STATE OF ILLINOIS } REGULAR MEETING

COUNTY OF CHRISTIAN } SS. August 3, 2026

VILLAGE OF STONINGTON }

The Board of Trustees met for a regular meeting on Monday, August 3, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall.

The Meeting was called to order by President Bruce Dowdy with the following Members present:

Trustees: Tara Ramsey, Tammy Wilson, Andrew Callan, Jeff Graham, Caleb Grover, and Scott Kuntzman
Clerk: Jill Gilpin
Office Manager/Treasurer: Kari Scott
Superintendent: Jake Heberling
Village Engineer: Mark Bingham (Absent)
Village Attorney: Scott Garwood (Absent)
Chief of Police: Travis Peden (Absent)
Zoning Officer: John LeVault

Others in attendance: Kim Brown, Village resident; Austin Dowdy, Village resident; David Towne, Village resident; Helen Rogers, Village resident; Assistant Chief of Police, Phil Deal; Ben Morman, Midwest Meter, Inc.; Earl Good, Village resident; and, Shane Bouvet, Village resident.

Minutes from July 6, 2026, regular meeting was presented to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Callan, seconded by Wilson, that the minutes be approved and filed as presented. Motion passed by all “Yea” votes.

The Treasurer’s Report was presented for the month of July to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Wilson, seconded by Ramsey, that the Treasurer’s Report be approved and filed as presented. Motion passed by all “Yea” votes.

The Gas Report was presented for the month of July to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Grover, seconded by Callan, that the Gas Report be approved and filed as presented. Motion passed by all “Yea” votes.

The Water Report was presented for the month of July to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Callan, seconded by Graham, that the Water Report be approved and filed as presented. Motion passed by all “Yea” votes.

The Sewer Report was presented for the month of July to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Kuntzman, seconded by Ramsey, that the Sewer Report be approved and filed as presented. Motion passed by all “Yea” votes.

The Police Report was presented for the month of July to the Board for their approval. Motion made by Graham, seconded by Kuntzman, that the Police Report be approved and filed as presented. Motion passed by all “Yea” votes.

Bills against the Village were presented for the approval of the Board. Motion made by Wilson, seconded by Graham, to approve and issue warrants for all bills. Motion passed by all “Yea” votes.

Zoning Officer‘s Report: Zoning Officer LeVault issued no zoning permits in the month of July.

President’s Report: President Dowdy welcomed David Towne to the table. Mr. Towne expressed concerns regarding a vacant and deteriorated property adjacent to his home, citing safety concerns, overgrown vegetation, debris, and increased rodent activity.

President Dowdy reported that the property had already been identified and would be addressed through the Village's ordinance process.

President Dowdy welcomed Ben Morman of Midwest Meter, Inc. to the table to discuss the Beacon cellular water meter reading system. Mr. Morman gave a demonstration and discussed with the Board how the cellular water meter reading system works. It would eliminate the need for manual meter reading, provide meter readings four times a day, would detect water leakage and monitor the water usage, and provide customer access to usage information through a mobile app. Mr. Morman also discussed the Beacon cellular water meter reading system with SNAWS at their last meeting.

Superintendent Jake Heberling stated that it takes the Village Works employees 6-7 hours to read SNAWS’ water meters.

The cost of the cellular water meter reading system is $13,000.00 and SNAWS has indicated that if approved by their Board, they would go half with the Village of Stonington for the system’s cost. President Dowdy asked for a motion to enter into an agreement for the Beacon cellular water meter reading system up to $6,500.00 contingent upon Sharpsburg sharing half of the licensing cost.

Motion made by Callan, seconded by Grover, to enter into an agreement for the Beacon cellular water meter reading system up to $6,500.00 contingent upon Sharpsburg sharing half of the licensing cost. Motion passed with a roll call vote that went as follows: Wilson “Yea”; Graham “Yea”; Ramsey "Yea"; Grover “Yea”; Callan “Yea”, and Kuntzman “Yea”. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

The board discussed the absence of a general noise ordinance but determined that no current issues justified discussion any further. No action was taken.

President Dowdy discussed the IMRF Notice of Appointment of Authorized Agent.

Office Manager Kari Scott has authorization, but they need a new form signed by Kari and a copy of Minutes approving her as the authorized agent.

Motion made by Kuntzman, seconded by Wilson, to approve Kari Scott as IMRF Authorized Agent to handle the IMRF. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

Superintendent Jake Heberling discussed the Spruce Street water main project. He stated the water main has broken six times in that area in the last few years and presented a bid from Burdick Plumbing & Heating Co., Inc. The total cost will be $73,254.46 and 32% of that amount is TIF fund eligible.

President Dowdy asked for a motion to accept the bid from Burdick Plumbing & Heating Co., Inc. and spend up to $51,000.00 out of Enterprise towards the water main on Spruce Street. Motion made by Kuntzman, seconded by Callan, to accept the bid from Burdick Plumbing & Heating Co., Inc. and spend up to $51,000.00 out of Enterprise towards the water main on Spruce Street. Motion passed with a roll call vote that went as follows: Kuntzman “Yea”; Callan “Yea”; Grover "Yea"; Ramsey “Yea”; Graham “Yea”, and Wilson “Yea”. Motion passed with a 6-0 vote.

President Dowdy welcomed Earl Good to the table. Mr. Good expressed his concerns regarding the deteriorating properties within the Village.

Village Engineer Report: Nothing to report.

Village Attorney Report: Nothing to report.

Superintendent’s Report: Superintendent Heberling reported he will be going on vacation and will have three upcoming ICC audits when he returns. He reported the blower at the sewer plant had to be replaced and they should look into having another one on hand for backup.

WATER – The Water Report for May 30, 2026 – June 30, 2026, billing period was presented.

GAS – The Gas Report for June 30, 2026 – July 30, 2026, billing period was presented.

SEWER – The Sewer Report for May 30, 2026 – June 30, 2026, billing period was presented.

Committee Reports: STREETS & ALLEYS – Nothing to report.

HEALTH & SAFETY – Trustee Graham voiced his concern regarding trees that are overgrown obstructing a sidewalk on Church Street.

President Dowdy stated the Village will clean up the sidewalk.

FINANCE – Nothing to report

WATER – Nothing to report.

SEWER – Nothing to report.

GAS – Nothing to report.

Office Manager Kari Scott inquired if Meridian School should pay the deposit fee for getting the utilities switched to them. President Dowdy stated since there is an existing account to change the billing information to them.

Office Manager Kari Scott reported that while she was on vacation last week, she received seven FOIA requests from the same places. She has also received a survey from the Illinois Municipal League regarding FOIA requests. She stated that the Village has received 35 FOIA requests so from this year.

Clerk Jill Gilpin informed the Board that the candidate packets for the April 6, 2027, Consolidated Election will be available on Monday, August 24, 2026, with the petition circulation starting Tuesday, August 25, 2026.

President Dowdy set the date and time for the September Regular Meeting as Tuesday, September 8, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Hall.

With no further business coming before the Board, a motion was made by Callan, seconded by Graham, to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m. Motion passed by all “Yea” votes.

APPROVED:

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Bruce Dowdy, Village President

ATTEST:

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Jill Gilpin, Village Clerk