

# 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 08, 2024

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

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

APPROVAL OF REGULAR SESSION MINUTES MEETING - JUNE 10, 2024: The Board reviewed the minutes from Regular Session Meeting on June 10, 2024.

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

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

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE: Steve & Angie and Kohlbrecher; Bob & Melissa Netemeyer; Matt & Laurie, Lily and Lane Netemeyer; Karen Schroeder and Tracy Session were in attendance to promote the Tee'd Off with ALS Golf Scramble. Maggie and Michelle Peters; Elliott Rakers; Bailey Rinella and Gail Wade were in attendance to promote the 2024 Community Link Buddy Walk. David Wellen, Albers resident, was in attendance to observe. Dave Wellen, resident, was in attendance to observe.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

IMPROVEMENTS & PARK - Scott Athmer Chairman: Athmer was absent.

POLICE AND DISASTER RESPONSE Cliff Behrmann Chairman: Behrmann asked Chief Vielweber to report on behalf of the Police Department.

*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*



*We Care, We Recycle*

Chief Vielweber reported that the solar control boxes for the crosswalk being installed on North Commercial Street are being replaced and will be installed later this week.

Chief Vielweber noted a lightning strike affected the surveillance cameras at Lehrter/JC Park and cameras will be operational as soon as repaired.

Chief Vielweber noted that decals for homeowners who do not wish to have door-to-door salespeople approach their residences. Decals are available at Village Hall, Tonnies Hardware & Rental and Albers FCB Bank.

Chief Vielweber updated the Board that issues with alternative vehicle permit holders are being addressed. The Board and Attorney Bruckert reviewed the letter to be mailed to all current permit holders reminding everyone of the importance of complying with Village and State of Illinois guidelines when operating alternative vehicles and approved mailing to all permit holders. Chief Vielweber assured the Board that the police department will continue enforcing traffic safety, including alternative vehicles, and the letters will be mailed in the upcoming week.

Chief Vielweber thanked Kenow for assisting in installing software for the body worn cameras.

President Schomaker thanked Chief Vielweber and Kenow for volunteering to clear a residents property. He commended their efforts in helping keep Albers clean and dedication to service.

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

President Schomaker thanked Chief Vielweber for coordinating with Norfolk Southern Railway in requesting funding for an alternative vehicle for the police department and storing the newly acquired fire truck by Clin-Clair Fire Department.

WATER & SEWER Kevin Kenow Chairman: Kenow updated the Board on replacing water lines on State Route 161 near Thole Road with flexible lines in an effort to avoid damage from mine subsidence. He noted that Exxon is reviewing change orders submitted on the project with no issues expected on replacing the lines.

Kenow updated the Board that no updates were available concerning Clearwave Communications.

Water & Sewer Superintendent Report: Logan Johnson, Certop Water Operator, was in attendance.

Operator Johnson updated the Board that the sewer ponds are being monitored daily and new aerators are operational with oxygen levels increasing. President Schomaker thanked Operator Johnson for efficiently managing the current sewer pond concerns.

Operator Johnson noted that completed Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) Service Line Surveys are required from all water customers. The surveys are being received from all customers with continuing follow-up on surveys not yet received. 100% compliance is required by the IEPA and Operator Johnson ensured that requirement will be met.

Operator Johnson noted that the Annual Quality Drinking Water Report required by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) has been submitted and is available for review at Village Hall.

FINANCE - Mike McDermid Chairman: McDermid was absent, his absence was excused. President Schomaker reminded the Board that the Municipal Aggregation Agreement with Homefield Energy has been signed and will be effective December 01, 2024, at a rate of 8.954 ¢/kWh, which is expected to be lower than AmerenIL rates. He noted the current AmerenIL electrical rate is currently lower than the agreed Village municipal aggregation rate with Constellation New Energy, reminding all residents 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.

President Schomaker updated the Board on the Albers Ambulance Special Service Area. He noted that creating the area seems to be on track with cooperation from officials from Damiansville, New Baden and Lookingglass Township to partner in establishing an independent ambulance district in the near future. President Schomaker stated that petitions will be circulated soon with the item to be included on the November general election ballot.

President Schomaker asked Attorney Bruckert to update the Board on the asbestos lawsuit currently involving the Village of Albers. Attorney Bruckert stated that the insurance claim filed has been denied and the case is proceeding.

President Schomaker presented invoices to be paid, the Board reviewed the invoices. A MOTION WAS MADE BY Kenow to pay invoices totaling \$59,693.80. Schwierjohn 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. President Schomaker presented the Treasurer's Report in Treasurer Hubert's absence. A MOTION WAS MADE BY Schwierjohn to accept the Treasurer's Report. Behrmann seconded the motion. Vote was 4 yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

ZONING Kent Schwierjohn Chairman: Schwierjohn had nothing to report.

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

Schwierjohn reported 2 accessory permits issued for June totaling \$50.00 and 6 accessory permits issued for the quarter ending June totaling \$150.00.

STREETS & LIGHTING – Jeff Timmermann Chairman: Timmermann updated the Board that the salt shed is almost complete and will be operational soon.

Timmermann updated the Board that the sidewalk extension on North Commercial Street is currently on hold and funding for the project is being through a grant application.

Streets and Lighting Superintendent's Report Eric Rolves: Superintendent Rolves updated the Board that work on repairing Debra Drive and Susan Drive is ongoing with resurfacing and building the bases on both the streets being considered.

The Board discussed the upcoming street oiling schedule with Superintendent Rolves.

NEW BUSINESS: President Schomaker asked the Board to consider a donation to the Tee'd Off with ALS Golf Scramble.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Kenow to donate \$100.00 to the Tee'd Off with ALS Golf Scramble from the Tourism Fund. Timmermann seconded the motion. Vote was 4 yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

President Schomaker asked the Board to consider a donation to the 2024 Buddy Walk benefiting Community Link.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Schwierjohn to donate \$100.00 to the 2024 Buddy Walk benefiting Community Link from the Tourism Fund. Timmermann seconded the motion. Vote was 4 yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

President Schomaker asked the Board to consider a donation to the Clin-Clair Fire Department (CCFD) Golf Scramble.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Schwierjohn to donate \$100.00 to the CCFD Golf Scramble from the Tourism Fund. Timmermann seconded the motion. Vote was 4 yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

President Schomaker announced the new firetruck has been received by Clin-Clair Fire Department (CCFD) to be used for calls on the south side of the railroad tracks and housed in Damiansville.

President Schomaker thanked everyone for attending the Albers Blast-Off Parade & Fireworks! on Wednesday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

President Schomaker invited everyone to the Hootenanny Sunday, September 01, at Lehrter/JC Park.

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>.

OLD BUSINESS: No Old Business was presented.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: President Schomaker asked the Board to consider entering Executive Session to discuss purchase or lease of real property (4 ILCS 12/2c(5)).

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Kenow to enter Executive Session at 7:29p.m. to discuss purchase or lease of real property. Timmermann seconded the motion. Vote was 4 yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

All guests were asked to exit the meeting. President Schomaker, Attorney Bruckert, Clerk Morris, Behrmann, Kenow, Schwierjohn and Timmermann were in attendance for Executive Session.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Timmermann to exit Executive Session at 7:37p.m. Kenow seconded the motion. Vote was 4 yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

The meeting returned to open session.

President Schomaker thanked the Trustees for working hard serving the Village of Albers and commended them on advocating for what's best for our residents.

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

*Brenda Morris, Village Clerk*