

**Minutes
Riverton Village Board
Riverton, IL 62561
March 2, 2009**

The President and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Riverton held their regular board meeting on March 2, 2009 at the Riverton Village Hall, Riverton, IL.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Those answering roll call: Mayor Rusciollelli; Clerk Blissett; Trustees: J. Rader, Black, Faires, T. Rader, Pottier and Bartley. Also in attendance were: Supt. Stone, Off. Mgr. Viola, Chief Smith, Treasurer Laffey and Atty. Myers. Guests included Larry Hoffman, Ralph Willoughby, Dennis Bowen and Brian Martin.

Trustee Faires made a motion to accept the minutes and pay the bills. It was seconded by Trustee J. Rader. Trustees J. Rader, Black, Faires, T. Rader, Pottier and Bartley voted yes.

First to take the floor was Larry Hoffman. He reported that they have been working to get projects in for stimulus plan. For highway improvements, only one road in Riverton is eligible and that is 3d St. all the way through Spaulding to Rt. 54. He stated that they are working on a proposal and have put in for \$300,000 in FAU funds. Spaulding is included in this because a small portion of 3 St. runs through Spaulding. He stated that there is no guarantee that we will get the funds, but they want to try. He stated that there is no charge by them. They are trying to generate work. He stated that we would have to pay engineer fees. He stated that to go for those fees would delay the project and they are trying to get jobs that would get let for the summer. The fees for engineering would be around \$15,000 to \$20,000. He stated that he wants to get the board's feeling on this. Off. Mgr. Viola asked if we could use motor fuel to pay for engineering fees. Mr. Hoffman stated that we could. Trustee Faires asked if Jefferson St. and Riveria would qualify. No, they would not. They are not FAU routes. He explained. Trustee Pottier asked whether we had to spend the engineer fees before we know if we are receiving the project. No, we don't spend it until we are approved. Mr. Hoffman stated that he is telling us this now, because we will have to make some quick decisions if we get this money. Trustee Pottier stated that we did do a section of 3d St. around 5 years ago. Will we have to redo it? Mr. Hoffman stated that he will have to go over the road and see. He has done a quick drive over, but he is not sure which area has been done and what needs to be done. Mr. Hoffman stated that approval on who gets the money will be Thursday. It was also noted that if we only part of the requested funds, we will only do the worst areas. He stated that they should know Monday. He stated that they also have DCO funds available and they are working with Supt. Stone on that. Trustee Black stated that she thought the lift station at LH is included in that. Mr. Hoffman stated that there are different rules that they follow. It is partially based on income. Trustee Pottier asked whether any money would be available for bike paths and such. Mr. Hoffman stated that he is not sure. They have put in for streets because they thought it would be a higher priority and there might be more of chance at the money. Trustee Pottier stated that he would just like it be on the table if it is available. Mr. Hoffman stated that we could also look into "Safe Routes for Schools". He stated that they do that. He also explained that it is a long drawn out application and several things have to be done first.

Mr. Ralph Willoughby came before the Board to ask how much money is left on the sewer project on Washington St. Trustee J. Rader stated that we owe \$80,000. Mr. Willoughby asked if it was \$280,000. Trustee J. Rader stated that it was \$285,000. Mr. Willoughby asked if it was all grant money or was some our money. Off. Mgr. Viola stated that we had portion to match. It was 25%. She stated that \$232,000 was left on the grant. Our matching funds were around \$80,000 to come out of the bond issue. Mr. Willoughby asked if we had enough money to continue. Trustee J. Rader stated that not at this point. We are waiting to see what the plant project is going to cost: Mr. Willoughby asked what is going to happen to the holding tank we installed while waiting for the sewer to go pass his house. Trustee J. Rader stated that he would be required to put in a septic tank. He will be given a reasonable amount of time. Mr. Dennis Bowen stated that he would only have a year. That is law. Mr. Willoughby asked if we don't get anything out of it, are we giving up. Off. Mgr. Viola stated that the grant money will have to be repaid to the State. The money that has already been spent will not have to be repaid. She explained that so far we have only paid engineering fees and that is around \$50,000. She stated that she hasn't received any bills yet from Petersburg, but it is coming. Mr. Willoughby asked if we have given Petersburg and extended contract. No.

Mr. Dennis Bowen came before the Board to discuss the IMEA contract. He stated that we had a special board meeting to discuss the contract with IMEA. It was published, but he stated that he couldn't say we encourage people to come. He stated that he never heard anyone on the board or the men from IMEA say that we were going to have to pay AMEREN for transmission of electric and use their substation. He also stated that no one said anything about rent on the substation. He asked if the Board was aware we would have to pay rent. The Board all agreed that they were aware of it. Trustee T. Rader stated that we have paid rent for the substation for a very long time. Mr. Bowen stated we never told the public that we had to pay for transmission. He stated that no one made them aware of this. He stated that he

thinks that wrong. Trustee Black stated that we did not try to deceive anyone. We pay transmission fees no matter who we buy from and we have for years. Mr. Bowen asked how much does it cost to rent the substation. Off. Mgr. Viola stated that it cost \$10,000 a month. He asked how much does it cost to have the electricity go through the lines. Off. Mgr. Viola stated that it would be on the CWLP and IMEA bills when we get it. He asked if we consider these charges when we went through with this contract. Yes, we all did. He asked about the cost that we were paying AMEREN and did it go up after we went with IMEA. Off. Mgr. Viola stated it actually went up in 2007 when MIS0 went into effect. She explained that they have certain charge that they pass on to their customers. This is all new. Mr. Bowen asked if we took in all these charges when we signed this contract. Yes, we did. Mr. Bowen asked if we pay more to IMEA during peak hours. Trustee Pottier stated that we would do that with all three proposals that we received. Trustee Faires explained what peak demand is. Mr. Bowen asked if IMEA has to purchase power from someone other themselves. Yes. Did the Board know this before they signed the contract? Yes. The Board explained how that worked. Mr. Bowen asked how they purchased power. Trustee Bartley explained how it worked. Trustee Pottier also explained that other power companies buy off the grid if they have to. Mr. Bowen stated that this board has decided that we don't want CWLP or AMEREN. He stated that we have decided that we want IMEA to save money. Is that why we voted for the 26 year contract? Trustees Pottier and Faires stated that they felt it was the best interest of the village for the customers. He asked what we will pay for electricity tomorrow. Trustee Faires stated that we are still under the CWLP contract. Mr. Bowen asked if our electric rates are going to rise when we go under the IMEA contract. Trustee Pottier stated that no matter who we went with, they will go up. Mr. Bowen asked how much. No one knows until we see it. Mr. Bowen asked how much will your electric bill go up. The Board all agreed that it will go up. Mr. Bowen then asked how this Board can tell them that we did the right thing for the next 26 years by going with IMEA. Trustee Pottier stated that we reviewed the 3 packages before us and we also went beyond those and asked for more proposals, but only got those 3. We decided on the best proposal that we received. Mr. Bowen stated that we can't say what our electricity is going to cost. So how can we say we made the best choice? He asked each individual board member how they can say they made the best choice. He asked them to explain. Mayor Rusciollelli asked Mr. Bowen how much longer he was going to talk. He stated that this has been going on for a long time. Mr. Bowen stated that this Board should never be allowed sign a contract for 26 years when they won't even be here. Mr. Bowen asked Atty. Myers if he read the contract. Yes, he looked it over. Mr. Bowen asked how many pages the contract was. Atty. Myers stated that he is not here to be grilled by Mr. Bowen. Mr. Bowen stated that he is here to represent the taxpayers. Mr. Bowen stated that that contract was 72 pages and Atty. Myers billed the Village for .6 hours to read or review that contract. Mr. Bowen stated that Atty. Myers must be a speed reader. Atty. Myer stated that he is not going to argue with Mr. Bowen. In Mr. Bowen's opinion, Atty. Myers isn't working for their best interest. Mr. Bowen asked if we have a contract with anybody else for 26 years. He doesn't think anyone should be able to sign a contract for 26 years.

Trustee Black brought forth the contract for Douglas Ave. Trustee Black made a motion to approve an Agreement with ACE Contracting of IL. It was seconded by Trustee T. Rader. Trustees J. Rader, Black, T. Rader and Pottier voted yes with one Abstaining (Trustee Bartley) and one no (Trustee Faires). ORD# 2009-005

Mr. Brian Martin reported on the water plant and stated that he has some electric details he has to take care of and he will hand deliver it to the EPA. He hopes to have some answers on the water plant issue in a few days. Trustee Pottier asked how long the review will take. Mr. Martin stated it could be a couple of days or couple of weeks. Mr. Martin stated that he will ask when it takes it over there. Trustee Bartley stated that we have been dealing with this for 3 months and would like some information. We would like a final answer.

Trustee T. Rader had Chief Smith give the Board copies of a policy concerning tasers. He stated that the police union representative was here. It does show that it cuts down on workman comp claims to have a tool like this. He would like the Board to look it over and discuss it at the next meeting. Supt. Stone gave the Board a copy of his report (see attached). Trustee Pottier stated while everyone was here, he would like to set a date with Alderman Dove, of Springfield concerning Clearlake Sand & Gravel Pit. The Board went over the dates and it was decided that the committee would be the ones attending. It was agreed that Trustee Bartley and Trustee J. Rader will set a date. Chief Smith gave the Board a copy of his report (see attached). He also gave the Board a copy of his End of Month report. He also discussed the property at 5 13 N. 3rd. He has received a complaint about a public health matter. He gave the Board copies of photos. Back in 2005 the Board did have Public Health go there and there were a couple of minor infractions. Do we want to have Public Health come back out again? Trustee Bartley asked if anyone talked with the homeowner. Chief Smith stated that when we talked with her before, she wasn't happy being turned in. He also stated that before, the majority problems down there didn't fall under the property maintenance code. He hasn't talked to her. Trustee Bartley stated that he wondered if it would cause a rodent problem or anything like that. Chief Smith stated that there could be some issues with the sheds, but he feels it wouldn't take much to fix them. Trustee T. Rader stated that Public Health does take care those issues. Trustee Bartley would like to send a letter first and see if anything is done. He also would like to look at it first. He would like to give the resident until the 16th to do something. Trustee Bartley made a motion to send a letter first. It was seconded by Trustee Faires. Trustees J. Rader, Black, Faires, T. Rader, Pottier and Bartley voted yes. Chief Smith also discussed two grants. He stated that the Tobacco Compliance Grant can again be applied for. We did have it for 2008. He needs to apply by Mar. 31st. He also reported that they did

a compliance check on the three businesses in town and all passed. Trustee T. Rader asked how we could use the money. Chief Smith stated that we can use toward equipment, and use it to pay for over time or court time. Trustee T. Rader made a motion to apply for the Tobacco Compliance Grant. It was seconded by Trustee Bartley. Trustees J. Rader, Black, Faires, T. Rader, Pottier and Bartley voted yes. Chief Smith reported that he received info packet from the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority concerning vehicles. There is grant money available through the them-hybrid for \$25,000 or \$18,000 for non-hybrid. The cost is 75% with a match from us for 25% that would be only around \$5000. Chief Smith would like to put this in the budget if we are looking at trying for this grant. Trustee Pottier stated that we can put this in the budget, if we don't get it, then we don't spend it. Trustee Bartley made a motion to apply for the Ill. Criminal Justice Info Authority grant. It was seconded by Trustee Pottier. Trustees J. Rader, Black, Faires, T. Rader, Pottier and Bartley voted yes.

Off. Mgr. Viola gave the Board a copy of the 2008 review statement of IMRF for them to look over. She stated that she will receive a letter in the next week or so concerning the 2010 rate.

Treasurer Laffey reported that he would like to start scheduling for the budget. He will be available whenever they need him.

Trustee Faires stated that we got an extension for the pavilion for 1 year. He stated that he is seeing a little bit of progress on that. He is looking for a plumber right now.

Trustee Pottier discussed the E-Alert System. They will be coordinating with Supt. Stone. The people will be able to sign up on-line. Atty. Myers stated that he has information that needs to go on the web site. Trustee Pottier gave the Board some information on whether we should go with Springfield to get our water instead of updating our plant. He discussed the bonding issues and what the bonds are for. Even if we didn't update the plant, he explained that we would still have to pay back the portion of the bond that we have already expended. If we don't use all the money, then we would refinance the old bond. Trustee Pottier stated that we would still have expense of vehicles. We would still have maintaining the cost of the building. We would have the cost of producing water. There is still cost of generators. There would be no cost for chemicals. Trustee Pottier stated that he wondered if would make more sense to purchase water from an outside source and what would the cost be. That is the reason for analysis. Trustee Faires reported that he did figures also and he feels that the updates of the water plant that are included in the bonds will be paid off in 5 years or 7 years. Then we would be back down to our cost. He stated that we have been able to produce our water for the last 30 years cheaper. Trustee Bartley asked Trustee Pottier about the cost that we are paying on water now, which is \$825,000. If we adjusted the cost like we are buying it from someone else, we would still have a cost of \$221,000 expense to pass on regardless of where our water comes from. After more discussion on the expenses that we would have regardless of where we purchase water, Trustee Bartley noted that we are paying 3.25 per unit now but when the bonds are paid off, we will be paying 1.77. Trustee Pottier stated that he just wanted to give the Board a copy of his analysis. He also talked with different communities. He stated that he feels are rates are relatively low.

Trustee Bartley made a motion to adjourn at 8: 15 PM with a second by Trustee Pottier. All agreed.

Mayor- Joe Rusciollelli

Clerk- Connie Blissett

Date- 03/02/2009