

COMMITTEE-AT-LARGE MINUTES: JUNE 16, 2008

The Committee-at-Large meeting was held on June 16, 2008 in the Village Hall at 6:30 p.m. Those in attendance were President Hoerchler, Trustees Malina, Swank, Linthicum, Gloeckner and Brandmeyer, Village Clerk Crane, Village Administrator Nielsen, Jerry Green, Chief Building Inspector, Doug Gruenke, Village Attorney and Brian Buchheit of Henry, Meisenheimer, & Gende, Village Engineers. Trustee Fielder was absent.

North Ridge Estates: Street Light Placement

Developer Ron Kalmer has submitted plans for street light placement in his new subdivision, North Ridge Estates. His plan shows street lights between lots 3 and 4 and lots 7 and 8, and one northwest of the entrance on the St. Clair County side. Jerry Green stated that per the Village's current Subdivision Code, street lights can not be placed less than 400 feet apart and one must be placed at the intersection of Deborah Court and Kreamer Drive. The Board recommends placement at Out Lot "A" and the northeast corner of lot 12, in addition to the light placed northwest of the entrance and the one on lots 7-8. The matter was tabled until Kalmer addresses the issue.

Water Tower Pressure Washing

Administrator Nielsen received a bid from U.S. Elevated Tank & Tower Services of Red Bud for the pressure washing the elevated water tower. The bid was for \$4,950.00. Per Brian Buchheit of HMG, the cost is ridiculous; \$5,000.00 can get an entire tank cleaned and inspected. HMG has people who can inspect the tank; he will look into getting some other bids and recommends that October is a good time to have the washing done.

Plum Lane Drainage

Trustee Gloeckner opened the discussion regarding Plum Lane drainage issues that occur in front of his home in the 200 block of Plum Lane. When it rains, 3-4 inches of water stand on the pavement because it cannot drain off. This is caused by a 36-inch pipe that drains onto Plum. Brian Buchheit stated that he can have the drainage engineers from HMG inspect this portion of the road to see what can be done to alleviate this problem. Another drainage issue is in the 500-600 block of Plum Lane. This regards the ditch that runs between the residential properties and the New Baden Elementary School. The residents in this area want the ditch tiled and piped. Buchheit will also have the HMG drainage engineers look at this area also.

Park: DogiPot Locations

The DogiPot Dispensers have arrived. A location for the four dispenser ordered needs to be determined. It was decided to place them at the entrances to the Park at Route 160 and Route 161, the southwest corner by the Soccer field and near the newest restroom

Police Expenses

Trustee Brandmeyer had Deputy Clerk Wilken prepare a listing of salary and budget expenses based on the last 5 years. These expenses have increased \$110,000.00 over this time frame with the addition of the fifth police officer. The total budget has increase \$170,000.00 in 5 years. The Village was sold by the Police Dept. on these costs being reduced by hiring a 5th officer in regards to using part-timers to fill shifts. There have been no changes in the way the Police Dept. functions. It was thought that a part-time officer could be on duty during the day while paperwork is completed instead of having a second full-time officer on duty. He recommends possibly reducing the force back to 4 officers. The contract would determine the procedure for reduction and would be based on seniority. Brandmeyer did not want any action taken at this meeting; he just wanted discussion and for the other Trustees to think about this in the coming weeks.

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Mosquito Spraying

Village Administrator Nielsen explained the larvacide program in which the Public Works Department recently completed their training. Clinton County Health Dept. will supply the Village with its share of larvacide from those attending the training. Further information shows that spraying might still need to be done. Larvacide only kills the eggs, does not harm the adult mosquito. A suggestion was made about spraying the grass only, instead of the aerial spraying that Egyptian has done in the past. Nielsen will check with Egyptian Outdoor Spraying to see what the pricing is since the season is half over and what other options are available.

Tornado Warning Siren

Administrator Nielsen proposed looking into the cost of installing a third storm warning siren at the Village Maintenance Building. This will strictly be a siren with no speaking capabilities as the other two sirens currently can do. He will also look into the cost of having the old siren tied into the current system. Other than the monthly testing, the siren will be set off when a "Tornado Warning" is issued for Clinton County.

Fleet Vehicle Maintenance

Administrator Nielsen contacted both Hemann-Guthrie Chevrolet and GMK Automotive for price quotes on the cost of maintaining the Village's fleet of vehicles. GMK Automotives quotes were all slightly lower than Hemann-Guthrie. Both did include a 10% discount on all parts and labor for any other services. GMK did not include a quote for tire rotation and balance. Nielsen will check with GMK on his pricing. Matter was tabled until the next meeting in July.

Salaries for Non-Collective Bargaining Employees

Salaries for non-collective bargaining employees have been previously discussed, but no amount was voted on. Discussion agreed upon giving all non-collective bargaining employees a 2.5% raise, which would mean \$0.25 for Cleaning Lady Janet Rensing, Crossing Guard Curt Wright and Greg Holtman for Park Maintenance. Pool Manager Janet Stubblefield would also get the same and Asst. Pool Manager Codi Rund would be at \$9.00. This will be voted on and passed at the July 7, 2008 meeting and as well as if raise is retroactive to May 1, 2008 for these employees.

TIF: Tax Increment Financing

Trustee Brandmeyer has been doing some research with the Village Attorney's on the use of TIF funds the Village has been collecting. He feels that the TIF has not been utilized as it should have been. His research shows that funds can be used to help market New Baden; something that can be done in trade journals. Brandmeyer will have someone in marketing attend the July meeting who can explain what can be done in the marketing of a town. He also pointed out that the \$1,000.00 Storefront Improvement Grant is not the same as it was when TIF was first established; \$1,000 today is not what \$1,000 was then. He thinks this amount needs to be increased; an amount just needs to be decided upon. Mayor Hoerchler feels for businesses that are not in the TIF district; unfortunately funds that are collected from the Public Sector into the General Fund can not be distributed to those in the private sector. It was also recommended not to expand our current TIF district; possibly dissolving the current TIF in a few years and establishing a new TIF district near Interstate 64.

Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Budget and Fire Protection District Budget

The Appropriations Ordinance must be adopted by the end of July. The proposed budget has been slightly adjusted from previous review; mainly due to invoices being received. Administrator Nielsen stated that the Annette Hipkiss of Allison, Knapp & Siekmann, the Village's Auditors, pointed out that a budget will need to be proposed for the Fire Protection District since the Village is still paying bills until the District receives tax money in the fall. In the past, funds were borrowed from Capital Improvement; now all funds borrowed must come from the General Fund. To date, approximately \$85,000.00 has been borrowed to the Fire Department from

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Fire Dept. Budget Cont.

the Capital Improvement Fund, most of which will have to be written off at a future date. The agreement with the Fire Protection District will only allow the Village to recoup around \$32,500.00, payable over the next 10 years. The Budget and Appropriations Ordinance will be passed at the July 7, 2008 meeting.

OSLAD Grant Update

Administrator Nielsen updated the status of the OSLAD Grant. He still needs to obtain the EAV for St. Clair County. He and Dawn Ahner, resident and owner of Ahner's Florists, have been looking into a 40-foot gazebo for the Circle Drive.

Ahner Florist Thank You

Mayor Hoerchler wanted to extend a big thank you to Dawn Ahner and Ahner Florists for the great job they do every year in planting the flower beds in front of Village Hall.

Park Usage Contracts & Permits

Nielsen stated an "After Hours Policy" should be adopted for the Park. Currently the Park closes at 10 p.m. and individuals must obtain permission from Village Hall to remain after that time. If they do not have permission, the Police Dept. approaches them to leave the park. Nielsen will draft a policy for the July meeting; this will also allow a time frame to be stated on the permit and if any fees would be involved for general usage and light fees. The Village has been contacted by two outside organizations to reserve the Park for an entire day. This has been done in the past. The organizations are: the 345th Recruiting Squadron from Scott AFB for July 9 and AMC/A6 from Scott AFB for July 18. A \$100.00 fee is assessed to both these organizations for use of the Park. It was stressed that these organizations do not prohibit any of the Village residents from using the Park at the same time. Swank made the motion to allow these two functions use of the Park, seconded by Gloeckner; vote: Brandmeyer aye, Malina aye, Swank aye, Linthicum aye, Gloeckner aye, nay none, motion carried.

Sidewalk in the Park

Linthicum made the motion to approve the estimate of \$5,500.00 for the placement of a sidewalk in the Park to the newly constructed restroom. It was pointed out that this concrete was pored before any meetings were held for discussion. Gloeckner seconded motion; vote: Brandmeyer nay, Malina abstained, Swank aye, Linthicum aye, Gloeckner aye, motion passed.

Yoga Update

Trustee Swank provided the Board with figures regarding the Yoga class held at the Civic Center from January to June. There were 42 people who participated in the program. From the fees collected, minus supplies and paying Regina Dieker to instruct the class, there was a profit of approximately \$800.00. Many of those who participated hope the class will continue in the fall.

Walking Trail in Park

Discussion revolved around replacing the current limestone walking trail with concrete or blacktop. Since the limestone trail was part of an OSLAD Grant, it was thought that 10 years must pass before any modifications can be done. One of the issues is maintenance of the trail after a rain. Several areas continue to wash out and the Public Works Dept. does not have the equipment to fully repair the problem areas.

Signs & Dumpster Update

Trustee Malina reported on his findings from surrounding communities regarding Dumpster Ordinances. Most have an ordinance, but it is not always enforced. He had suggestions pertaining to which dumpsters should be enclosed. He also suggested the Board table the letter that Jerry Green sent out in April to business be tabled indefinitely. It was agreed to table the letter. Jerry Green will send a letter of moratorium to businesses who received the dumpster letter.

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Library Lease

The current Library Lease will expire in July. A decision will need to be made by August. Trustee's Brandmeyer and Swank agreed to meet with the Library Board to discuss the lease.

Municipal Clerks
Summer Seminar

Brandmeyer made the motion to approve the attendance of Clerk Crane at the Municipal Clerks Summer Seminar on July 17-19, 2008 in Springfield, including registration of \$130.00 and hotel expenses. Seconded by Gloeckner; vote: Brandmeyer aye, Malina aye, Swank aye, Linthicum aye, Gloeckner aye; nay none, motion carried.

St. Louis
Management
Conference

Gloeckner made the motion to approve the attendance of Chief Riley and Ron Renth at the St. Louis Management Conference on August 22, 2008, cost of \$195.00 per person. Brandmeyer seconded; vote: Brandmeyer aye, Malina aye, Swank aye, Linthicum aye, Gloeckner aye; nay none, motion carried.

Golf Carts in the
Village

Research on the use of Golf Carts with in the Village has shown that a golf cart cannot cross Hanover Street without a Traffic Control Device. Installation of a traffic control device would more than like require a turn lane per state statutes.

Senior Advisory
Board

Administrator Nielsen and Trustee Linthicum reported from the last meeting of the Area Agency on Aging that a Senior Advisory Board was suggested. It would meet periodically and would provide input back to the Village Board on needs of the senior citizens of New Baden.

There being no other business to be discussed, Malina made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Brandmeyer. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Teri L Crane, Village Clerk

Approved: July 7, 2008

Timothy J. Hoerchler, Village President