## Village of Albers

206 West Dwight Street-PO Box 132 Albers, IL 62215-0132

Phone (618) 248-5154

www.albersil.org

Fax (618) 248-5490

"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 MEEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF ALBERS PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES HELD ON August 12, 2024

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

<u>ROLL CALL</u>: Trustees Athmer, Behrmann, Kenow, McDermid, Schwierjohn and Timmermann were present at roll call;

<u>APPROVAL OF REGULAR SESSION MINUTES MEETING – JULY 08, 2024:</u> The Board reviewed the minutes from Regular Session Meeting on July 08, 2024.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Schwierjohn to approve the minutes as presented. Timmermann seconded the motion. Vote was 4 - yeas, 2 - abstain; 0 - nays, motion carried.

<u>APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES MEETING – JULY 08, 2024:</u> The Board reviewed the minutes from Executive Session Meeting on July 08, 2024.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Kenow to approve the minutes as presented and keep them sealed. Schwierjohn seconded the motion. Vote was 4 - yeas, 2 - abstain; 0 - nays, motion carried.

<u>APPROVAL OF AGENDA:</u> The Agenda was reviewed. Clerk Morris asked to add "Approval of Executive Session Minutes – July 08, 2024 – Discussion / Vote" to the Agenda. A MOTION WAS MADE BY Kenow to approve the agenda as amended. McDermid seconded the

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

OTHER VILLAGE OFFICIALS: Attorney Leitch; 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: Dave Wellen, resident, was in attendance to observe.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS** 

IMPROVEMENTS & PARK - Scott Athmer Chairman: Athmer had nothing to report.

<u>POLICE AND DISASTER RESPONSE Cliff Behrmann Chairman:</u> 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

Eric Rolves - Streets & Lighting Superintendent Chris Horstmann - Water & Sewer Superintendent

Brian Vielweber - Police Chief

Jeannie Brendel - Zoning Administrator

Chief Vielweber reported that the signal crosswalk on North Commercial Street is complete and operational. President Schomaker thanked Chief Vielweber for installing the signal.

Chief Vielweber reported the surveillance cameras at Lehrter/JC Park have been repaired and are working properly.

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. He updated that letters addressing safe driving requirements were mailed to all permit holders and officers will be monitoring alternative vehicles.

Chief Vielweber updated the Board that the alternative vehicle recently received by the police department has been marked and lights are scheduled to be installed, he expects it to operational very soon.

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

<u>WATER & SEWER Kevin Kenow Chairman</u>: 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. Operator Johnson recently received required easements from affected property owners and all expenses will be paid by ExxonMobil.

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 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 reported -3.02% water loss was reported for July with a -4.90% loss year to date.

FINANCE - Mike McDermid Chairman: McDermid 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.

McDermid 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

MINUTES – 12Aug2024 2 of 4

November general election ballot. McDermid invited everyone to the public hearing scheduled Thursday, August 22, at 9a.m. to discuss ambulance services with the Clinton County Board

President Schomaker asked Attorney Leitch to update the Board on the asbestos lawsuit currently involving the Village of Albers. Attorney Leitch noted no updates were available and that he will update the Board if/when information becomes available.

McDermid presented invoices to be paid, the Board reviewed the invoices.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermid to pay invoices totaling \$91,989.90. Kenow seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

<u>Treasurer's Report - Cindy Hubert Treasurer</u>: 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. Kenow seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas; 0 - nays; motion carried.

President Schomaker updated the Board of a recent meeting with McDermid and Linda Mensing, Clinton County Supervisor of Assessment, to discuss possible reduction of property taxes for the Village of Albers. Concerns of property over-valuation resulting from current mine subsidence in the area and possible future property damage were discussed, Ms. Mensing will be reviewing the request.

ZONING Kent Schwierjohn Chairman: Schwierjohn updated the Board on the OSLAD (Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development) Grant and ITEP (Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program) Grant. He noted that applications are being submitted and a public hearing is being scheduled for August 26, 2024, per requirements for the OSLAD submission.

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

<u>STREETS & LIGHTING – Jeff Timmermann Chairman:</u> 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.

<u>Streets and Lighting Superintendent's Report Eric Rolves:</u> 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, scheduled for Thursday, September 19, 2024.

Superintendent Rolves reported the light pole on North Franklin Street has been replaced.

<u>NEW BUSINESS</u>: President Schomaker invited everyone to the Hootenanny Sunday, September 01, at Lehrter/JC Park.

President Schomaker reminded everyone of the upcoming Albers & Damiansville Fall Yard Sales on Saturday, September 14.

President Schomaker announced the St. Bernard Wurstmarkt on Sunday, September 29, 2024.

MINUTES – 12Aug2024 3 of 4

President Schomaker announced the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Mental Health Awareness & Memorial Walk at Lehrter/JC Park, Friday, October 04, and encouraged everyone to support this very worthy cause.

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 <a href="https://go.illinois.edu/ConnectClintonCounty">https://go.illinois.edu/ConnectClintonCounty</a>.

President Schomaker congratulated Behrmann Meats & Processing for being recognized at the 2024 Illinois State Fair for making this year's Grand Champion Brats.

President Schomaker wished Lily, Claire & Logan Johnson's puppy, a very happy first birthday.

OLD BUSINESS: No Old Business was presented.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** No Executive Session was held.

<u>ADJOURNMENT:</u> 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

MINUTES – 12Aug2024 4 of 4