

Village of Albers

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“Providing security and services to improve the quality of life for our residents.”

PRESIDENT, Steve Schomaker

TRUSTEES:

Scott Athmer

Cliff Behrmann

Kevin Kenow

Mike McDermid

Kent Schwierjohn

Jeff Timmermann

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF ALBERS PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES HELD ON July 10, 2023

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: President Steve Schomaker called the meeting to order at 7:15p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Trustees Athmer, Kenow, McDermid, and Timmermann were present at roll call. Behrmann and Schwierjohn were absent, their absences were excused.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR SESSION MINUTES MEETING June 12, 2023: The Board reviewed the minutes from Regular Session meeting on June 12, 2023.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermid to approve the minutes as presented. Timmermann seconded the motion. Vote was 4 - yeas, 0 - nays; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The Agenda was reviewed.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Kenow to approve the agenda as presented. Timmermann seconded the motion. Vote was 4 - yeas, 0 - nays; motion carried.

OTHER VILLAGE OFFICIALS: Clerk Morris, Chief Vielweber, Attorney Terry Bruckert, Water & Sewer Superintendent Horstmann and Streets & Lighting Superintendent Rolves were in attendance. Treasurer Hubert and Zoning Administrator Brendel were absent, their absences were excused.

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE: Dave Wellen, resident, was in attendance to observe.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

IMPROVEMENTS & PARK - Scott Athmer, Chairman: Athmer updated the Board that renovation of the JC Hall is proceeding with demolition of the interior having begun and Engelmann Construction scheduled to start this week.

POLICE AND DISASTER RESPONSE - Cliff Behrmann, Chairman: President Schomaker presented on behalf of Behrmann. President Schomaker asked the Board to consider a pay increase for Chief Vielweber effective May 01, 2023, to \$30/hour. President Schomaker also added that Chief Vielweber has been searching and submitting grants on behalf of the Village and community organizations and this will continue as part of Chief's job duties. The Board discussed the increase.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Timmermann to pay Chief Vielweber \$30/hour effective May 01, 2023. Kenow seconded the motion. Vote was 4 - yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

Chief Vielweber thanked the Board for the pay increase and stated that he looks forward to serving the community.

Police Chief's Report – Chief Brian Vielweber: Chief Vielweber presented the Police Chief Report.

Chief Vielweber updated the Board that the security cameras are running with viewing available in all squad vehicles and remotely on his cell phone. He thanked Kenow and McDermid for their technical recommendations and guidance on installing the cameras. Chief Vielweber noted the benefits of the security cameras, including a recently issued citation to a non-resident illegally using the Village dumpster viewed via the technology.

President Schomaker thanked Chief Vielweber to professionally responding to recent storms in the area and thanked him for his concern for the safety of all Albers residents.

WATER & SEWER - Kevin Kenow, Chairman: Kenow updated the Board on the agreement with TWM Engineering for overseeing the removal of sludge from the Village lagoon system, noting Superintendent Horstmann is coordinating with TWM Engineering monitoring and removing the sludge.

Kenow updated the Board that he is waiting to be contacted by representatives of Clearwave Communications concerning installation of fiber-optics within village-limits. He noted that an engineering plan and bonds will be required if/when Clearwave Communications proposes installation in the Village of Albers.

Kenow updated the Board on the sewer ponds, noting oxygen levels, are improving and water visibility is clearing with the strong odor has been eliminated. He assured residents that efforts are continuing in clearing the sewer ponds and the Village understands the importance of properly maintaining the sewer ponds.

Water & Sewer Superintendent – Chris Horstmann: Superintendent Horstmann reported 9.78% loss for June, with an average of 15.83% loss for the previous twelve months.

FINANCE - Mike McDermid, Chairman: McDermid presented committee reports to the Trustees.

McDermid updated everyone who attended the public meeting held immediately before the Board of Trustees meeting and thanked all Trustees, President Schomaker and Attorney Bruckert for their support in providing the best ambulance service for our residents. McDermid noted an ordinance finalizing the creation of the special service area in the Village of Albers will be presented for passage at the August meeting. President Schomaker thanked Attorney Bruckert for his instrumental guidance finding solutions to providing the best ambulance service for Albers residents, noting his hard work restructuring current special service areas.

McDermid noted the current AmerenIL electrical rate is currently lower than the agreed Village municipal aggregation rate with Constellation New Energy, reminding all in attendance that the rates may change weekly and the Village is currently under contract with Constellation New Energy. McDermid stated that the Village may update residents with options of receiving the best rates in the near future if/when necessary.

The Board reviewed invoices totaling \$47,545.28.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermid to pay invoices totaling \$47,545.28. Kenow seconded the motion. Vote was 4 – yeas; 0 – nays; motion carried.

Treasurer's Report - Cindy Hubert, Treasurer: Treasurer Hubert was absent, her absence was excused. McDermid presented the Treasurer's Report in Treasurer Hubert's absence.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermid to accept the Treasurer's Report. Athmer seconded the motion. Vote was 6 – yeas; 0 – nays; motion carried.

McDermid reminded the Board that the Improvements Fund has been closed, transferring the balance to the Water & Sewer account.

ZONING - Kent Schwierjohn, Chairman: President Schomaker presented on behalf of Schwierjohn. President Schomaker updated the Board that amendments to the Enterprise Zone are proceeding, with more information expected in the upcoming months.

President Schomaker updated the Board that the Kniepmann Subdivision is proceeding with a Planning Commission meeting to be scheduled when the final plat is presented.

Zoning Administrator's Report - Jeannie Brendel, Administrator: Administrator Brendel was absent.

STREETS & LIGHTING - Jeff Timmermann, Chairman: Timmermann updated the Board that the sidewalk extension agreement on North Commercial Street with Clinton County has been filed with the Clinton County Clerk's office. Updates will be reported as they become available.

President Schomaker updated all in attendance that the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) recently announced improvement plans spending \$7.4million on State Route 161 between North Charles Street and Meadowlark Drive in the Village of Albers in the upcoming ten years. Phase I has been released, providing funds for pre-planning, engineering and easements to proceed as scheduled by IDOT.

Streets and Lighting Superintendent's Report - Eric Rolves, Superintendent: Superintendent Rolves updated notified the Board that streets will be oiled Thursday, September 14, 2023, and a map of designated street will be available soon.

OLD BUSINESS: No Old Business was presented.

NEW BUSINESS: President Schomaker asked the Board to consider a 9% pay increase for Clerk Morris, effective May 01, 2023. The Board discussed the request.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Athmer to increase Clerk Morris' pay by 9% effective May 01, 2023.

Timmermann seconded the motion. Vote was 4 – yeas; 0 – nays; motion carried.

Clerk Morris thanked President Schomaker and the Board for their confidence and promised to work hard to continue serving the residents of Albers.

President Schomaker thanked everyone for supporting the Albers Blast-Off Parade & Fireworks! on Monday, July 03! He noted the outstanding attendance at this year's event and how the day showcases the best of our community.

President Schomaker thanked everyone who for attending Music in the Park Thursdays during June and July, featuring live, local bands from 7p.m.-9p.m. at the Lehrter/JC Park Stage.

President Schomaker asked the Board to consider a \$100 hole sponsorship to the Clin-Clair Fire Department (CCFD) Golf Scramble to be held on Saturday, August 12, 2023.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Athmer to donate \$100.00 to the Clin-Clair Fire Department (CCFD) Golf Scramble. McDermid seconded the motion. Vote was 4 – yeas; 0 – nays; motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: No Executive Session was held.

ADJOURNMENT: A MOTION WAS MADE BY Kenow to adjourn the meeting. Timmermann seconded the motion. Vote was 4 – yeas; 0 – nays; motion carried.

Brenda Morris, Village Clerk