

VILLAGE OF ATWOOD

Board of Trustees Meeting

June 15, 2009

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

MINUTES: MOTION: Litwiller made a motion to accept the regular and special meeting minutes as presented seconded by Greek. **VOTING:** All aye; motion carried.

WATER & SEWER: Greek reported that the water and sewer committee met on Wednesday, June 10, 2009 at the Municipal Building at 5 p.m. Those present were Osborne, Tholen, Greek – chairman and Wingler. 1. Flow Meter Installation: One flow meter site has been checked and cleaned for flow meter installation on East Orchard Avenue. The remaining two flow meters will be installed as intended locations are checked and cleaned. An adapter is on order to connect computer to the flow meters for data collection. A gas meter also will be ordered to check gas levels in manholes before entering and cleaning (\$1,000). 2. Lift Station Project: No word yet as to when the project will start. Grant requests have been made for two sources of funding: I.E.P.A. - \$150,000, (prospects for receiving grant, slim and none); State construction bill \$100,000, (prospects for receiving the grant, our request is included in the bill as now before governor for signature). Our loan request for \$85,000 through the local bank should be received for the Village's approval within the next few days. 3. Student Help: Marshall Wierman has been hired by the Water & Sewer Department as a temporary, part – time employee for approximately the next two months. Marshall will be involved in department maintenance (clean – up, painting, setting and monitoring flow meters, etc.) Marshall started work on June 7, 2009. 4. Water and Sewer Rates: The committee has begun a study of the current rate structure for the water and sewer customer services. If the village does not receive any grant money for the lift station project, an increase in both rates will be necessary. The commercial loan of \$85,000 will cost \$11,075/year for a ten year payback and cannot be financed out of current water and sewer revenues. If some level of grant funding is received, rate increases may still be necessary to counter increased operating costs within the Water and Sewer Department and possible future withdrawal of West Prairie Water Company from the present contractual agreement. The village needs to be prepared for either alternative and at what level of rate increase, if any, is necessary. 5. Water and Sewer Department Operations: During the month of May, 2009, the Water Department processed an average of 131,329 gallons of processed water per day. A total of 4,071,200 of finished water were processed for the month. The wastewater treatment plant operated within all I.E.P.A. standards. 6. Other Business: None. 7. Adjournment: 5:45 p.m.

FINANCE: Tholen reported that the Finance Committee meeting began at 5:45 p.m. with all present. The committee discussed the Prevailing Wage Rate Ordinance and the Appropriation Ordinance. Tholen talked with Connie England, Village Treasurer, and she stated that there will be no treasurer's report for tonight's board meeting. May ending and year ending not balancing for the first time in twenty five years, technical support couldn't find what's wrong, will check the bank statement again. There may be something wrong with the program.

STREET & ALLEY: Osborne reported that the radio for downtown music will be wired up by Harris Companies. Tall grass properties: some mowed, others still trying to locate the owners. Weeds not dying and have sprayed three times, think the rain is causing a problem. Need to be cleaning out catch basins. The street and alley committee feels an edger needs to be purchased to keep the downtown groomed. Mosquitoes have been sprayed for one time. U-joints went out on one of the trucks. Discussed new stop signs be added and children playing signs be added. Road work was postponed due to the rains. The roads will be patched in anticipation of being oiled. 400 feet of oiling will be moved from one area and put in front of the Grade School. Meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

POLICE: Wingler reported that the Police Committee met on June 10, 2009 at the Municipal Building starting at 7:05 with Wingler – chairman, Streit and Litwiller present. Prior to clean up day on June 6th police department sent out letters encouraging use of clean up day services. Two cadets volunteered and one community service worker helped pick up items. The cadets who helped were Marion Erwin and Brandon Heckler. Six Atwood residents were helped. This service by the Atwood police department will be continued next year.

Reviewed May status report, requested that the Chief add a few lines to the report for the new car so village can help keep track of maintenance. Shift coverage should be at 24/7 coverage. Three officers have requested for more hours. We are doing our best to make sure all shifts are covered. We have received resignations from two part-time police officers and possibly a third who have not worked for the village in a long time. The committee discussed the hiring of two new part-time police officers.

The car grant money has been received in the amount of \$13,735.00. The Village's cost will be \$4,578.00 for the car and approximately \$2,500.00 for the equipment for the car. Chief Ponder will be able to pick up the new police car in approximately six to seven weeks. The car will be a 2009 or 2010 Chevy Impala. Chief Ponder will be taking the equipment out of the old Chevy Impala that can be used in the new car and then will be selling the old Chevy Impala.

Chief Ponder has applied for a grant through the JAG for new Mobile Data Computers. Chief Ponder has requested three computers, one for each of the squad cars and one for the PD.

Jeremiah Osborne has requested additional stop signs be put on West Orchard Avenue where it meets with North Missouri Street, on West Hickory Avenue where it meets North Missouri Street and West Forest Avenue at Ohio Street. Chief Ponder agrees with the need for the placement of these stop signs.

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Placement of the speed limit signs for the business district and trimming of trees for all traffic signs in town was discussed. The committee would like to see the ahead sign moved 500 feet north and south and install 20 mph signs where reduce signs were installed.

Chief Ponder requested that the committee consider some new ordinances. The committee asked that Chief Ponder bring the proposed ordinances to next months meeting for review. Streit would like Chief Ponder to attend the meeting next month.

The committee discussed the AED requirements for the park. Streit commented that there are going to be changes to those requirements.

Wingler passed on information that he received at the Newly Elected Officials Conference he attended in Bloomington on June 4th.

Adjourned meeting at 7:40 p.m.

CIVIC IMPROVEMENT, TOURISM, & SPECIAL PROJECTS: Streit reported that the meeting was brought to order at 7:48 p.m. with Streit (Chairman), Litwiller and Wingler in attendance.

Due to the weather and some medical complications, the artist that was going to paint at the old hardware store has not been able to complete the project. No expenses were incurred, so nothing is really lost.

The receiver for the music to be played in the downtown speakers was removed from the tourist center so it can be relocated into the police department. It hopefully will be up and running soon.

The First State Bank of Atwood will soon have a 24hr ATM at the drive-through window. Regarding the Apple Dumpling festival, Streit is waiting to hear back from Lite Rock 97.5 about a possible promotion or sponsorship.

The Atwood Women's Club has planted flowers downtown, and the Committee would like to thank them for their excellent work and devotion to the image of Atwood.

Streit and the Village Attorney have reviewed the agreement with Alternate Energy Solutions, Inc. (AESI) and President Wallace has signed to enter into a partnership to install a meteorological tower. The met tower may be up by July 15th. The Village of Atwood has requested half of the funds from the Illinois Clean Energy Foundation, which will be immediately paid towards AESI's service. The Village Attorney is working with the Attorney for the Stiehl family to create a Lease Agreement and with Mr. Reed Fombelle to create an Easement Agreement.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

PARKS, INSURANCE, BUILDINGS AND WASTE MANAGEMENT: Litwiller reported that the committee meeting was held on Wednesday, June 10th at 8:15 p.m. with Streit, Wingler and Chairman Litwiller present.

Litwiller has been in contact with Katy at Illinois Risk Management Association, the Village's insurance company, about the met tower liability. Katy talked to Rick Wolar from Alternate Energy Solutions. Once the met tower is constructed and installed then Litwiller will contact Katy and have the tower included on the village's insurance policy. The tower was estimated to be insurable at \$20,000.00 and Katy will issue a certificate which we can provide to AESI. The additional cost for the tower to be on the village's policy will be an annual premium increase of \$32.00.

The committee discussed the AED's having to be at the park. Streit reported that the requirements are changing and we should just hold off. Streit did suggest that we become a member of Heart of the Community, which is an organization that will provide a PAD program. A PAD program provides training to the proper personnel and maintains an AED and a physician signs off, therefore a trained person is not liable for any civil damages as a result of the use of an AED. There is no fee for joining this program or organization and the committee feels we should become a member of Heart of the Community.

Clean up and Metal Days went fairly smooth. WSW complained to Rick Myers about Fred Honaker picking up the metal. Myers called Litwiller while they were still standing there, I explained to Myers that I, Litwiller, was given a contract, it was a copy of a contract from Honaker to WSW salvage about them taking over his business. Honaker called Litwiller about ten days later and said that WSW Salvage was not living up to their part of the contract and that he was taking the business back. Litwiller then verbally contracted the Metal Day for June 8th with Honaker doing the pick up. Litwiller explained this to Myers and have not heard any more on the situation.

The park needs a trash can by the SE diamond, check the water fountain, and glass needs to be picked up by the handicapped parking spot, talked to Myers about the merry-go-round. Litwiller will look into these items and take care of them if need be.

Committee also discussed the road at the park and Litwiller will talk to a Piatt Forest Preserve representative.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

EXPENDITURE TO CLEAN STORM SEWERS ON MAIN STREET: MOTION: Osborne made a motion to approve up to \$1,800 to clean storm sewers, in one day, from the beginning of North Main Street to the end of South Main Street, seconded by Tholen. **VOTING:** Greek, yes; Streit, yes; Litwiller, yes; Wingler, yes; Tholen, yes; Osborne, yes; motion carried.

MFT ROAD BIDS SPECIAL MEETING: The minutes were read from the special meeting of June 5, 2009 held at noon. The purpose of this meeting was to accept and approve a bid for the Village's road oiling. The Village received only one bid from Earl Walker Company Inc. in the amount of \$20,598.00. This bid was \$200 less than the engineers estimate. A motion was made and the bid was accepted. The village was looking at using two different types of rock to see which one would hold up the best but can't get pea gravel right now so will go with the crushed rock which is cheaper and may work out better.

ZONING BOARD APPOINTMENT: MOTION: Wingler made a motion recommending Brad Frantz be appointed to the Village of Atwood Zoning Board of Appeals, seconded by Osborne. **VOTING:** Streit, yes; Tholen, yes; Litwiller, yes; Greek, yes; Osborne, yes; Wingler, yes; motion carried. Mayor Wallace swore in Brad Frantz as a member of the Village of Atwood Zoning Board Appeals.

NEW BUSINESS:

PREVAILING WAGE RATE ORD.: MOTION: Tholen made a motion to accept ordinance number 09-O-1 an ordinance approving the generally prevailing hourly wage rates for all laborers, mechanics and other workmen employed in any public works by or on behalf of the Village of Atwood, Illinois for the period from June 1, 2009 through May 31, 2010, seconded by Greek. **VOTING:** Wingler, yes; Osborne, yes; Streit, yes; Litwiller, yes; Greek, yes; Tholen, yes; motion carried.

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE: MOTION: Tholen made a motion to accept ordinance number 09-O-2 an ordinance making appropriations for the Village of Atwood, Piatt and Douglas Counties, Illinois for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2009 and ending April 30, 2010, seconded by Greek. **VOTING:** Litwiller, yes; Wingler, yes; Osborne, yes; Streit, yes; Greek, yes; Tholen, yes; motion carried.

PURCHASE OF MESSAGE BOARD: Wingler reported that he is recommending to the Village that they purchase a large one sided message center. The message center would cost \$758.00 with a cost of \$54.50 for shipping for a total cost of \$812.50. Wingler has spoken with Heidi Apperson about the location the message center and she agreed to allow the sign. Wingler believes that with the sign located by the post office notices will be more visible. There is money in the Reserve for Development account with Wingler requesting no more than \$950.00 to be spent. The message board will be 42 ½ x 29 with an interior display and lockable. Only community notices will be allowed to be displayed in the message center. **MOTION:** Wingler made a motion to purchase the message center and to not exceed \$950.00 in expenditures, seconded by Litwiller. **VOTING:** Osborne, yes; Greek, yes; Tholen, yes; Streit, yes; Litwiller, yes; Wingler, yes; motion carried.

HIRING OF TWO PART TIME POLICE OFFICERS: Chief Ponder and the police committee recommend that Chad Loudon be employed as a Village of Atwood part time police officer. Loudon is planning on living in town and he also works as an officer for the Piatt County Sheriff's Department. **MOTION:** Winger made a motion to hire Chad Loudon as a Village of Atwood part time police officer, seconded by Osborne. **VOTING:** Streit, yes; Greek, yes; Litwiller, yes; Tholen, yes; Osborne, yes; Winger, yes; motion carried. There are currently twelve part time officers on the Village's roster. Officers are required to return the village's equipment when they resign.

REVIEW AND PAYMENT OF INVOICES: MOTION: Tholen made a motion to approve the payment of bills as presented, seconded by Greek. **VOTING:** Litwiller, yes; Streit, yes; Winger, yes; Osborne, yes; Greek, yes; Tholen, yes; motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

BURNING ORDINANCE/JOYCE BERG: Joyce Berg was present to inform the Village that she is allergic to petroleum products. Also any fumes from petroleum products. Berg did state that the Village Clerk informs her when the roads are going to be oiled and appreciates it very much. Berg would like to see the village go to a no burn ordinance. A neighbor burned a pile of brush that had accumulated for a year and used an accelerant made out of a petroleum product. The neighbor stated that she had waited to burn the brush pile because she new it was going to upset Berg. She said she notified Berg. The current village burn ordinance allows residents to burn yard waste products (sticks, leaves, garden waste, and brush) only. Berg stated that a propane torch or charcoal would not bother her; they give off no petroleum fumes. She said that Mrs. Fleener is welcome to come over and borrow their propane torch to burn the brush.

ADJOURN: MOTION: Tholen made a motion to adjourn seconded by Osborne. **VOTING:** All aye; motion carried.

Cindy L. Ard
Village Clerk

Ronald E. Wallace
Village President