

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 August 14, 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.

President Schomaker asked all in attendance to observe a moment of silence in memory of Dennis Behrmann.

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

APPROVAL OF PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES July 11, 2023: The Board reviewed the minutes from Public Hearing on July 11, 2023.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermid to approve the minutes as presented. Kenow seconded the motion. Vote was 4 - yeas, 0 - nays; 1 – abstain, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR SESSION MINUTES MEETING July 11, 2023: The Board reviewed the minutes from Regular Session meeting on July 11, 2023.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermid to approve the minutes as presented. Timmermann seconded the motion. Vote was 4 - yeas, 0 - nays; 1 – abstain, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The Agenda was reviewed.

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

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

GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE: Deb Clark, resident and Metro-East Diaper Bank officer, was in attendance to accept a donation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

IMPROVEMENTS & PARK - Scott Athmer, Chairman: Athmer updated the Board that renovation of the JC Hall is proceeding with renovations having begun, including replacing the sewer/water lines to the building.

POLICE AND DISASTER RESPONSE - Cliff Behrmann, Chairman: Behrmann announced Chief Vielweber recently received a \$10,000.00 body-worn camera grant from the Bureau of Justice on behalf of the Albers Police Department. The Albers Police Department is one of only 265 agencies receiving the grant. All in attendance thanked Chief Vielweber for securing the grant.

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

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 asked the Board to approve the bidding process coordinated through TWM Engineering.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Kenow authorizing TWM Engineering to advertise and accept bids for the sludge removal project at the sewer ponds. McDermid seconded the motion. Vote was 5 – yeas; 0 – nays; motion carried.

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 with 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 4.13% loss for July, with an average of 15.54% loss for the previous twelve months.

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

McDermid noted the current AmerenIL electrical rate is currently lower than the agreed Village municipal aggregation rate with Constellation New Energy, reminding all in attendance 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 and reminded all residents to remain vigilant when managing their household accounts.

McDermid presented an ordinance creating the Special Service Area (SSA) designating an ambulance district in the Village of Albers.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermid presenting Ordinance #605-08142023, creating a Special Service Area (SSA) designating an ambulance district in the Village of Albers. Kenow seconded the motion. Vote was 5 – yeas; 0 – nays; motion carried.

McDermid directed Clerk Morris to file the ordinance with the Clinton County Clerk.

The Board reviewed invoices totaling \$47,786.18.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermid to pay invoices totaling \$47,786.18. Behrmann seconded the motion. Vote was 5 – 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 5 – yeas; 0 – nays; motion carried

ZONING - Kent Schwierjohn, Chairman: Schwierjohn asked President Schomaker for updates to the Enterprise Zone amendments. President Schomaker noted the Board that amendments to the Enterprise Zone are proceeding, with more information expected in the upcoming months. The application has been received by the Illinois DCEO (Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity and is expected to be complete in the next 90 days, on or around the beginning of November.

Schwierjohn reminded the Board of the upcoming Zoning Board of Appeals meeting scheduled for Thursday, August 17 to discuss variance requests at two residences.

President Schomaker updated the Board that the Kniepmann Subdivision is proceeding with a Planning Commission meeting to be scheduled when the final plat is presented.

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

STREETS & LIGHTING - Jeff Timmermann, Chairman: 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 notified the Board that streets will be oiled Thursday, September 14, 2023, and a map of designated street will be available soon.

OLD BUSINESS: No Old Business was presented.

NEW BUSINESS: President Schomaker asked the Board to consider \$100.00 donation to the Metro-East Diaper Bank in support of the 2023 Fall Diaper Drive.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY McDermid to donate \$100.00 to the Metro-East Diaper Bank (MEDS) from the Tourism Fund. Schwierjohn seconded the motion. Vote was 5 – yeas; 0 – nays; motion carried.

President Schomaker asked the Board to consider a \$100.00 hole sponsorship to the Tee'd Off with ALS Golf Tournament on Saturday, October 07.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Kenow to donate \$100.00 to the Tee'd Off with ALS Golf Tournament from the Tourism Fund. Schwierjohn seconded the motion. Vote was 5 – yeas; 0 – nays; motion carried.

President Schomaker asked the Board to consider a \$50.00 hole sponsorship to the Crimestopper Golf Tournament on Friday, September 08.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Kenow to donate \$50.00 to the Crimestoppers Golf Tournament from the Tourism Fund. Schwierjohn seconded the motion. Vote was 5 – yeas; 0 – nays; motion carried.

President Schomaker invited everyone to the St. Bernard Catholic Church Wurstmart on Sunday, September 24.

President Schomaker thanked residents Gregg Heimann and Justin Hubert for installing new lights at the Lehrter/JC Park ball diamonds. He also thanked everyone who volunteers in Albers for their hard work taking great care of our community, especially our park.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: No Executive Session was held.

Behrmann thanked everyone for their support and expressions of sympathy at the recent passing of his Dad, Dennis Behrmann.

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

Brenda Morris, Village Clerk