

MINUTES OF THE ALBANY VILLAGE BOARD  
March 9, 2015

The regular meeting of the Albany Village Board was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Albany Village Hall by President Kim Blumer. Present were: Blumer, Virginia Detra, Nathan Ramsay, Tonya Stephan, and James Smith. Absent were Eileen Althaus and Peggy Boeck. Also present were: Bob Levitt, Lonnie Gill, AJ Becker of Sonic, Father Michael Moon, John Ochsner, and Nick Fassler.

The Pledge of Allegiance was shared.

Proof of posting was verified.

AGENDA: Motion by Ramsay, seconded by Stephan to approve the agenda as posted. Carried.

MINUTES: Motion by Ramsay, seconded by Detra to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2015 meeting as printed. Carried.

PRESIDENT'S MOMENT: Nothing at this time.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES: There were none.

ST PATRICK CHURCH NATURAL LAWN: Father Moon asked for permission to have an area along the east side of the cemetery off of South Summit Street that could be kept as natural prairie. He, Ochsner, and Fassler all explained that they would have a controlled burn once a year to keep the grasses in check. There are no headstones in this area of the cemetery. When asked how tall this might get, Ochsner stated that the tallest would be around two feet. When they find any noxious weeds, they remove them. Village ordinance states that letters need to be sent to the neighboring property owners for their chance to speak about this. It was agreed that letters will be sent out as designated by the ordinances and a final decision will be made at the April meeting.

SONIC INTERNET: More discussion was held on allowing Sonic Internet to put an antennae on the water tower to allow residents another option for internet. As for the cameras that they are offering, Becker stated that they do not all have to be put up at any one time, and that they can be moved at any time – as long as there is electricity, they can have a camera placed there. Becker also assured the board that there will be no interference with LiteWire on the other water tower. Also, they are offering to give internet service to the village at no cost, and the board wondered if this could be done at any time and not right now. Becker assured the board that this would always be available.

FOREST SITUATION: It has been reported that someone has cut and removed trees that were not supposed to be cut down in the forest by the Ball Park. Gill has only given permission to two people to cut the dead trees out, but someone else has been in there since last fall. Trees are being thinned out too much causing the briars and buckthorns to grow. This area needs to be treated to get rid of these things, as now the canopy is open and allowing them to grow. We also need to consider a replanting plan so that as trees are removed, they are replaced with the types of trees that we want growing here. It was decided to put out a "No Cut" order to the ones that have been given permission, and then will send a letter to neighboring homes asking them to contact the police department if they happen to hear anyone cutting trees so that we can find out who is doing this without permission.

CLERK EDUCATION: Keepers shared the conferences for the year 2015 that the clerk or deputy clerk may or may not attend. Motion by Detra, seconded by Stephan to approve the list. Carried.

MOBILE HOME CONCERN: The question asked about bringing in a mobile home to a location in the village where one used to be held was discussed. Village ordinance states that if a mobile home has not been used or lived in for a 12 month period, it may not be repaired or replaced. There was at least a 12 month period of time that this mobile home was not utilized prior to the new ownership and after, therefore, another mobile home cannot be brought in to this property. Motion by Blumer, seconded by Ramsay to explain this ordinance to the owners of the property not allowing a mobile home to be brought in. Carried.

COMMITTEE AND COMMISSION REPORTS: The following committee and commission reports were acted on and placed on file:

Joint Recycling 2-16-15  
Park Commission 2-16-15  
Personnel Committee 2-23-15  
Street and Utility 3-02-15

SPRING ACCEPTANCE DAY: Motion by Smith and seconded by Ramsay to set the Spring Acceptance Day at 4-25-15 and the E-cycle day at the Green County Landfill for 5-2-15. Carried.

PARK SUMMER POSITIONS: Motion by Ramsay, seconded by Detra to approve Devin Deegan for the caretaker and Cindy Mauerman for the Recreation Director. It was also noted that Mauerman has appointed Sayde McDermott as her assistant. Carried.

As of this meeting, the clerk's office has not been contacted about anyone interested in the concessionaire or commissioner positions, so there is no appointment at this time.

POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL CHANGES: Motion by Blumer, seconded by Ramsay to approve the public works department working four ten hour days from April 1, 2015 to November 1. Carried.  
Motion by Blumer, seconded by Smith to remove compensatory time and pay the employees for the overtime worked each pay period. Carried.  
Motion by Blumer, seconded by Ramsay to extend bereavement leave to three days for the death of a grandparent, grandchild,

mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law. Carried.

Motion by Blumer, seconded by Ramsay to continue to pay employees regular hourly pay for training as well as the fees associated with certification or training for job specific duties. Carried.

Motion by Blumer seconded by Ramsay to pay for lodging and other travel expenses to be pre-approved per each training request. Carried.

DENURE PROBATION: Motion by Blumer, seconded by Smith to remove the six month probation for Ricky DeNure and to approve the \$1.00/hr. pay increase effective at the six month anniversary. Carried.

GILL PROBATION: Motion by Blumer, seconded by Ramsay to remove the six month probation for Lonnie Gill and to approve the pay increase effective at the six month anniversary. Carried.

HIGHWAY 59 PROJECT: Motion by Ramsay, seconded by Detra to award the Highway 59 Street project to Iverson Construction LLC at a bid of \$680,124.10 with the removal of numbers 47 and 48 on the list. Carried.

UNION STREET: Motion by Ramsay, seconded by Smith to go out for bids for the repairs to Union Street. Carried.

PLANTS FOR BIOFILTERS: Motion by Ramsay, seconded by Stephan to have Gill get the prices from the places that he has found that will sell the bio filter plants to the village. Carried

PAINT STRIPER: Motion by Ramsay, seconded by Smith to purchase a paint striper through Jim Graves, as he was able to find a vender for a much lesser cost to the village. Carried.

TRAINING: Motion by Ramsay, seconded by Detra to allow Gill to attend a half day training on phosphorus control given free by the DNR in New Glarus on March 16, 2015. Carried.

BILLS: Motion by Smith, seconded by Ramsay to approve the bills as presented. Carried.

FUTURE BUSINESS: Smith mentioned that there is a street light that isn't working in front of 103 South Mechanic Street. Gill will call it in.

Smith has also reported that a coyote has been seen in the downtown area.

ADJOURN: Motion by Ramsay, seconded by Stephan to adjourn. Carried.

7:45 p.m.

LAURIE KEEPERS, Clerk  
Village of Albany