zueger. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

ZONING

Steve Rice, Zoning Administrator, reported the Zoning Board of Appeals met on September 7, 2011. The first hearing was a variance request from Howard Wilkinson to build a new wooden deck with stairs to the driveway replacing the existing concrete porch stoop and stairs on the front of his home at 111 Blackhawk Drive in the front-yard setback area. The Zoning Appeals Board recommended by unanimous vote to grant his request.

A motion was made by Kunz and seconded by Zueger to approve Howard Wilkinson’s variance request. Voting aye: Kunz, Lickes, Rowe, Stewart, Zueger, Curtiss. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

The second hearing was a request from Dan & Kellie Rhyner to rezone 8.99 acres located west of Stockton High School and on the south side of Route 20 from Agricultural to Highway Commercial. The Zoning Appeals Board also recommended granting their request 4 - 1. A motion was made by Rowe and seconded by Stewart to approve the rezoning request from Agriculture to Highway Commercial. Voting aye: Lickes, Rowe Stewart, Kunz. Voting nay: Zueger, Curtiss. Motion carried.

STATUS REPORTS

Water Main Project

Sharon Pepin of Community Funding & Planning Services reported that the Village was not awarded the CDAP grant for the Water Main Project but the Village has secured the IEPA low interest loan and the 25% forgivable loan. Based upon the construction bid received from Fischer Excavating, the annual debt would be roughly \$49,383 on a 20-year loan, which would result in a monthly debt user charge of \$4.67 per user.

If the project is to move forward, there are a few more details that have to be finalized in order to close on the loan agreement by September 30th. The Village will have to issue a Notice of Intent to Award the project to Fischer Excavating. This is subject to IEPA’s review and approval of Fischer’s bidding and contract documents. Trustee Rowe asked if

this was our last opportunity to say yes or no to the project. Sharon Pepin stated that the Village still has the opportunity to not finalize and to not enter into an agreement for the IEPA loan. She stated that IEPA will no longer be offering the 25% forgivable loan and the 1.25% interest rate will be increasing to 2% or 2.5% after October 1. Rowe stated he didn't like the idea of putting the Village in more debt but we really need to do this project and upgrade our undersized water mains.

A motion was made by Kunz and seconded by Lickes to issue a Notice of Intent to Award the project to Fischer Excavating. Voting aye: Rowe, Stewart, Zueger, Curtiss, Kunz, Lickes. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

It was noted contract award will be pending IEPA concurrence of the recommended bidder.

MSA will prepare a Professional Services Agreement for Construction Related Services for the project for \$60,800.00. IEPA has indicated that this contract may be amended by the Village for additional technical assistance from MSA during the course of the construction as necessary.

A motion was made by Kunz and seconded by Stewart to authorize President Brandt to execute the Professional Services Agreement from MSA. Voting aye: Stewart, Zueger, Curtiss, Kunz, Lickes, Rowe. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

TIF

The Village passed an Inducement Resolution in July, and the owner has turned in a TIF application form. An Economic Development Committee meeting will need to be scheduled to discuss a possible redevelopment agreement.

Dura Road Project

The Village also has received a letter from Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) granting a two-year extension to the Economic Development Program grant it received for the Dura Roadway Project to January 2014.

Hudson & Front Streets

Matt Wagner, of Willett Hofmann and Associates reported the concrete curb and gutter, sidewalk, and driveway work has been completed by B Squared Concrete. Remaining hot mix work is scheduled to begin on Monday, September 19th with hot-mix laid on September 20th. A final pay estimate and change order for the curb and gutter was submitted. The original contract amount was \$11,754. Additional curb and gutter was added in front of the fire station on Hudson Street, between the alley on Hudson and where the curb replacement was scheduled, and in front of the fire station on Front Street. A request is being submitted for a change order in the amount of \$1,912.95 and a pay request in the amount of \$13,666.95 using MFT funds contingent of receipt and review of the final payroll. A motion was made by Rowe and seconded by Zueger to approve the pay request and change order as submitted. Voting aye: Zueger, Curtiss, Kunz, Lickes, Rowe, Stewart. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

B-Squared Concrete will be submitting a bill for the sidewalk and driveway work that is being paid out of the general fund.

Landfill

Wagner also reported that the location of new gas probes at the landfill has been marked. The probes should be installed within the next two weeks by Leggette, Brashears & Graham, Inc. in an effort to speed up the process to finally be able to close the landfill.

Committee Reports

WATER & SEWER

Trustee Kunz reported on the August 22nd and September 8th committee meetings. He reported that we have received an estimate of \$5,143 to rebuild the backup storm water pump at Cherry Street. Additional estimates to repair or replace have been requested. We are also getting quotes to repair or replace pumps at the sewer plant that are leaking. The committee discussed an ordinance change to have check valves installed on new construction or line replacement. No decision was made. The results of the Water Main bid opening of August 22nd were also discussed as well as discussion on whether to proceed with the project as reported earlier.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

A meeting is scheduled for September 28th at 6:30 p.m.

STREETS

Kevin Stewart reported that the committee met on the August 15th to discuss the washout caused from water runoff at the Bob Douglas residence at 202 E Carpenter Avenue. The Douglas's have requested assistance with paying for improvements recommended per a quote they received. The Village will offer assistance under the Village's new curb and gutter program.

FORESTRY & SIDEWALK

Chairman Rowe reported they received two bids for tree removal and trimming to be completed this fall. The two bids received were from Fransen Tree Service for \$4,300 and Mullen Tree Care for \$4,400. Rich Curtiss stated he felt we should stay with Mullen who has done this work for the Village in the past. A motion was made by Rowe and seconded by Stewart to accept the bid from Mullen Tree Service, Nora, Illinois for \$4,400 for removal and trimming. Voting aye: Curtiss, Kunz, Lickes, Rowe, Stewart, Zueger. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

Rowe also stated that we have planted 10 new trees this year.

PERSONNEL

Jackie Lickes reported that the Personnel committee met on August 15th to review applications received for the full-time police officer. Also discussed was residency requirements and setting up pay scales for all village positions. It was decided to

advertise again for the officer position and have background checks done on the applications received.

Hire Part-time Police Clerk

The personnel committee met on August 16th to review the applications received for the part-time police clerk position. Three people were interviewed on September 6th and all were well qualified. A motion was made by Lickes and seconded by Stewart to hire Amy Haas through Furst Staffing Service – at a rate of \$10.00 an hour beginning on October 3, 2011. She will be working three days per week.

Trustee Lickes also stated that they will be interviewing candidates for the fulltime police officer position on September 14th.

POLICE

Trustee Zueger reported that the committee also met on August 15th. They reviewed the four ordinances which were passed previously tonight.

Also discussed was the purchase of a new squad to replace the 2005 Dodge Durango. This purchase was not budgeted and there was discussion about how to pay for a new vehicle either by amending the budget or wait until new state purchase information becomes available. The recommendation is to wait and budget for a new car next fiscal year.

FINANCE

A committee meeting was scheduled for September 28th to discuss deficiency in the water fund (following the Economic Development committee meeting).

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED

Mike Mudge of Rock River Energy Services came to the meeting to discuss municipal aggregation. The Illinois Power Act regulates the Public Utilities in the State through the General Assembly and the Illinois Commerce Commission. Recently the act was amended, adding section 1-92 which is the aggregation of electrical load by Municipalities and Counties. This sets the rules and regulations in which local governmental bodies can aggregate the residential and small commercial retail electrical loads within the municipality, then solicit bids and enter into service agreements to facilitate those loads for the sale and purchase of electricity. The residents will have multiple opportunities to “Opt Out” of the program during its inception if they do not want to participate. ComEd will still be the delivery company responsible for delivering the power to the homes and businesses and handle any emergency repairs. The City of Fulton was the first municipality in Illinois to go through the process. There must be an ordinance passed by the Village Trustees and then placed on the ballot for the March 20, 2012 Consolidated Election.

If the aggregation referendum is successful, the Village will seek bids for electricity rates for residential and small business property owners who do not opt out of the program. Only energy suppliers certified by the Illinois Commerce Commission give proposals. Mr. Mudge’s goal is to help people get the lowest price they can for their electricity.

President Brandt felt this is a great opportunity to take advantage of the new law to benefit the residents and small businesses and save them money. Mudge will be providing the sample ordinances to allow the board to move forward.

OTHER BUSINESS

Clerk Young stated that we have received a check from IEMA for reimbursement of expenses incurred during the 2011 severe winter storm in the amount of \$7,173.29.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Stewart and seconded by Rowe to go into executive session for the purpose of compension of personnel at 9:20 p.m. Voting aye: Lickes, Rowe, Stewart, Zueger, Curtiss, Kunz. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

The board returned to open session at 9:55 p.m. following a motion by Rowe and seconded by Lickes. Voting aye: Rowe, Stewart, Zueger, Curtiss, Kunz, Lickes. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

EXTEND RESIDENCY

A motion was made by Lickes and seconded by Zueger to extend the residency requirement for Don Powers to June 1, 2012. Voting aye: Stewart, Zueger, Curtiss, Kunz, Lickes, Rowe. Voting nay: none. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Kunz and seconded by Rowe that the meeting be adjourned at 10:00 p.m. All members voting aye; the motion carried.

APPROVED

ATTEST
