

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 October 10, 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.

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

APPROVAL OF REGULAR SESSION MINUTES: The Board reviewed the minutes from Regular Meeting held on September 12, 2022.

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

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

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ZONING - Kent Schwierjohn, Chairman: Schwierjohn notified the Board that a Planning Commission Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at 6p.m. for review of the final plat of the Kniepman Subdivision on Court Road.

Schwierjohn updated the Board that the Planning Commission unanimously approved the final plat of the proposed Rose-Charles Subdivision on Winter Road at their meeting on Thursday, September 29, 2022. He noted concerns with approving the final plat, specifically the risk to the Village if the subdivision is developed in phases, delayed or canceled; requiring extensive financial obligations on behalf of the Village. Schwierjohn reminded the Board that if the plat is approved as presented, the Village will be responsible for installing and maintaining streets, waterlines and other infrastructure. Schwierjohn noted that if the plat is approved as presented a home may be built on the farthest section, obligating the Village to extend streets,

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



waterlines and other infrastructure through the entire subdivision, despite only one home being built. He recommended possibly accepting a revised plat outlining building phases or a minor-subdivision if the entire subdivision is not being initially developed. The Board discussed the subdivision. The Board tabled the discussion to invite Dennis Holtmann, subdivision developer, to attend the meeting. Mr. Holtmann arrived at 7:25p.m. Mr. Holtmann updated the Board that twenty-one of the entire forty-five lot subdivision is initially being planned with a \$500,000 letter of credit offered by First County Bank securing the development. He stated that Netemeyer Engineering, on Mr. Holtmann's behalf, would work with HMG Engineers, to address all concerns. The Board discussed how best to proceed.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Schwierjohn that the following must be completed for the Board to consider approval of the Rose-Charles final plat: A letter of credit must be received, reviewed and approved by HMG Engineers; and a list of covenants for Rose-Charles Subdivision received and approved by Zoning Administrator Brendel. Kenow seconded the motion. Vote was 6 - yeas, 0 - nays; motion carried.

Zoning Administrator's Report - Jeannie Brendel, Administrator: Administrator Brendel reported the following permits were issued: September 2022 – 0 permits. Five accessory permits were for issued for the second quarter (July, August, September) totaling \$125.

STREETS & LIGHTING - Jeff Timmermann, Chairman: Timmermann presented a proposal from Kassen Excavating for improvements to the Parkview Manor detention pond for a total cost of \$39,100.00. Timmermann stated that the project is projected to be complete by the end of the year. The proposal was discussed by the Board.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Timmermann to accept the proposal from Kassen Excavating for improvements to the Park Manor detention pond for a total cost of \$39,100.00. Kenow seconded the motion. Vote was 6 – yeas; 0 – nays; motion carried.

Timmermann presented a proposal from Kassen Excavating for storm sewer replacement on Pin Oak Drive for a total cost of \$10,250.00. The proposal includes removing and replacing approximately 225' of 15" ADS piping. The Village will be responsible for repairing and seeding the area of the project. The proposal was discussed by the Board.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Timmermann to accept the proposal from Kassen Excavating for storm sewer replacement on Pin Oak Drive for a total cost of \$10,250.00. Behrmann seconded the motion. Vote was 6 – yeas; 0 – nays; motion carried.

Timmermann presented a proposal from Woltering Welding & Fabrication for construction, painting and installation of the required handrail to complete the SR161 culvert project for a total cost of \$1,900.00. the proposal was discussed by the Board.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Timmermann to accept the proposal from Woltering Welding & Fabrication for construction, painting and installation of the required handrail to complete the SR161 culvert project for a total cost of \$1,900.00. Kenow seconded the motion. Vote was 6 – 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. The project has started and is progressing.

Streets and Lighting Superintendent's Report - Eric Rolves, Superintendent: Superintendent Rolves updated the Board that street sweeping is being planned for Wednesday and Thursday, October 19-20.

Superintendent Rolves also updated the Board that he is coordinating with Chief Vielweber to paint Village crosswalks.

WATER & SEWER - Kevin Kenow, Chairman: Kenow updated the Board that Clearwave Communications contacted the Village of Albers concerning installation of fiber-optics within village-limits. He is waiting for Clearwave Communications to return his inquiries on the installation.

Kenow presented a proposed increase in water rates to the Board for review. He stated that current rates, which have not increased since 2016, will be increased to better align with current costs. Proposals for rate increases are being prepared for public review and further discussion. Rates are scheduled to increase as of January 01, 2023.

Water & Sewer Superintendent's Report - Chris Horstmann, Superintendent: Superintendent Horstmann reported -16.86% water loss for September, -8.81% water loss for the previous twelve months. He noted leaks at 3820 State Route 161 and 207 E. Dwight Street plus hydrant flushing added to the relatively higher water loss for the month. The leaks have been repaired with improved water loss reporting expected for the upcoming month.

Superintendent Horstmann updated the Board that Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) inspections were completed for the water and sewer plants with no issues reported.

POLICE AND DISASTER RESPONSE - Cliff Behrmann, Chairman: Behrmann asked Chief Vielweber to update the Board on security cameras. Chief Vielweber noted that the License Plate Readers (LPR) are in place and will soon be ready to use. He also noted installation of the cameras at Lehrter/JC Park and maintenance shed are held up pending installing reliable internet connections. Chief Vielweber is working with Verizon to complete both projects.

Dave Wellen addressed Chief Vielweber with concerns of increased traffic and speeding on S. Commercial Street. Chief Vielweber acknowledged increased traffic through Albers due to area construction projects and other factors, and noted Mr. Wellen's concerns.

President Schomaker thanked Chief Vielweber for professionally managing the issues in the Village, including the recent train derailment and thanked him for effectively serving our residents.

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

Chief Vielweber noted that he and President Schomaker recently attended the Illinois Municipal League (IML) Conference in Chicago.

Chief Vielweber updated the Board of a recently received grant from the Illinois Chief's of Police Association for a new laptop computer and software; the grant was awarded to one-hundred twenty-five Illinois local police agencies. The laptop has been received and operational in the very near future.

Chief Vielweber updated the Board that the new squad car has been ordered and is expected to be received within the upcoming year. A deck tool box, computer stand and detailing has also been ordered, with all costs within the previously approved limit.

President Schomaker updated the Board that he has been working closely with Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) representatives, as well as railroad and coal mine authorities concerning the recent changes in State Route 161 between Albers and New Baden possibly due to mine subsidence. He stated that IDOT is closely monitoring the road and may consider closing the highway if conditions worsen. Major repairs to the highway are not recommended until it is verified that sinking has stabilized. He cautioned residents to be aware of the changing pavement and drive cautiously until repairs have been made.

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

McDermid updated the Board on the recent electrical aggregation bids presented by Good Energy. He noted that letters will be forthcoming to residents announcing that we are continuing our municipal electricity aggregation program with a new supplier, Constellation NewEnergy. Our primary goal is always to protect our residents from rising electrical supply rates. Since June 2019, Albers residents and small

businesses have been receiving fixed rates of 4.29 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh) versus the AmerenIL market rate currently at 12.236 cents per kWh. This equates to an average household savings of over \$50 per month, with larger households and businesses saving considerably more. Our current contract with Homefield Energy ends December 2022 and we have secured a fixed rate of 12.10 cents per kWh contract with Constellation NewEnergy for a 22-month term beginning February 2023 through December 2024. To provide you the lowest long-term rate, there will be a two month gap until our contract begins with Constellation NewEnergy. The gap between the two contracts will be filled by AmerenIL as our supplier. The process will be as follows:

Supplier	Dates	Rates per kWh	Action from Residents
Homefield Energy	Contract Ends December 2022.	4.29 cents	NO ACTION REQUIRED
AmerenIL	December 2022 – February 2023	Current Market Rate 12.236 cents	NO ACTION REQUIRED
Constellation NewEnergy	February 2023 – December 2024	12.10 cents	NO ACTION REQUIRED

Over the next 90 days you will be receiving two letters from AmerenIL and one letter from Constellation NewEnergy.

- Letter from AmerenIL – Notifying you that Homefield Energy contract will end December 2022.
NO ACTION REQUIRED BY RESIDENTS.
- Letter from AmerenIL – Stating they are the new provider beginning January 2023 until February 2023.
NO ACTION REQUIRED BY RESIDENTS.
- Letter from Constellation NewEnergy – Notifying you that Constellation New Energy will be our new provider beginning February 2023 to December 2024.
NO ACTION REQUIRED BY RESIDENTS.

McDermid updated the Board on ambulance services provided through Special Service Area #8 (SSA #8). He noted that all entities served by the ambulance service; including Albers, Damiansville, Lookingglass Township and New Baden are working together to revise current operations of the district; transferring district control from New Baden to a formal ambulance district. A recent meeting was attended by McDermid and President Schomaker to discuss the reorganization. A memorandum provided by attorneys Bruckert, Behme & Long, P.C., concerning organizing a new ambulance district was reviewed by the Board. McDermid added that he is looking forward to continuing the partnership with neighboring entities and serving Albers residents in providing the best possible ambulance service.

The Board reviewed invoices totaling \$29,433.75. McDermid noted that AmerenIL, Waste Management, and a few other monthly statements have not been received and recommended authorizing Treasurer Hubert to pay those statements when received.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermid to pay invoices totaling \$29,433.75 plus all monthly statement not yet received. Behrmann 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. Schwierjohn seconded the motion. Vote was 6 – yeas; 0 – nays; motion carried.

IMPROVEMENTS & PARK - Scott Athmer, Chairman: Athmer noted that Administrator Brendel presented preliminary improvement plans on JC Hall from Brendel Architects. Athmer will be working with Administrator Brendel on revisions to the improvement plans and proceeding on the project.

Athmer reported the cameras at the maintenance shed have been received but are not yet operational. He noted a delay in Wi-Fi/cellular services being installed with Verizon.

President Schomaker noted that the Park Board is considering painting and sealing the floors in the park bathrooms and concession stand. He asked the Board to consider splitting costs with the Park Board if requested.

COMMUNICATIONS: No Communications were presented.

OLD BUSINESS: No Old Business was presented.

NEW BUSINESS: President Schomaker asked the Board to consider approving Proclamation #10102022, proclaiming October 22, 2022, as Bryan 'Pops' Kennedy Day in the Village of Albers. President Schomaker read the proclamation, noting the invaluable impact Mr. Kennedy has had in the Village of Albers in promoting soccer to the community and his life-long vocation of coaching and teaching.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Schwierjohn to accept Proclamation #10102022, proclaiming October 22, 2022, as Bryan 'Pops' Kennedy Day in the Village of Albers. Athmer seconded the motion. Vote was 6 – yeas; 0 – nays; motion carried.

President Schomaker congratulated the organizers of the 2nd Annual Tee'd Off with ALS Golf Tournament hosted on October 01, 2022. He extended a very special congratulations to Helen Billhartz, Cookie Fritz, Bob Netemeyer and their families for their hard work and dedication planning the event.

President Schomaker announced trick-or-treating will be held in Albers Friday, October 28 from 6p.m.- 8p.m. for children school age and younger.

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