Schram City Agrees To Lease Land Across From Village Hall

by Pavel Slepicka

After a brief discussion of property boundaries, the Schram City Village Board agreed to a one-year lease with Livingston Pipe & Tube for the large empty lot across the highway from the village hall.

The lease, set at $1 for the year, allows the village to use the land for the upcoming Fall Festival set for Saturday, Sept. 12, and also puts them at the top of the list for purchasing the ground from Livingston.

In the lease, the village agrees to mow and maintain the ground which measures just over 4.5 acres. The ground will be open for kids to play on but no motorized vehicles such as dirt bikes or ATVs will be allowed. Signs will be posted soon about the ban on motorized vehicles and anyone caught with one will be ticketed.

Bill Schmaltz of Einstein Consulting Group in St. Louis gave the board some great news about the health insurance plan the board put in place in July 2014 for the three village employees.

Schmaltz said that in the first 11 months of the plan, the village has saved $23,505.97 using a partially self-insured cost management plan compared to what would be paid to the Local Government Health Plan, with no decrease in benefits.

For the renewal, which will be voted on in July, the plan cost will increase 8.37 percent monthly, four percent of which will be due to the Affordable Care Act.

The board also heard from Bryan Deming who, with his wife Kimber, purchased Stewart Sanitation from Kent and Kathy Stewart effective June 1.

Deming told the board he has years of experience in the waste removal business including running both the Litchfield and Greenville landfills. The new business, DC Waste & Recycling, named after the Deming's sons, plans to continue the same routes and operating procedures as Stewarts did with the same staff.

Before adjourning, the board quickly ran through a few items including reminding village residents to keep up with their weeds. The village will issue one written warning to clean up an area before fining the person.

Also, the village will review the tentative budget at the July meeting after Patton & Company PC completes the audit later this month.

Finally, trustee Sam Whitlow said plans for the upcoming Fall Festival are coming along very well but the group could always use more ideas and more help. Anyone who would be willing to offer their time and creativity should call either the village hall at 532-3449 or Whitlow at 532-6375.

The next village board meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Monday, July 13. The public is encouraged to attend.