

VILLAGE OF ATWOOD

Board of Trustees Meeting

March 15, 2010

Village President Ronald E. Wallace brought the Atwood Village Board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building. Those recorded present were Jim Tholen, Tyson Wingler, Gloria Litwiller, Jeremiah Osborne and Gene Greek. Joe Streit was recorded absent.

MINUTES: MOTION: Tholen made a motion to accept the minutes as presented seconded by Greek. **VOTING:** All aye; motion carried.

WATER & SEWER: Greek reported that a water and sewer committee meeting was held Thursday, March 11, 2010 at the Municipal Building at 5:30 p.m. with Osborne, Tholen, and Greek – Chairman and Mayor Wallace present. **Rate Ordinance:** The committee reviewed the ordinance in its final form for presentation to the board for approval. **Softener Salt Bids:** Three bids have been received for opening and acceptance at the board meeting. **Summer Help:** It is the intent of the Water and Sewer Department to hire a temporary employee for the summer to do some painting, cleanup, and general maintenance work. The employee would be hired to work approximately June 1 to mid-August. **New Owner Turn-On Fee:** The committee decided to table discussion on this matter until the next monthly meeting when all fees may be discussed. **Water and Sewer Dept. Operations:** During the month of February, 2010, the water department processed an average of 117,580 gallons of finished water per day. For the month a total of 3,292,240 gallons of finished water were produced. The wastewater treatment plant operated within all I.E.P.A. standards. **Adjournment:** 6:00 p.m.

FINANCE: Tholen reported that the finance committee meeting started at 6:00 p.m. on March 11, 2010 at the Municipal Building with Greek, Osborne, Mayor Wallace, Wingler and Chairman-Tholen present. A draft of the proposed budget has been assembled. There are a lot of concerns especially if the State reduces the amount of revenue the Village receives from the Local Government Distributive Fund (LDGF) from 10% to 7%. This would mean a loss of \$23.10 per capita or a reduction from \$77/person to \$53/person or a total revenue loss of approximately \$30,000. The State is currently in arrears to the Village approximately \$30,000. The committee will look at lowering the 2011 budgeted expenses. The water tower debt can be retired early by five years. The loan had required that the Village put money aside in a fund. This fund now has enough money in it to pay off the loan which will save the Village in interest payments. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

STREET & ALLEY: Osborne reported that the Street and Alley committee meeting convened at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal building with Tholen, Greek, Mayor Wallace, Wingler and Chairman-Osborne present. The committee discussed the railroad crossings and the possibility of talking to US State Representative Tim Johnson or State Representative Chapin Rose for assistance; discussed creating a truck route to keep heavy trucks off of side streets; semi parking – was decided was fine as it is; discussed the mosquito sprayer and spraying cost of a machine and contract spraying, may need a new sprayer or lease one, the current spraying has to meet code requirements; discussed needing the backhoe serviced, the cost would be around \$1,000; discussed two hour parking signs uptown, replace or do away with; discussed other street and alley projects for this summer; storm water catch basins added in some places; the street and alley committee will meet with Andy Hanfland, Friday 9 a.m. to look over the streets and discuss the motor fuel tax fund.

POLICE: Wingler reported that the police committee started at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 9, 2010 at the Municipal Building. Those present were Wingler-Chairman, Streit, Litwiller, Chief Ponder, and Officer Jimenez. The 2011 budget was discussed; the schedule and how this year's budget will affect the amount of police coverage the Village will provide and how much coverage is currently being run; some personnel issues were discussed, that motion will be made later in the meeting; Chief Ponder purchased a new computer for the evidence room and new phones with built in caller ID; Officers Jimenez and Gerberding are now certified Field Training Officers; the meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

PARK, INSURANCE, BUILDING & WASTE MANAGEMENT: Litwiller reported that the committee met on Tuesday, March 9, 2010 at the Municipal Building at 8:03 p.m. with Wingler, Streit and Litwiller-Chairman present. Litwiller handed out a picture of the playground equipment she will be purchasing for the park; the concession stand needs to be repainted; the Little League is purchasing about six yards of concrete (\$600) and two loads of rock, the concrete and rock will be paid for by the Village with the Little League furnishing the labor, the expense will be taken out of the park maintenance fund, the Little League will pay for any concrete expense over the six yards, will need to borrow the Village's sidewalk forms and ask that Rick Myers use the backhoe to dig out the areas for the concrete (under both big diamonds bleachers and a walk area by the concession stand; the Little League would like to put small out buildings behind the dug outs for bases and equipment, the committee feels these buildings would just be vandalized and they still have adequate storage in the concession stand; the Little League will be ask not to put up these buildings; the Little League now wants to put boxes with equipment in them by two big diamonds (if the Little League does the upkeep and keep them looking nice) the committee was favorable to the idea. The committee is looking at May 15, 2010 for clean up day and May 17, 2010 for metal day. Litwiller will talk with Matchbox to see if they are available and the price of 30 – square containers. The committee discussed metal day and feels they would like to find someone else to pick up metal because of the situation last year. See if it would be beneficial for Myers to haul the steel or still have someone else do it. There are no recommendations on which would be best as of this date. The committee is also checking into grants for the park. Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

CIVIC IMPROVEMENT: The Civic Improvement committee met at 7:35 p.m. on Tuesday, March 9, 2010 at the Municipal Building with Chairman-Streit, Litwiller and Wingler present. The committee discussed the \$2,000 request from the Atwood Chamber of Commerce; discussed the wind turbine report; still nothing on the energy gas co-op; received information from Andy Hanfland on an industrial park; meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

MADDEN: John and Jackie Madden were present to discuss the problem they had with water coming up through their sewer. The Maddens stated that they have had to turn in three claims since they have lived in this house. They were very thankful for the help and support they received from Officers Jimenez and Heckler and Trustee Tyson Wingler. Also, thank you to help of Rick Myers and Allen Romine after they found numbers to reach them. Jackie Madden read a statement to the Village board and showed them pictures of the damage done to their home. The homeowners stated that they had snaked out their sewer line on November 29, 2009. They feel that there was too much water in the house from just a short blockage. The water was forced to the upstairs level of their home pushed up through the stool and around the stool and then ran down the stairs to the kitchen and basement and also through the basement ceiling. They are out their deductible. They also lost food, personal items, and dishwasher, besides having to live in the mess. The neighbors to the north of Madden's have had two insurance claims and have gurgling in their sewer lines when they run their dishwasher. Maddens ask that the Village please check the sewer lines and post emergency numbers. They did pop off the clean out caps to help release the pressure in the sewer lines. Sewer line – sump pump is hooked up to the sewer system, this is illegal. The Maddens had a river of water running down their hallways. It was stated that eight sump pumps will fill an eight inch sewer line. It was stated that need to stop a business from running storm water into the sewer system before can go after homeowners.

OLD BUSINESS:

WATER & SEWER RATE ORDINANCE: MOTION: Greek made a motion to approve Ordinance Number 2010-0-1 an ordinance amending Article III of Chapter 11 of the ordinance of the Village of Atwood, Illinois, entitled: Water and Sewers seconded by Litwiller. **VOTING:** Tholen, yes; Wingler, yes; Osborne, yes; Litwiller, yes; Greek, yes; motion carried. This ordinance increases the water and sewer rates. There is also a provision that after fiscal year 2011, and beginning with the first billing in each subsequent fiscal year, the water and sewer rates will be increased by 3% each fiscal year. The 3% annual increase will continue for each subsequent fiscal year unless modified or ceased by Village Board action. Greek read a letter sent to the Village by Paul Burlett dated 3/15/10.

NEW BUSINESS:

RABIES CLINIC: There will be a rabies clinic held at the Atwood Maintenance Building, April 24, 2010 from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. The Village Clerk plans on being present for Village Animal Tags.

SOFTENER SALT BIDS: Greek opened the softener salt bids received. Cargill: \$87/ton for one year with fuel and delivery included. Gunther: \$96.85 with delivery and fuel included. Morton: No Bid. **MOTION:** Greek made a motion based upon the bids received to accept Cargill's bid at \$87/ton with fuel and delivery included with the bid being good for one year beginning in May 2010, seconded by Tholen. **VOTING:** Osborne, yes; Litwiller, yes; Wingler, yes; Tholen, yes; Greek, yes; motion carried. The water plant only ran for nine hours one day last week. When West Prairie disconnects the water plant will run less and use less softener salt.

NEW OWNER TURN ON FEE: Tabled.

PRELIMINARY BUDGET FY'11: Tholen reported that the Village has only received \$63,000 so far of \$116,000 proposed from income tax revenue for the FY'10 budget year. The Village is going to have a hard time meeting the budget this year let alone next year. The Village may only receive \$86,000 this fiscal year. Illinois Municipal League estimated Gov. Quinn's cut in income tax revenue to \$53.90/person from \$77.00/person. Replacement Tax Township may be affected. Sales Tax is running a little more than budgeted. Some other short falls may exist. The Village is having trouble putting together a budget when there is no way of figuring out what the Village will get from the State. A budget is just a guideline of revenue and expenditures. New maintenance truck that was going to be in the budget at a cost of \$10,000 per year lease may have to wait. There also may have to be cuts in the police department. February 2010 Sales Tax reviewed and it is two to three months late getting to the Village from the State. Short fall guess: \$30,000 to \$35,000 this fiscal year.

REVIEW AND PAYMENT OF INVOICES: MOTION: Osborne made a motion to pay the invoices as presented seconded by Litwiller. **VOTING:** Greek, yes; Tholen, yes; Wingler, yes; Litwiller, yes; Osborne, yes; motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

CENSUS SURVEYS MAILED OUT TODAY: The Village encourages all citizens to fill out the census and mail it back in. The population of Atwood determines how much revenue the Village receives from certain taxes.

ATWOOD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: The Atwood Chamber of Commerce garage sales will be June 4 and 5, 2010.

An indoor community garage sale will be held at the fair grounds in Arthur at the Merchants Building on May 1, 2010.

CLEAN UP DAY & METAL DAY: Litwiller reported again that clean up day will be May 15th and metal day will be May 17th. The 30 square containers will cost \$423.00 each. The committee will discuss doing something different with metal pick up day, whomever the Village gets to do metal pick up needs to be insured. Osborne will ask Myers time and cost. **MOTION:** Litwiller made a motion to set clean up day Saturday, May 15, 2010, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. and metal day Monday, May 17, 2010, metal will be picked up in front of residences, seconded by Osborne motion carried.

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Mayor Wallace read a letter from the Atwood Chamber of Commerce concerning the festival and requesting a donation of \$2,000 from the Village, the same amount the Village donated last year. The Mayor read what the money was expended for last year. Debbie Chenoweth is the Chamber President and is asking for extra help for the festival. The Civic Improvement discussed the donation in their committee meeting but it is going to come down to what the budget can handle.

Legal expenses spent out of the general fund this fiscal year is \$2,679.01 on a \$5,000 budget; the police have spent \$1,338 out of \$2,000 budgeted so far. The attorney fees are increasing this fiscal year to \$180/hour.

At the end of this month West Prairie may disconnect from Atwood's water system.

The village received a notice from the State that if the village opted out of video gaming they would be charged a surcharge. The 30% revenue from video gaming is to help fund the capitol bill. This passed into law January 1, 2010 but licenses won't be ready until October 2010.

IPTIP Interest: IPTIP (Village's saving accounts) Interest is very low. The board is thinking about moving their savings to the local bank.

School: Readiness for emergencies requirement, need to seek cooperation with local groups. Mayor did sign and send back to the AHHS. February 3, 2010 sent in for Village's assistance, police and fire department were received also.

Restrictions on garbage franchise fees: The board will check to see if have to do anything concerning this.

Lake Fork Construction: The Mayor had Lake Fork Construction prepare a bid for new windows in the Municipal Building. The bid was to remove and dispose of four windows. Install new Herschberger windows with clear glass. Insulate and caulk around windows. Two picture windows = \$820 and two casement windows = \$1,175 for a total of \$1,995 with labor being figured according to prevailing wage rate for February 2010. Wingler reported that Paris has windows that are 40 x 48 at a cost of \$700 for four.

Mayor Wallace and Trustee Osborne will go over the streets this Friday with Andy Hanfland.

Community Fluoridation: The Village maintained a perfect rating for fluoridation meeting the fluoridation law. The Village will receive a plaque in recognition of meeting the requirements. EPA testing services will pay in May for entire year. No lead and copper testing for Atwood are needed this year per the IEPA.

Superintendent of Water and Sewer, Allen Romine stated that if anyone has trouble with their sewer or has sewer problems, hear gurgling in their sewer pipes, please, call, the Village.

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POLICE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL: MOTION: Wingler made a motion to accept the resignations of Dan Gregory, Feb. 22, 2010; Kent Jones, Jan. 28, 2010; Travis Brown, Jan. 20, 2010; and Chad Loudon, Jan. 29, 2010 seconded by Litwiller. **VOTING:** Tholen, yes; Greek, yes; Osborne, yes; Litwiller, yes; Wingler, yes; motion carried. **MOTION:** Wingler made a motion to terminate William A. Bailey with cause, seconded by Tholen. **VOTING:** Osborne, yes; Litwiller, yes; Greek, yes; Tholen, yes; Wingler, yes; motion carried.

An audience member complained of a big black dog running loose.

ADJOURN: MOTION: Greek made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Tholen. **VOTING:** All aye; motion carried.

Cindy L. Ard
Village Clerk

Ronald E. Wallace
Village President