

The Dwight Village Board of Trustees met in regular session on Monday, August 24, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. with the meeting being called to order by President Jared Anderson. Roll call was as follows:

Present:

Jared Anderson	President
Randy Irvin	Trustee
Justin Eggenberger	"
Marla Kinkade	"
Jerry Curtis	"
Jim Mixen	"

Absent:

Tim Dougherty	Trustee
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Other Village officials in attendance were Administrator Kevin McNamara, Police Chief Tim Henson, Public Works Director Steve Kinkade, Village Attorney Gary Neville, and Village Engineer Ryan Hansen.

President Anderson led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Mixen and seconded by Kinkade to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2015 regular Village Board meeting. Roll call was as follows: Irvin-aye; Eggenberger-aye; Kinkade-aye; Curtis-aye; Mixen-aye. Motion carried, 5 – 0.

The bills were presented for payment from the various funds in the amount of \$86,402.77. A motion was made by Kinkade and seconded by Mixen to pay the bills as submitted. Roll call was as follows: Irvin-aye; Eggenberger-aye; Kinkade-aye; Curtis-aye; Mixen-aye. Motion carried, 5 – 0.

A motion was made by Curtis and seconded by Eggenberger to approve the July 2015 Treasurer's Report as submitted by Village Treasurer, Diane Jensen, showing a balance in all accounts of \$2,009,141.79. Roll call was as follows: Irvin-aye; Eggenberger-aye; Kinkade-aye; Curtis-aye; Mixen-aye. Motion carried, 5 – 0.

In Public Forum, Midge Fogarty, representing The Paper, inquired as to who was going to provide maintenance for the new High Speed Rail depot. President Anderson and Administrator McNamara responded that the Village of Dwight would be maintaining the building and grounds once it is complete. Ms Fogarty asked if the depot would be open for twenty-four hours a day. Anderson said no, it would be locked with programmable locks.

In regards to Ms Fogarty's question concerning a couple of stabbings which occurred near downtown Dwight in the past few days, Police Chief Henson confirmed that the first incident on August 20th was gang related, with the subject being a known gang member, but the victim was not. The second incident on Saturday night did not appear to be gang related.

Henson told those in attendance to please call 911 or the non-emergency number of 815-844-0911 if they see anything suspicious in nature around town.

Janice Lauritzen, representing Dwight Economic Alliance, reported:

- The Farmer's Markets continue to do well downtown on Wednesday evenings;
- Taste of Dwight at Renfrew Park went very well despite the earlier wet weather;
- The D.E.A. is working on brochures to mail to approximately 325-350 brokers in the Chicago area listing available buildings and land in Dwight;
- Tourism numbers are high at Ambler's Texaco/Welcome Center;
- The D.E.A. will have a booth during the upcoming Harvest Days.

Allie Harms, who is a bartender at Station 343 restaurant in downtown Dwight, commented that the Village needs to be more proactive and have more police presence in the downtown area. She didn't think having two police officers on at night was enough, and asked if it was

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possible to have another officer on duty at night. Ms Harms suggested police officers go into the bars just to check on things and be seen. She also asked about being escorted to her car after work.

In response, Chief Henson informed the crowd in attendance of several ways the Dwight Police Department has been addressing the recent problems with gang activity and the overall drug problem:

- The department currently has an officer in training with the Livingston County proactive unit and the Bloomington Police Department;
- They have done saturated patrols whereas many officers as possible work on specific targets and goals;
- The Village has spent thousands of dollars on overtime trying to reduce drug activity;
- At least three (3) members of the Latin Kings have been identified in the Dwight area along with a few associates. Two of those members were recently arrested and incarcerated thanks to the hard work of the Dwight Police Department. Henson noted, however, that a Livingston County judge released the juvenile gang member and placed him on electronic monitoring/home confinement;
- Extra patrols have been in the area and officers have been into the downtown establishments. He stated they're not always dressed in uniform, but are equipped to make an arrest if necessary;
- Dwight has received a new radio and information system upgrade which allows for better communication with other agencies in tracking drug dealers and other criminals from one community to another;
- Dwight has called in other resources and agencies to help in this matter.

Henson also explained that his department and other agencies have to operate on facts and be patient – they can't control what other people may be speculating. There is an ongoing investigation and some things will be kept confidential until such time they can be released.

In regards to escorting employees to their cars after work, Henson stated it would not always be possible since there are 4300 other people in town that may need police resources. Henson asked what the establishments are doing to help.

Chief Henson asked the citizens to work with police, "see it, hear it, report it".

Christian Kobel asked about Dwight Police working security at PharmaCann, and if it is deterring our officers from patrol. President Anderson said the officers are working at PharmaCann on their scheduled days off and are volunteering for overtime to be there. Anderson said the security detail is temporary until PharmaCann is complete.

Monica Green inquired if there are limits as to how much Section 8 housing can be in Dwight. Administrator McNamara said Dwight does not have any limits. Alicia Daly, Ms Green's neighbor, joined her and asked if the Village of Dwight could put limits on Section 8 housing. Attorney Neville said he would have to look into it. McNamara stated that the City of Pontiac said they can't limit the number.

Janet Taylor voiced several concerns regarding property with tall weeds; standing water; sidewalk issues; tree limbs covering road signs.

Sam Bruner had concerns with the juvenile who had been arrested being released and possibly being in school; if the drug dog could go into the school; stated there is a prescription drug problem with the young people. Chief Henson said the issue with the juvenile would be addressed by the school. Henson said the drug dog can go into the school, and Officer McKee stated the dog is being actively used. Ms Bruner thanked the Dwight Police Department and said she appreciates all they are doing for our community.

Tonya Jennings said she realizes there are drug problems in Dwight and believes the number one thing people can do is to report any activity they may see.

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Chief Henson expressed his view that there are a few “bad apples” in town, but he doesn’t want the citizens living in fear and changing their lives because of them.

Trustee Irvin said citizens should be proactive, turn their porch lights on, and make a phone call if they don’t feel something is quite right.

Tom Ivey spoke about street lights not working properly and shrubbery that’s growing too high.

In President Anderson’s report:

- Governor Rauner stopped in Dwight as part of a motorcycle run along with 300-400 other motorcyclists on Saturday, and was greeted at Rt. 66 Family Restaurant. The run was a fundraiser for Honor Flight Chicago;
- Representative John Anthony was in attendance to greet the Governor, and afterwards went out to the former Dwight Correctional Center property with President Anderson to discuss ideas about use for the property;
- Now that kids are back in school, citizens are asked to use extra caution and pay more attention while driving;
- The Village is using all of its resources for the health and welfare of Dwight.

There were no reports from the Clerk, Administrator, EMS Director, Public Works Director, and nothing further from the Police Chief.

In old business, the Zoning Board of Appeals held a public hearing at 6:30 p.m. on August 18, 2015 on the following subject:

To consider an application for a zoning variance filed by Keith and Mary Pokarney to allow the construction of a garage/storage building within the side yard of their property at 200 Julie Dr., Dwight, IL.

It is the recommendation of the Zoning Board of Appeals to the Dwight Village Board of Trustees to approve the application for variance filed by Keith and Mary Pokarney to allow the construction of an accessory building within a side yard at 201 Julie Drive, Dwight, IL.

A motion was made by Mixen and seconded by Kinkade to accept the ZBA recommendation as stated above. Roll call was as follows: Irvin-aye; Eggenberger-aye; Kinkade-aye; Curtis-aye; Mixen-aye. Motion carried, 5 – 0.

A letter of resignation from David Kinkade, member of the Dwight Plan Commission, was received and read at the meeting. Mr. Kinkade is moving out of state. His letter stated “it has been a rewarding position to serve the people of Dwight”.

A motion was made by Irvin and seconded by Curtis to accept David Kinkade’s resignation from the Dwight Plan Commission. Roll call was as follows: Irvin-aye; Eggenberger-aye; Kinkade-aye; Curtis-aye; Mixen-aye. Motion carried, 5 – 0.

The Dwight Knights of Columbus Council #1282 submitted a letter of request to solicit funds at the intersection of Rt. 17 and Rt. 47 for the annual Intellectual Disability (Tootsie Roll) Drive on Friday, September 11th and Saturday, September 12th.

A motion was made by Kinkade and seconded by Mixen to approve the request from the Knights of Columbus as stated above. Roll call was as follows: Irvin-aye; Eggenberger-aye; Kinkade-aye; Curtis-aye; Mixen-aye. Motion carried, 5 – 0.

The Dwight Lions Club submitted a letter of request to solicit funds at the intersection of Rt. 17 and Rt. 47 for their annual “Lions Candy Days”, a fundraiser for sight and hearing programs, on Friday, October 9th from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Saturday, October 10th from 7:00 a.m. to noon.

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A motion was made by Mixen and seconded by Kinkade to approve the request from the Dwight Lions Club as stated above. Roll call was as follows: Irvin-abstain; Eggenberger-aye; Kinkade-aye; Curtis-aye; Mixen-aye. Motion carried, 4 – 0 – 1 abstention.

A number of Harvest Days requests were on the agenda:

A motion was made by Mixen and seconded by Curtis to approve the Amusement Application for Alpine Amusements from September 17-20, 2015. A list of carnival workers will be provided to the police department for background checks. Roll call was as follows: Irvin-aye; Eggenberger-aye; Kinkade-aye; Curtis-aye; Mixen-aye. Motion carried, 5 – 0.

A motion was made by Kinkade and seconded by Eggenberger to approve a number of street closures for the Harvest Days carnival, flea market/craft show, and parade. Roll call was as follows: Irvin-aye; Eggenberger-aye; Kinkade-aye; Curtis-aye; Mixen-aye. Motion carried, 5 – 0.

A motion was made by Mixen and seconded by Eggenberger to approve the Sound Amplification permit for downtown during Harvest Days, September 17th & 18th from 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., September 19th from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m., and September 20th from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. – 20, 2015. Roll call was as follows: Irvin-aye; Eggenberger-aye; Kinkade-aye; Curtis-aye; Mixen-aye. Motion carried, 5 – 0.

A motion was made by Mixen and seconded by Kinkade to approve the Sound Amplification permit for the car show at Renfrew Park on Sunday, September 20th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Roll call was as follows: Irvin-abstain; Eggenberger-aye; Kinkade-aye; Curtis-aye; Mixen-aye. Motion carried, 4 – 0 – 1 abstention.

A motion was made by Kinkade and seconded by Mixen to approve a request from Harvest Days President Jerry Beier for the Harvest Days Committee members to use motorized golf carts in the downtown area and along the parade route during the celebration from September 17th through September 20th. Roll call was as follows: Irvin-aye; Eggenberger-aye; Kinkade-aye; Curtis-aye; Mixen-aye. Motion carried, 5 – 0.

A request was made by the Harvest Days Committee to sell wrist bands for the consumption of alcohol outside in the downtown area per Village Ordinance 16.120 on September 18th and 19th. The request also asks that the boundaries be enlarged to go east on Delaware St. to include Cherry Red Roasters and their new beer garden. The start time was also requested to change from 6:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Trustees asked if expanding the consumption area would create any problems. Chief Henson and President Anderson said if there are any problems on Friday, there would be no wrist bands sold on Saturday.

A motion was made by Mixen and seconded by Curtis to allow the sale of wrist bands for consumption of alcohol outside in the designated, extended area on Friday and Saturday, September 18th and 19th from 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Roll call was as follows: Irvin-aye; Eggenberger-aye; Kinkade-aye; Curtis-aye; Mixen-aye. Motion carried, 5 – 0.

A motion was made by Eggenberger and seconded by Kinkade to approve the Harvest Days request for No Parking on sections of Franklin Street and North Street during the car show at Renfrew Park on September 20th from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Roll call was as follows: Irvin-aye; Eggenberger-aye; Kinkade-aye; Curtis-aye; Mixen-aye. Motion carried, 5 – 0.

A motion was made by Kinkade and seconded by Eggenberger to approve the Harvest Days Parade Resolution No. 2015-13, asking permission from the State of Illinois to close a portion of Rt. 17 from noon to 4:00 p.m. on September 20, 2015 for the purpose of having the Harvest Days Parade. Roll call was as follows: Irvin-aye; Eggenberger-aye; Kinkade-aye; Curtis-aye; Mixen-aye. Motion carried, 5 – 0.

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RESOLUTION NO. 2015-13 IS ON FILE IN THE VILLAGE CLERK'S OFFICE

A motion was made by Eggenberger and seconded by Kinkade to refer on to the Plan Commission a request for annexation into the Village of Dwight by Alan Faletti for property located at 406 N. Union St., Dwight, and a request for Special Use for a gun store and shooting range. Roll call was as follows: Irvin-aye; Eggenberger-aye; Kinkade-aye; Curtis-aye; Mixen-aye. Motion carried, 5 – 0.

Village Engineer Ryan Hansen has been associated with Christopher Burke Engineering, the present Village engineering firm, but is now with Chamlin & Associates. President Anderson stated that Hansen has done an outstanding job for the citizens of Dwight and the Village Board, and would like to see the Village change engineering firms to Chamlin & Associates.

Trustee Curtis said that historically, the Village went out for bid on engineering firms. Curtis said he doesn't have a problem changing firms, but he didn't have any information on Chamlin & Associates.

Hanson explained that Chamlin & Associates are based in Morris, IL and service many municipalities in the area; their services include water, sewer, and roads; they are licensed with a good, professional staff; very reputable firm.

McNamara said that some contracted work that the Village has begun will remain with Christopher B. Burke Engineering until completion.

It was noted that Hanson left on good terms with Burke Engineering.

A motion was made by Mixen and seconded by Curtis to appoint Chamlin & Associates as the Village of Dwight engineering firm. Roll call was as follows: Irvin-aye; Eggenberger-aye; Kinkade-aye; Curtis-aye; Mixen-aye. Motion carried, 5 – 0.

Trustee Mixen wants to see things move ahead with hiring someone for Public Works and doing something with Cory Scoles and the Sewer Plant Operator position.

A Utilities Committee meeting was set for Thursday, September 3, 2015.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Kinkade and seconded by Irvin. All voted aye by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

APPROVED:

Jared Anderson, Village President

ATTEST:

Patricia E. Drechsel, Village Clerk