

# 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 March 11, 2024

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: President Steve Schomaker called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m.

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

APPROVAL OF REGULAR SESSION MINUTES MEETING – February 12, 2024: The Board reviewed the minutes from Regular Session meeting on February 12, 2024.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Schwierjohn to approve the minutes as presented. Athmer seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas, 0 - nays, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The Agenda was reviewed.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermid to approve the agenda as presented. Timmermann seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas, 0 - nays; motion carried.

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

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE: Brian Engelmann, resident and owner of Engelmann Construction, was in attendance.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

IMPROVEMENTS & PARK - Scott Athmer Chairman: Athmer asked the Board to consider the purchase of two outdoor tables for the JC Hall patio for a total cost of \$2,053.00 from Hangin' Around Playground. The Board discussed the request.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Athmer to purchase two outdoor tables for the JC Hall patio from Hangin' Around Playground not to exceed \$2,100.00. Kenow seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas, 0 - nays; motion carried.

*Stephen Schomaker - Village President*

*Trustees - Scott Athmer, Cliff Behrmann, Kevin Kenow, Mike McDermid, Kent Schwierjohn and Jeff Timmermann*

*Brenda Morris - Village Clerk*

*Cindy Hubert - Village Treasurer*

*Jeannie Brendel - Zoning Administrator*

*Brian Vielweber - Police Chief*

*Eric Rolves - Streets & Lighting Superintendent*

*Chris Horstmann - Water & Sewer Superintendent*



Athmer asked the Board to consider concrete repairs at Lehrter/JC Park near the pavilion. Tree roots have damaged sidewalks/concrete near the park pavilion, causing the concrete to be displaced. Athmer estimated the cost of the project to be around \$4,000.00. The Board discussed the repairs. A MOTION WAS MADE BY Athmer to replace/repair damaged concrete at Lehrter/JC Park, not to exceed \$4,000.00. Timmermann seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas, 0 - nays; motion carried.

POLICE AND DISASTER RESPONSE Cliff Behrmann Chairman: Behrmann asked Chief Vielweber to report on behalf of the Police Department. Chief Vielweber noted that he has been reviewing the current peddler permit ordinances and recommended purchasing decals for homeowners who do not wish to have door-to-door salespeople approach their residences. An initial proposal for printing decals is approximately \$1.00/decals for 500 decals. The Board discussed the proposal.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Athmer to purchase 500 decals at approximately \$1/decals, total expense not to exceed \$500.00. Behrmann seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

Chief Vielweber presented an updated ordinance updating 7-1-7 Notice Regulating Soliciting for first reading and review. The Board discussed the update and asked Chief Vielweber to continue reviewing the ordinance to update as needed.

Chief Vielweber asked the Board to review the proposed agreement between the Village of Albers and Clinton County Highway Department to install a crosswalk beacon at the intersection of North Commercial Street and Dwight Street. The Board reviewed the agreement and discussed the crosswalk.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Behrmann to approve the agreement between Village of Albers and Clinton County Highway installing a crosswalk beacon at the intersection of North Commercial Street and Dwight Street. Timmermann seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

Chief Vielweber updated the Board that current alternative vehicle permits expire April 30, 2024. Renewal letters will be sent to all current permit holders in the upcoming week with renewal fees added to April water/sewer/trash statements.

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

Kenow updated the Board that Chief Vielweber's printer is not working properly, and that he will be ordering a replacement.

WATER & SEWER Kevin Kenow Chairman: Kenow updated the Board asking for approval for TWM Engineers to review estimates for replacing current pipes with flexible pipe on State Route 161. Flexible pipes are being considered to avoid any water line breaks affected by mine subsidence. A MOTION WAS MADE BY Kenow authorize TWM Engineers to review estimates for replacing current pipes with flexible pipe on State Route 161. Athmer seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

Kenow updated the Board that the first round of sealed bids received for the water and sewer extension project on County Road #8 have been denied. The lowest bidder for the project included materials used from previous work, which was unacceptable. Updated bidding guidelines are being reviewed with a new bid process to be conducted.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Kenow to dismiss all bids submitted for the water and sewer extension project on County Road #8 and to rebid the project. Schwierjohn seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

Kenow updated the Board that easements are being prepared for properties involved in the sewer extension project on Albers Road. It was agreed to pay property owners \$5/foot for granting the easements. The easements are expected to be ready within the upcoming week and will be signed and filed as soon as possible.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Kenow authorize easements to be prepared for properties involved in the sewer extension project on Albers Road. Athmer seconded the motion. Vote was 5 – yeas; 1 – abstain; 0 – nays; motion carried.

Kenow updated the Board that Clearwave Communications will be proposing an agreement to be reviewed by the Village of Albers to begin installation of fiber-optic services. The Board discussed the required bond to be held by Clearwave Communications during installation and concerns about the agreement. It was also discussed that on behalf of the Board, President Schomaker may approve the proposed agreement when presented.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Kenow authorizing President Schomaker to sign the proposed agreement after review by Attorney Bruckert. McDermid seconded the motion. Vote was 6 – yeas; 0 – nays; motion carried.

Kenow updated the Board that TWM Engineering is conducting a feasibility study on the extension of water lines on Court Road and that the results will be shared when available.

Kenow updated the Board that bi-weekly curbside yard waste pick up is resuming Wednesday, March 27, 2024. He also reminded all in attendance that yard waste may now be taken to Kalmer Lumber & Pallet on Court Road and is no longer accepted at Lehrter/JC Park.

Kenow noted that TWM Engineers is conducting a feasibility study of a water line extension on Court Road and recommendations will be shared when the study is complete.

Kenow updated the Board that the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) has approved the IEPA Application for Sanitary Sewer Extension on County Road #8.

Water & Sewer Superintendent Chris Horstmann: John Horstmann, representing Certop Inc., reported 8.03% loss for February, with an average of 7.84 % loss for the previous twelve months.

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

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 referred to a letter sent to residents concerning the rates update reminding all residents to remain vigilant when managing their household account.

McDermid updated the Board that bidding for electrical aggregation will be conducted soon. He stated that prices are currently volatile with pricing varying widely, suggesting that the traditional bidding process will not be offered and a preferred vendor being approved rather than a stated rate. He reminded the Board that President Schomaker is authorized to approve the best proposed agreement when bidding is conducted and more information available soon.

McDermid had no new information on ambulance services.

McDermid presented the draft appropriations ordinance for second reading and review. He asked

Trustees to make any necessary updates in the upcoming weeks with the updated draft to be available for public review at the Post Office with final review at the April meeting.

McDermid presented the 2023 Annual Financial Report to the Board. He asked trustees to review the report with more discussion and approval to be considered at the upcoming meeting.

McDermid presented invoices to be paid, the Board reviewed the invoices.  
A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermid to pay invoices totaling \$47,954.58. Timmermann seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - 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. Behrmann seconded the motion. Vote was 6 yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

ZONING Kent Schwierjohn Chairman: Schwierjohn reported that TWM conducted a review of the civil site plans and drainage calculations for the Behrmann Meats site improvements. It was noted that all comments from TWM had been addressed.

Schwierjohn asked the Board to consider updating the current zoning map to include recent annexations and noted that the topic will be discussed at the upcoming Committee Meeting.

Zoning Administrator's Report - Jeannie Brendel Administrator: Administrator Brendel was absent, her absence was excused. Schwierjohn reported one building permit was approved in February totaling \$200.00.

STREETS & LIGHTING – Jeff Timmermann Chairman: Timmermann presented the proposed Streets & Lighting Superintendent contract for review.  
A MOTION WAS MADE BY Timmermann to accept the proposed Streets & Lighting Superintendent contract. Kenow seconded the motion. Vote was 6 yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

Timmermann updated everyone on installing lighting and other safety additions to the crosswalk at the intersection of North Commercial and Dwight Street, previously approved by the Board. He stated that the required agreement to improve the intersection has been requested from Clinton County Highway Department with agreement details to be available at the upcoming meeting.

Timmermann updated the Board that more blocks are needed for erecting the salt shed and the project should be complete in the upcoming week.

Timmermann updated the Board that the sidewalk extension on North Commercial Street is being scheduled with the Clinton County Highway Department. Plans have been received by the Clinton County Highway Department and are currently being reviewed.

Timmermann noted that no action is required on the culvert at the intersection of North Commercial Street and Debra Drive, asking to have it removed from upcoming agendas.

Streets and Lighting Superintendent's Report Eric Rolves: Superintendent Rolves noted that the work order requesting the pole on North Franklin Street to be replaced has been submitted to AmerenIL.

Superintendent Rolves reported that street sweeping has been scheduled and will continue in the upcoming weeks.

OLD BUSINESS: No Old Business was presented.

NEW BUSINESS: President Schomaker updated the Board that projects at Lehrter/JC Park are being considered by the Park Board. Specific projects include erecting a fence around the basketball court and painting basketball/pickleball lines on the court.

President Schomaker asked all interested residents to complete the on-line survey concerning internet services in Clinton County. The survey is being conducted through a partnership with University of Illinois and Clinton County officials and may be accessed at <https://go.illinois.edu/ConnectClintonCounty>.

President Schomaker announced the 2024 Lenten Food Drive being promoted by St. Bernard & St. Damian Catholic Churches. Donations are being collected to help support residents of Cairo, IL, served by DayStar Community Programs, he encouraged community support of this important effort.

President Schoamker updated everyone of ongoing meetings with representatives of Norfolk Southern Railroad and Exxon/Mobil concerning the recent mine subsidence and train derailment. He stated that assisting affected residents and working towards solutions that best serve the Village of Albers are priorities.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: No Executive Session was held.

ADJOURNMENT: A MOTION WAS MADE BY Schwierjohn to adjourn the meeting. Timmermann seconded the motion. Vote was 6 — yeas; 0 nays; motion carried.

*Brenda Morris, Village Clerk*