

Brighton, Ill.  
July 28, 1975

A special meeting of the Village Board was held at 7 p.m. July 28 in the Brighton Municipal Building. Clerk called roll of trustees.

Present: Carr, Wild, Markwardt, Rathgeb

Absent: Little, Hall

Mayor Ahlemeyer stated the following reasons for calling this meeting:

1. To open bids for sidewalk repairs,
2. To discuss bill from Morrow Bros. Garage for Ford Chassis and Cab,
3. At 8 p.m. the Board of Trustees will discuss with Fire Dept., the possibility of a fire district.

1. Clerk read sole bid for sidewalks submitted by Paul Clark at \$1.40 per sq.ft. for 511' of sidewalk, 160' to be poured over existing sidewalk and balance to be poured over earth surface, 4' width, 4" except at driveways which shall be 6" thick with reinforcements. Total sidewalks to be 2,044 sq.ft. and located on west side of N. Main Street from First National Bank to U. S. Post Office. Village is to tear out all but 160' of the job what was bid on. Carr said that Walter Hunt had asked if, when working on drive at his place, there could be reinforcement laid over another portion because he is using someone else's driveway and at some time, might have to make one of his own. It was decided that we have enough materials in the shed for this. Farmer is to check with Hunt as to exact location. Markwardt made motion to accept bid. Carr seconded. Roll call vote, carried unanimously. Lefty Oertel reminded the board that Clark should put a 1/4" fall for foot width so that if the state ever checks, it will come up to standards. Clerk is to have definite figure by August 4 meeting so that more sidewalks could be put in if possible. Two places were mentioned as needing repairs, by the Methodist Church and on Brown Street by Hartsocks. It was suggested that some extra work be done between bid jobs.

2. 1974 Morrow bid that was accepted was \$12,562.01 for chassis. On June 30 of this year, we had a bill for \$13,330.96 - \$768.95 difference, which was because of new state regulations. After discussion, Markwardt made motion that the original \$12,562.01 be paid and the \$768.95 be held up until we can hear from Ford Motor Co. with verification that this is dealer's cost. Wild seconded. Roll call vote, carried unanimously. Clerk to check with Jersey State Bank to see what their interest rate is on \$20,000 that they had 5% on last year, and if not over 6%, to have them set up papers for the loan, then pay Morrow out of this.

3. Fire District. Officers of the Fire Dept. in attendance were: Oertel, Bröyles, E. Bott, Cal, Tuey, Dave Bott, Bill Eyers and Lynn Harrelson. Cal said that first, they would like the feelings of the trustees, because they will have to have some help if they vote for the fire district. A committee has previously worked on this and had had trouble getting in touch with Piasa. Apparently, at that time, there

was no interest. Cal said that they now have the legal description of the district proposed, and the biggest problem is tax structure - and what is needed to run this, along with our equipment and Betsey Ann. All present were asked their opinions of this.

Broyles: Is in favor because we have facility to answer 24 hour calls. We would get in 911 system. With state progressing along lines of mandatory fire district, we should get it now or they might give us more than we could use. Also, we could offer better service for area.

Rathgeb feels that he would need more information to form an opinion.

Harrelson would like to see Fire District for 911 system, 24-hour dispatch for fire department, ambulance, police, and distress calls. Could all be tied into one answering service, and release 10 different families from fire phones, and 3 phones in Polict Dept. 2 in the Water Department.

Elmer Bott has been for it for some time and it would be the answer to a lot of our problems. A bill has passed the House and Senate and Gov. Walker is to sign it today. Any outlying area could come into a fire district if this bill is signed, and we would have to protect it and all we would get would be \$250 for a call in each area plus \$50.00 increase each year upto a certain point. For benefit of people in outlying areas, a district would be the best route to go.

Dave Bott is in favor of it. Others have covered reasons.

Atty. Watson said the big concern is whether or not the farmers are interested in it. The majority of people in outlying areas and in the city are to vote on it, and our protection won't change much, and it will cost more money.

Tuey is in favor of it. He feels insurance will go down if we get the fire district, and this should be explained to the rural people.

Markwardt has been following the Steele bill. It is to force areas to have a district. He is in favor.

Wild said he understands if we go to fire district, we don't need new and additional equipment and buildings.

Cal said we would need some room and wants old pumper to go to Class "A" fire district. Insurance in outlying areas would be less, but not as low as town. Present fire tax would be repealed if this goes thru and we will have fire district tax. Cal said we would not have to have a new building unless we go to another village.

Markwardt said the 911 phone should cover about 98% of the district. This is to Grange Line Rd. (west to our township line, north to township road at Winnie Lahrs and straight west to Grange Line Road). The majority of system would be 372.

Ahlemeyer feels the same as the others but the people who need the fire district are the ones to decide, and the village should not have any extra burden of organizing, nor have to pay for anything since the townships would be the

beneficiaries. First of all, we must have the feelings of the people concerned, and we should set a deadline and say after that deadline, if they are not in a fire district, we feel we do not want to take care of it. No cost, even for election, etc. should be paid by the village of Brighton, and this should be clearly understood.

Eyers is in favor of it, and he felt before people are contacted, there should be a figure to give them as to what the cost will be. Ahlemeyer will check with other fire districts. Bunker Hill is .125, which is a minimum of \$1.25 M. Cal felt we could get some sort of federal grant thru state if we are in a fire district. Ahlemeyer appointed a committee of Bob Wild, Kenneth Markwardt, Tom Rathgeb, and Atty. Watson to get figures on fire house rent, etc. After that, communities will be surveyed and if majority of people feel they need a fire district, they will have to check to see where money will come from for election, publication, ballots, etc. which Atty. Watson said would probably cost around \$600. Also money for location, which should not burden those who already have fire protection. Walt said what is needed from Fire Dept. officers is exactly the items that would become part of that fire district then he will get it back to them for price for rental, value of truck, equipment, replacement value, etc. Trade-in value of the truck is \$5000 as it sets now, with equipment. Two water trucks have to stay in city name.

Atty. Watson said he feels that the manual will show that the judge assess the cost of all this among all interested parties and he will probably pro-rate the cost between city and two townships.

First is survey. Still have to have a petition before election. Watson said a survey with questions should be limited to 10 to 12 questions. The newspaper would probably not charge for survey because this is a community service. People should be contacted personally instead of mailing to them.

Adjourned 9 p.m.

*Puella Craven*  
Village Clerk