

# 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 MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF ALBERS PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES HELD ON June 12, 2023

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 MEETING #1 Closing Fiscal Year 2023: The Board reviewed the minutes from Regular Meeting #1 held on May 08, 2023.

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

APPROVAL OF REGULAR SESSION MINUTES MEETING #1 Opening Fiscal Year 2024: The Board reviewed the minutes from Regular Meeting #2 held on May 08, 2023.

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

APPROVAL OF SPECIAL SESSION MINUTES MEETING: The Board reviewed the minutes from the Special Meeting held on May 15, 2023.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The Agenda was reviewed. Timmermann asked to add “Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Approval – Update” to the Streets & Lighting Committee and President Schomaker asked to add “Kniepmann Subdivision – Update” to the Zoning Committee.

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

OTHER VILLAGE OFFICIALS: Clerk Morris, Chief Vielweber, Water & Sewer Superintendent Horstmann, Streets & Lighting Superintendent Rolves and Attorney Terry Bruckert 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.

*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*

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

IMPROVEMENTS & PARK - Scott Athmer, Chairman: Athmer updated the Board that renovation plans are proceeding at the JC Hall with an expected start date of July 05 and completion date of November 10.

POLICE AND DISASTER RESPONSE - Cliff Behrmann, Chairman: Behrmann asked Chief Vielweber update the Board concerning installation of a 4-way beacons at the State Route 161 / Commercial Street intersection. Chief Vielweber informed the Board that the beacons have been installed and are fully operational. President Schomaker thanked Chief Vielweber and Superintendent Rolves for installing the beacons.

Behrmann asked Chief Vielweber to update the Board on security cameras. Chief Vielweber stated the cameras at the maintenance shed have been installed and will be operational soon. He also noted the camera at the front entrance of Village Hall has been installed

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

Chief Vielweber updated the Board that letters have been sent to residents with ordinance violations and Attorney Bruckert may be asked to follow-up if the violations are not resolved.

Chief Vielweber reported false threatening calls to local school. He assured everyone in attendance that the Albers Police Department, with all local and State agencies, take the threats seriously and follow-up accordingly. Chief Vielweber noted the close relationship between the Village of Albers and Albers Elementary School, including continuing training and annual walk-through tours citing any possible areas of improvement.

Chief Vielweber notified the Board that he will be attending a DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) meeting in Peoria to discuss the future of the program.

Chief Vielweber reported increased calls for the Albers Police Department and Clin-Clair Fire Department (CCFD) from previous years, at 150 calls year-to-date for the Albers Police Department and 120 calls year-to-date for CCFD. President Schomaker thanked Chief Vielweber and Clin-Clair Fire Department (CCFD) for their outstanding interdepartmental cooperation serving Albers residents.

WATER & SEWER - Kevin Kenow, Chairman: Kenow updated the Board on the agreement with TWM Engineering for overseeing the removal of sludge from the Village lagoon system, noting Superintendent Horstmann is coordinating with TWM Engineering monitoring and removing the sludge.

Kenow updated the Board that he is waiting to be contacted by representatives of Clearwave Communications concerning installation of fiber-optics within village-limits. He noted that an engineering plan and bonds will be required if/when Clearwave Communications proposes installation in the Village of Albers.

Kenow updated the Board on the sewer ponds, noting oxygen levels, are improving and water visibility is clearing and the strong odor has been eliminated. He assured residents that efforts are continuing in clearing the sewer ponds and the Village understands the importance of properly maintaining the sewer ponds.

Water & Sewer Superintendent – Chris Horstmann: Superintendent Horstmann reported 5.5% loss for May, with an average of 16.21% loss for the previous twelve months. The excessive water loss is partially traceable to the recent leak on Albers Road. Exxon/Mobile will be reimbursing expenses for the March 18, 2023, waterline break on Albers Road.

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

McDermid noted the current AmerenIL electrical rate of 8.65¢ is lower than the Constellation electrical rate of 12.1¢ under contract per the Village's aggregation program. He noted the decision for residents enrolled in the Village's electrical aggregation program to remain with the Constellation rate, understanding that the lower AmerenIL rate is temporary and if accounts are transferred to AmerenIL, a one-year commitment is required before returning the Constellation rate.

McDermid presented Ordinance #603-06122023, resetting the date of the Special Service Area #8 (SSA #8) public hearing to July 10, 2023, for review and approval. He noted that all entities served by the ambulance district; 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. McDermid added that he is looking forward to continuing the partnership with neighboring entities and serving Albers residents by providing the best possible ambulance service.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermid to approval Ordinance #603-06122023, resetting the date for the SSA#8 public hearing date on July 10, 2023. Athmer seconded the motion. Vote was 6 – yeas; 0 – nays; motion carried. McDermid directed Clerk Morris to record the ordinance with the Clinton County Clerk.

McDermid updated the Board that the current ambulance service managed by the Village of New Baden will be reporting deficit spending of \$109,259.13, with the Village of Albers responsible for \$21,819.05 or 19.97% of the total balance.

The Board reviewed invoices totaling \$55,393.91.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermid to pay invoices totaling \$55,393.91. Kenow 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. Kenow seconded the motion. Vote was 6 – yeas; 0 – nays; motion carried.

ZONING - Kent Schwierjohn, Chairman: Schwierjohn presented Ordinance #604-06122023, adding territory to the Clinton County Enterprise Zone. The Village of Albers has been coordinating with Moran Economic Development on amending our current Enterprise Zone. The amendment will correct an error omitting one parcel from the Enterprise Zone, approved in 2014. Passage of the amended Enterprise Zone is expected in August or September. The Board reviewed the ordinance.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Schwierjohn to approve Ordinance #604-06122023, adding territory to the Clinton County Enterprise Zone. McDermid seconded the motion. Vote was 6 – yeas; 0 – nays; motion carried.

President Schomaker noted that the Kniepmann Subdivision on Court Road is on hold, pending guidance from the developer.

Zoning Administrator's Report - Jeannie Brendel, Administrator: Administrator Brendel noted two accessory permits and one plat submission were submitted in May, totaling \$525.00.

STREETS & LIGHTING - Jeff Timmermann, Chairman: Timmermann asked President Schomaker to report on the reported a claim submitted for damages caused by an incorrectly installed street light pole interfering with storm sewer drainage at the intersection of East Dwight Street / State Route 161. President Schomaker noted that AmerenIL denied liability in the claim, directing further inquiries to JF Electric, one of the contractors involved installing the street light pole. President Schomaker reported that the issues has been settled, with partial reimbursement for damages being paid by JF Electric.

Timmermann updated the Board that the sidewalk extension agreement on North Commercial Street with

Clinton County has been filed with the Clinton County Clerk's office. Updates will be reported as they become available.

Streets and Lighting Superintendent's Report - Eric Rolves, Superintendent: Superintendent Rolves updated the Board that grass mowing season is starting and he has been cleaning storm drains. He also notified the Board that streets will be oiled Thursday, September 14, 2023.

COMMUNICATIONS: President Schomaker read a thank you note from Telecommunicator Jodi Nehrt, who recently retired from the Clinton County Sheriff's Department. Telecommunicator Nehrt's retirement was recognized at the May 2023 Board of Trustees meeting.

President Schomaker updated the Board that the strong, noxious smell from a neighboring farm has returned and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IL-EPA) is actively involved. He also reminded the Board that the farm is not in the Village of Albers but the Village is involved to advocate for our residents.

OLD BUSINESS: No Old Business was presented.

NEW BUSINESS: President Schomaker invited everyone to the Albers Blast-Off Parade & Fireworks! on Monday, July 03, with the parade at 6:30p.m. and fireworks at 9p.m. American Legion Post #1026 will have food and drinks available starting at 4p.m.

President Schomaker reminded everyone of the Father's Day Breakfast on Father's Day, June 18, all are welcome.

President Schomaker thanked everyone who for attending Music in the Park Thursdays during June and July, featuring live, local bands from 7p.m.-9p.m. at the Lehrter/JC Park Stage.

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*