

May 7th, 2025

The Village of Oblong Board of Trustees met in regular session on Wednesday, May 7, 2025, in the Farley Room of the Municipal Building.

Members Present: Mayor Teresa K. Fielder, Treasurer Ladora Boyd, Clerk Stacey Brock, Trustee Dave Hasty, Trustee Terry “Toad” Ochs, Trustee Justin Yager, Trustee Byron Sanders and Trustee Earl Deckard.

Absent: Trustee Carrie Hays.

Others Present: Public Works Superintendent Gary Lanter, Terry Manhart (Public Works Superintendent in training) Chief Colton Williamson, Angie Catt (Oblong Chamber of Commerce), Emily Yager, Brennan Yager, Emlynn Yager, Jerry Snider, Carolyn Higgins, Randy Stevenson, Angela Ridgway, Brad Yockey.

1. The meeting was called to order at 5 pm by the Mayor.
2. Ladora swore-in Teresa Fielder as Mayor and Byron Sanders, Justin Yager, and Earl Deckard as Trustees
3. Teresa asked all to stand to be led in the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Motion by Toad, with a second by Byron, to approve the Board Meeting Minutes of April 2, 2025, Special Board Meeting Minutes of April 22, 2025. Five (5) ayes, motion carried.
5. There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.
6. There were no Delinquent Water Bill customers this month.
7. Barbara Miller was on the agenda to speak about a ditch on her property but was not present. Teresa will get with her at a later time to discuss.
8. Angie Catt (Oblong Chamber of Commerce) came before the Board to give an update on the Mini Park Restoration Project. She stated that the electrician will be here Friday to turn on the stage lights with the landscaping to go in next week. She spoke on the Food Truck Battle and Garage Sales happening this weekend, May 10th. Angie asked permission to use the mini park for a ribbon cutting ceremony on June 21st. She was granted permission by the board.
9. Angie Catt (Vault Antique owner) stated that her building will be getting new siding. She asked permission to close the alley for the safety of the workers. Byron made a motion to approve.
10. Teresa opened three (3) bids for the 2000 Chevrolet 3500 truck. Randy Stevenson \$1500. Gari Fehrenbacher \$2275. Yockey Farms Brad Yockey \$1850. There were no bids for the truck bed. Toad made motion with a second by Earl to sell the truck to Gari with the highest bid. Five (5) ayes, motion carried.
11. Brad Yockey and Randy Stevenson joined the meeting after the bids were opened. Brad stated there was a discrepancy on the time the bids were supposed to be opened. Motion by Toad with a second by Byron to rescind the aforementioned vote. The bids were read again

by Teresa. Brad raised to \$2300. Randy raised to \$2350. Brad raised to \$2400. Randy raised to \$2500. Randy was the highest bidder. Motion was made by Byron with a second by Toad to sell the truck to Randy. Five (5) ayes, motion carried. The truck bed was offered to the present bidders. Brad stated he would look at the bed to possibly make an offer.

12. Ordinance #2025-0-660 an ordinance setting and establishing the rates of payment for various employees of the Village of Oblong, Illinois for the fiscal year commencing on the 1st day of May, 2025, and ending on the 30th day of April, 2026 was presented to be approved. Motion by Dave with a second by Byron to approve. Roll Call vote as follows: Earl – aye, David – aye, Toad – aye, Byron – aye, Justin – aye; motion carried
13. Resolution #2025-R-2 (Motor Fuel Resolution) was presented to be approved. Motion by Toad with a second by Earl to approve. Five (5) ayes, motion carried.
14. Teresa stated that she had received an e-mail from Gene Birch stating that he is no longer wanting to lease from the Village. He is looking for a different location. The ordinance for the lease is no longer necessary.
15. Teresa stated that the hiring of Public Works Office Assistant, Village Treasurer and Village Clerk was completed at the March 31st Special Board Meeting.
16. Mayor's Comments:
 - a. Teresa wanted to congratulate Colton & Makayla on the birth of their baby girl, Oaklynn Grace. She also wanted to thank everyone for the successful benefit.
 - b. Teresa also wanted to officially welcome Stacey Brock as our new Clerk and Administrative Assistant and Scott Woods as the buildings & grounds/utility tech. She stated we have a new but great crew.
 - c. She also welcomed and congratulate the new board members.
 - d. Talked with Kemper about villageofoblong.com emails for board members.
 - e. Mentioned the passing of Chuck Hartke. Stated he was a good friend of the Oblong Community and for Crawford County.
 - f. The Village has issued one Enterprise Zone application so far.
 - g. The United Way presented a check for \$11,251 to the Village of Oblong for "Harmony Park" musical equipment.
 - h. Gov. Pritzker announced on Tuesday April 22nd awards for the Rebuild Grants. Sadly, Oblong was not a recipient.
 - i. The Greater Wabash Regional Planning Commission for S Range Street project's final submission was completed April 22nd.
 - j. IDOT to host Special Program Assistance Programs statewide. GWRPC plus Resa, Stacey, and Teresa will be attending on May 12th.
 - k. Saturday May 17th from 9-12 the Crawford County Catfish Club will be holding a fishing derby at the Musgrave Shelter.
 - l. Infrastructure costs for site prep, gas, and electricity in Phase II of Park Meadows totaled \$56,897.13. Resa filed our DCEO Grant in February. We are awaiting a reimbursement grant of \$50,000.
 - m. The Mary Heath Grant has been finished and delivered. Not sure as of yet when the recipients will be announced.
 - n. Still awaiting word regarding depositions in the Pusey vs. Village of Oblong case.
 - o. The OSLAD Grant is on a 6 month extension waiting for the final light assemblies.
 - p. B&H Electronics Recycling Event will be Saturday, June 7th at Oblong Park from 9-12.

- q. Stacey will be the administrator of the Village of Oblong website. Mark Tull will be setting up an appointment next week to pass that on to her.

17. Reports of Committees:

- a. POLICE: Colton stated he has received around 20 applicants for the full-time officer position. He plans to resume the process and reach out to the applicants next week. The agility test is planned for June 7th then to do interviews the 3rd week of June.
- b. BUILDING/PARK: Gary stated the playground equipment was \$1197 plus shipping more than the grant. Byron made a motion with a second by Earl to approve to pay the extra cost. Five (5) ayes, motion carried.
- c. SIDEWALK/LIGHTS: Justin had nothing to report this month.
- d. STREET/ALLEY: Toad had nothing to report this month.
- e. WATER/SEWER: There is a leak on Main and Taylor caused by the boring crew. Toad agreed to be on the New Development Committee as well as Jay being a member at large for the committee.
- f. FINANCE: Dave stated that the water tower needs to be painted inside and out. Probable cost of \$200,000 plus. Treasurer Report: Ladora stated that she had given the Trustees a copy of April's Checking/CD balances/monthly interest and updated sheet on revolving loans. Clerks Report: Stacey had nothing to report this month.
- g. PARK MEADOW SUBDIVISION COMMITTEE: Toad stated that the electric is 99.9% complete. Gas is 75% complete. There is a ditch seeping water. Still trying to find the reason. Could be from excess rain in the area as of late.
- h. AD HOC: (Beautification, Unsafe Buildings & Ordinances): No report this month.

18. Motion by Toad, with a second by Byron, to pay the monthly bills that were on the Warranty List and any utility bills, bills that will incur a late fee or reimbursements to employees or AC deposit or Water Customer deposit. Five (5) ayes, motion carried.

19. There were no other items of business this month.

20. There were no Public Comments this month.

21. Motion by Toad, with a second by Byron, to adjourn the meeting at 5:42 pm. Five (5) ayes, motion carried.

Respectively Submitted,

Stacey Brock, Clerk