

# 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 April 11, 2022.

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

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

President Schomaker asked everyone in attendance to remain standing for a moment of silence in solidarity with the citizens of Ukraine.

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

APPROVAL OF REGULAR SESSION MINUTES: The Board reviewed the minutes from Regular Meeting held on March 14, 2022.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermid to approve the minutes as presented. Athmer seconded the motion. Vote was 5 - yeas, 0 - nays; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES: The Board reviewed the minutes from Executive Session at the March 14, 2022, meeting. Attorney Bruckert noted an error on the listing of Trustees, Clerk Morris corrected the error.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermid to approve the executive minutes as amended and keep them sealed. Behrmann seconded the motion. Vote was 5 - yeas, 0 - nays; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The Agenda was reviewed. Chris Hess of Excel Solar Company was in attendance to discuss solar panels at the water tower and sewer ponds. Kenow asked to add Mr. Hess to the agenda under 'Water & Sewer Committee'.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Kenow to approve the agenda as amended. Timmermann seconded the motion. Vote was 5 - yeas, 0 - nays; motion carried.

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

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE: Chris Hess of Excel Solar Company was in attendance to address the Board. Regan Norrenberns, Maggie Schrage and Brooke Trame; Central High School students; were in attendance to observe per a class requirement. Robert Norrenberns and Dave Wellen, residents, were in attendance to

*Stephen Schomaker - Village President*

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

*Brenda Morris - Village Clerk*

*Brian Vielweber - Police Chief*

*Cindy Hubert - Village Treasurer*

*Eric Rolves - Streets & Lighting Superintendent*

*Jeannie Brendel - Zoning Administrator*

*Chris Horstmann - Water & Sewer Superintendent*



*- We Care, We Recycle*

observe. James Vidrine, resident, was in attendance to present issues and improvements at Lehrter/JC Park. Brandon Ratermann of HMG Engineers, was in attendance to discuss ongoing projects. Chad Lish of BBL Attorneys at Law, was in attendance to observe.

President Schomaker asked Mr. Vidrine to address the Board. Mr. Vidrine noted fund-raising concerns and other issues about Lehrter/JC Park operations. President Schomaker thanked Mr. Vidrine for his interest in the park and invited Mr. Vidrine to speak with the Park Board. President Schomaker noted that the Park Board manages park operations.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

WATER & SEWER - Kevin Kenow, Chairman: Kenow asked Chris Hess Excel Solar Company of Kenow to present the proposal for installing solar panels at the water tower and sewer ponds. Mr. Hess presented an installation plan and discussed expenses and return on investment for the project, with an estimated \$460,000.00 cost for initial installation. The Board thanked Mr. Hess and agreed to discuss the project at upcoming meetings.

Kenow asked Brandon Ratermann of HMG Engineers to discuss ongoing projects in the Village of Albers. Mr. Ratermann noted that bidding will proceed for the culvert project on State Route 161, with an opening date and bid advertising to be managed by HMG Engineers.

Mr. Ratermann also updated the Board on the recently discussed Park Avenue retention pond with bidding assistance and contracts to be managed by HMG Engineers. The Board agreed to include the Park Avenue retention pond project on the upcoming agenda. The Board thanked Mr. Ratermann for his diligent work on these very important projects.

Kenow presented the Board with the updated contract with Certop, Inc., effective April 01, 2022 through March 31, 2025. The Board approved the current contract at the March 14, 2022, meeting. Per Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) guidelines, "Duties and Responsibilities of Each Party Involved", Section F, was updated to include specific codes listed concerning compliance. A MOTION WAS MADE BY Kenow to accept the updated contract with Certop, Inc., effective April 01, 2022 through March 31, 2025. Behrmann seconded the motion. Vote was 5 - yeas, 0 - nays; motion carried.

Kenow noted the hydrant use ordinance is being reviewed by committee and will be presented at an upcoming meeting.

Kenow reported the computer ordered has not yet been received.

Water & Sewer Superintendent's Report - Chris Horstmann, Superintendent: Superintendent Horstmann reported -17.57% water loss for March, -1.94% water loss for the previous twelve months. Superintendent Horstmann noted that water usage is currently being estimated due to a malfunctioning meter, resulting in a higher than average water loss.

Superintendent Horstmann reported that the installation of small bubbler aerators at the sewer plant is complete and working well. He noted that 30-45 days may be needed to allow oxygenation to fully return to the pond.

Superintendent Horstmann asked the Board to discuss the upcoming water tower inspections. Kenow agreed to address the topic.

ZONING - Kent Schwierjohn, Chairman: Schwierjohn was absent. President Schomaker noted that a draft drainage ordinance is currently under review by the Zoning Committee and will be presented to the Board when available.

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

POLICE AND DISASTER RESPONSE - Cliff Behrmann, Chairman: Behrmann had nothing to report.

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

Chief Vielweber updated the Board that the Albers Police Department is participating in the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) National Take Back Program. Prescription drugs may be dropped off at Albers Village Hall for proper disposal per the program.

Chief Vielweber noted that the current alternative vehicle permits were billed via water statements and new permits will be mailed to permit holders the week of April 25.

Chief Vielweber updated the Board that the Albers Police Department is in full compliance for the upcoming three years through the Law Enforcement Agency Data System (LEADS) and National Crime Information Center (NCIC).

Chief Vielweber noted that the ordinance violations at 316 S. Commercial Street have been resolved and the property is currently unoccupied. Chief Vielweber noted that the Village of Albers will continue pursuing derelict buildings and/or properties as necessary, protecting the safety and well-being of Albers residents.

Chief Vielweber noted that Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) and AmerenIL have approved the installation of cameras on Commercial Street with final approval to be granted by the Clinton County Board in the upcoming month.

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

McDermid presented Ordinance #594-04112022 Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2023, to the Board. A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermid to approve Ordinance #594-04112022 Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2023. Athmer seconded the motion. Vote was 5 – yeas; 0 – nays; motion carried. McDermid thanked the Board and directed Clerk Morris to file the ordinance with the Clinton County Clerk.

The Board reviewed invoices totaling \$104,507.69. A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermid to pay invoices totaling \$104,507.69. Kenow seconded the motion. Vote was 5 – yeas; 0 – nays; motion carried.

McDermid noted that \$154,296.68 from the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) have been received and designated to be used for sewer pond improvements and other approved Village infrastructure projects. Coronavirus Urgent Remediation Emergency Support (CURES) Program \$47,091.00, is being designated for the purchase of the next police vehicle.

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 5 – yeas; 0 – nays; motion carried.

IMPROVEMENTS & PARK - Scott Athmer, Chairman: Athmer updated the Board that designs for the JC Hall retaining wall are being developed. He will be working with Zoning Administrator Brendel to develop drawings and scope of work for the project.

Athmer updated the Board that maintenance shed security is being reviewed in committee and will be

presented when available.

STREETS & LIGHTING - Jeff Timmermann, Chairman: Timmermann updated the Board that he will be speaking with Kyle Laux, owner of Laux HVAC & Sheet Metal, concerning cleaning out the ditch on East Railroad Street. He will be updating the Board after speaking with Mr. Laux.

Timmermann presented the contract with HMG Engineers to manage the State Route 161/East Railroad Street Culvert Project.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Timmermann to approve the contract with HMG Engineers to manage the State Route 161/East Railroad Street Culvert Project. Kenow seconded the motion. Vote was 5 – yeas; 0 – nays; motion carried.

Timmermann asked President Schomaker to update the Board on the County Road #8 sidewalk extension north of Debra Drive to Court Road. Culverts are currently being installed for the sidewalk project.

President Schomaker asked the Board to consider updated methods of leaf clean-up within the Village, with the topic to be discussed at the upcoming Committee Meeting.

Timmermann updated the Board that the Clinton County Highway Department is working on the curves north of Albers on County Road #8 and will be delivering excess dirt from the project to the Village of Albers.

Streets and Lighting Superintendent's Report - Eric Rolves, Superintendent: Superintendent Rolves reported installing signs on Opossum Lane and that grass mowing season has begun.

COMMUNICATIONS: No Communications were presented.

OLD BUSINESS: No Old Business was presented.

NEW BUSINESS: President Schomaker invited everyone to the annual Easter Egg Hunt at the American Legion Post #1026 on Saturday, April 16 at 1p.m.

President Schomaker invited everyone to support the upcoming fish fry hosted by the Friends of the Cougars on Ash Wednesday, March 02, and every Friday during Lent at American Legion Post #1026.

President Schomaker announced the annual Spring Yard Sales, held on the second Saturday in May, will be Saturday, May 14, 2022.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: No Executive Session was held.

ADJOURNMENT: A MOTION WAS MADE BY Kenow to adjourn the meeting. Timmermann seconded the motion. Vote was 5 – yeas; 0 – nays; motion carried.

*Brenda Morris, Village Clerk*