

VILLAGE OF ATWOOD

Board of Trustees Meeting

July 20, 2009

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

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

WATER & SEWER: Tholen read the water and sewer report for Greek. The water and sewer committee meeting was held July 15, 2009 at the Municipal Building at 5:00 p.m. with Osborne, Tholen, Greek – Chairman, Wallace and Wingler. 1.) Flow meters: The three flow meters have been installed at the following locations: Orchard Ave. / Wisconsin St., Orchard Ave. / Main St., and Orchard Ave. / Missouri St. Data is being collected and transferred to computer files for future analysis. 2.) Standby Generator Housing: The standby generator housing at the wastewater treatment plant is being renovated. The building is being re-roofed and the building is being covered with new vinyl siding. The work is being done by village employees. 3.) Lift Station Project: A required legal ordinance authorizing the village to borrow \$85,000 for the construction of a new lift station at the wastewater treatment plant has been prepared by the Village's Attorney. Approval of the ordinance is the final step in the loan approval process and secures financing for the lift station project. Also, the village has been informed by State Representative Chapin Rose that the Governor has signed the State Construction Bill which includes a \$100,000 grant for the lift station project, although it is not known when the grant money will be available. At this time, it is not known when construction will begin on the project; but reimbursement to the contractor for materials purchased will be required before construction begins. 4.) Water and Sewer Rate Increase: The committee continues to study the need and amount of an increase to the village's current water and sewer rate structure. Until the lift station project funding sources are known, and in what combination (grant, loan, village), the committee will continue to study the type of increase: percentage, flat rate, or some combination there of. Some type of rate increase will be required to cover the village's cost of \$35,000 or \$50,000 for the project. 5.) Water and Sewer Dept. Operations: During the month of June, 2009, the Water Department processed an average of 133,926 gallons of finished water per day. A total of 4,017,790 gallons of finished water were processed for the month. The wastewater treatment plant operated within all I.E.P.A. standards. Other Business: None. Adjourned committee meeting at 5:45 p.m. The Village is not sure if West Prairie Water Company will be purchasing water from the village in the near future. Right now they purchase approximately \$28,000 of water yearly. The company is building a new water tower on Rt. 133 near Arthur.

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FINANCE: Tholen reported that Kevin Huffman, the Village's Auditor, was in the Municipal Building for a couple of days last week doing the annual audit. Huffman will return again in August.

STREET & ALLEY: Osborne reported that the Street and Alley Committee met on July 15, 2009. The meeting started at 5:55 p.m. Those present were Chairman – Osborne, Greek, Tholen, Wallace and Wingler. The committee discussed cleaning the storm sewers on Main Street. Osborne has talked with Universal Mechanical; they talked like the storm sewer would be cleaned out some time this week. The street and alley department has got some rock chip in to start blotting the roads on hot days. The truck with the rock spreader on it is rusting out and may have to move the spreader to a different truck. The committee talked about tilling up the ditch on the south side of the park to the north of the cities road to allow better drainage. The committee also talked about getting prices for the labor for oiling and chipping the roads at the park, the Piatt County Forest Preserve board said they would pay for the oil and chip if the village would pay for the labor; Osborne has not been able to get any prices yet. Rick and Korey did get some work done to the railroad crossings, the railroad will have to do the rest do to the other areas the village cannot mess with close to the rails. Discussed about scarifying North Wisconsin Street next year before oil the roads and possibly seeing if Garrett Township would help. May have to lease a machine to finish the mosquito spraying this year, the village may have enough chemical to do approximately three sprayings, then the machine will have to be updated and calibrated to meet the new standards for the chemicals. The weather has really made it difficult to spray mosquitoes this year. The wind and temperature has not been where spraying would be effective and at \$30 + a gallon it's not very cost effective to spray if it's not going to work. The village talked about looking over the ordinance and procedures when the Village has to tear up driveways for drainage or if the owner requests new culverts. The village talked about getting rid of the old fire truck so can use the building for storage. The truck hasn't been used in years and is in the way. The meeting adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

POLICE: Wingler reported that the police committee met on July 17th at the Municipal Building at 5:00 p.m. with Wingler (chairman), Streit, Litwiller and Chief Ponder present.

Discussed car grant, there is a change in the price from what was originally quoted. The price is higher because it includes some equipment that the village would need to install. We will be getting the car from Decatur or Springfield instead of Joliet. The police committee is planning on selling the 2002 Chevy police car to a company in Chicago for \$1,507.00. When the new car has been received all of the equipment will be taken out of the Chevy and someone from Chicago will then come and pick the Chevy up.

Chief Ponder went over some ordinances he would like the board to consider. The Chief will bring drafts of them to the August committee meeting.

The committee talked about the time clock policy and how it would affect the department. Chief Ponder will bring some suggestions to the August committee meeting.

The committee went over the invoices for equipment. One will not be paid at this time because we have not received the equipment yet.

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Discussed long grass ordinance, a letter will be sent out to individuals about this issue.

Litwiller stated she had received a complaint about several foxes in the south east part of town. Chief Ponder said he was aware of a den on South Kentucky Street. A trap was placed but no luck in catching them, and that they had moved on. Ponder will contact Douglas County Animal Control and see when they can come back and try to locate them. Meeting adjourned at 5:46 p.m.

CIVIC IMPROVEMENT, TOURISM & SPECIAL PROJECTS: Streit reported that the meeting was brought to order at 5:47 p.m. with Streit (Chairman), Litwiller and Wingler in attendance. Also present was Cliff Ponder, Atwood Chief of Police.

Streit gave an update regarding the meteorological tower installation. The Stiehl's have signed a lease agreement with the Village, and the community has entered into an easement agreement with the adjacent landowner to gain access to the tower site. On June 25th, Alternate Energy Solutions, Inc. installed the ground anchors for the tower. The full tower will be erected soon.

The committee discussed the need for an Ordinance in regards to a concern from a resident who is receiving rain water on their property from their neighbor's gutters.

The meeting adjourned at 5:56 p.m.

PARK, INSURANCE AND WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE: Litwiller reported that a meeting was held on Friday, July 17th at 5:56 p.m. with Wingler, Streit. Chief Ponder and Chairman Litwiller present.

Discussed lights being out east of the pavilion and who's responsibility it is to fix. Litwiller will find out. Also discussed the fact that the diamond lights have been on and no one is around. Wingler will have the officers' watch for this problem when doing their town checks. The committee is working on estimates for the repairs of the road that runs by the pavilion and then goes north and then the north road that runs east.

The committee discussed a few changes on the insurance list with the meeting adjourning at 6:04 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

STOP SIGN ORDINANCE: MOTION: Osborne made a motion to accept Ordinance Number 09-O-3 an ordinance establishing stop signs in Atwood, Illinois at the West end of West Hickory Avenue, West end of West Orchard Avenue at North Missouri Street and West Forest Avenue at Ohio Street requiring East bound traffic to stop where it meets Ohio Street, seconded by Litwiller. **VOTING:** Streit, yes; Tholen, yes; Wingler, yes; Litwiller, yes; Osborne, yes; motion carried.

LIFT STATION ORDINANCE: MOTION: Tholen made a motion to accept Ordinance Number 09-O-4 an ordinance authorizing the Village to borrow funds and the President of the Board of Trustees to sign a promissory note and associated documents, seconded by Osborne. **VOTING:** Litwiller, yes; Osborne, yes; Wingler, yes; Streit, yes; Tholen, yes; motion carried.

ZONING VARIANCE: Wingler reported that the Village of Atwood Zoning Board of Appeals held a public meeting to discuss a variance request for the property located at 104 Camelot Drive. The owners are asking for the setback at the rear property line be 10 feet instead of the 20 feet set back by ordinance. The meeting was held Thursday, July 16th at 7 p.m. at the Municipal Building. Letters were sent out to residents who live within 300 feet of the property in question. The village received no complaints from residents. The zoning board recommends to the village board that the variance be approved. **MOTION:** Wingler made a motion to accept the recommendation of the zoning to approve the variance request at 104 Camelot to change rear setback from 20 feet by ordinance to 10 feet, seconded by Osborne. **VOTING:** Tholen, yes; Streit, yes; Litwiller, yes; Tholen, yes; Wingler, yes; motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

MESSAGE BOARD: Wingler reported that the message board is up.

PAYMENT OF INVOICES: Streit would like for the coding of the invoice for the music speakers being moved be coded from the Reserve for Development Account. **MOTION:** Streit made a motion to approve the payment of the invoices as presented with the noted coding change, seconded by Tholen. **VOTING:** Osborne, yes; Wingler, yes; Litwiller, yes; Tholen, yes; Streit, yes; motion carried.

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

Cindy L. Ard
Village Clerk

Ronald E. Wallace
Village President

