

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
VILLAGE OF STEGER, WILL & COOK
COUNTIES, ILLINOIS

The Board of Trustees convened in regular session at 7:00 P.M. on this 18th day of July, 2011 in the Municipal Building of the Village of Steger with President Sherman in the Chair and presiding and Village Clerk Carmen S. Recupito, Jr. attending.

The Village Clerk called the roll and the following Trustees were present: Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez, Peterson and Perchinski. Trustees Banicki was absent. Also present were Village Engineer Joseph Schudt, Village Attorney Frank Burkey, Fire Chief Al Martinez, Deputy Fire Chief Jeff Roesner, ESDA Director Roger Mumford, Community Center Director Diane Rossi and Superintendent of Public Works Bill Cox.

The Clerk asked the audience to observe a moment of silence in memory of Danielle Dennis-Town.

MINUTES

Trustee Seehausen moved that the reading of the June 20th Board Meeting minutes be dispensed with and accepted as written, as all members have copies. Trustee Kozy seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

TRUSTEE SEEHAUSEN'S REPORT

Trustee Seehausen reported that in June 2011 all water samples came back as satisfactory from the Illinois EPA and in June the Water Department repaired two (2) water main breaks.

Trustee Seehausen also reported that spraying for mosquitoes will continue every other Wednesday and Thursday through the summer months. The Department of Public Works will be chipping branches from recent storm damage Wednesday July 20th.

TRUSTEE KOZY'S REPORT

None

TRUSTEE LOPEZ'S REPORT

Trustee Lopez reported that the Community Center is now open on Saturdays from 9am to 3pm.

The Steger-South Chicago Heights Library received a grant to teach seniors to use computers. Classes would be held at the Community Center. They will need the Community Center to be Wi-Fi ready by September. The Library would split the cost (of implementation and hardware) of the \$550.00 with the Village. Trustee Lopez made a motion to partner with the Library in this project. Trustee Peterson seconded

the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye: Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez, Peterson and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

TRUSTEE PETERSON'S REPORT

Trustee Peterson reported that the Economic Development Committee will meet on Thursday August 11th at 7pm at the Village Hall.

The next meeting of the Steger Neighborhood Watch will be July 26 at 6:30 at Community Center. The topic will be Observation skills. Neighborhood Watch is holding a Night at the Races on August 13th at Balmoral Park. Tickets are \$30.00.

TRUSTEE PERCHINSKI'S REPORT

Trustee Perchinski reported that in June the Fire Department responded to 96 calls. There were 284 hours of training in the 2nd quarter of the year. On the 19th of June the Firefighters together with the Ladies' Auxiliary collected donations in the MDA Boot Drive. The Firefighter's annual Street Dance will be held on Saturday, August 27th at the Fire Station Headquarters at 3320 Lewis Avenue.

On July 6th, the Southeast Commuter Rail Mass Transit District has established its Acting Board. Trustee Perchinski is a member of the By-Law Committee for the Board. Trustee Perchinski also stated that Metra is experiencing problems financing the "matching funds" for the Commuter Rail and is working with Representative Jackson to free up the funds. September 7th is the next meeting of the Southeast Commuter Rail Board.

BILLS

Trustee Seehausen made a motion to approve the bills for payment as listed when funds are available with one change. Trustee Seehausen asked that a duplicate payment to Kmart from the Police Fund in the amount of \$134.17 be deleted. Trustee Perchinski seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye: Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez, Peterson and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

COLLECTOR'S REPORT

The Village Clerk read the gross payroll for June 2011 which was \$198,486.07.

The Village Clerk read the Thorn Creek Basin Sanitary District charges for the month of June 2011, which was \$28,053.63.

The Village Clerk read the following Collector's Report for June 2011:

MUNICIPAL SALES TAX	\$ 44,242.37	April 2011
TELECOMMUNICATION TAX	\$ 23,050.30	April 2011
STATE INCOME TAX	\$ 82,137.78	January 2011

STATE INCOME TAX	\$	0.00	February 2011	Delay
STATE INCOME TAX	\$	0.00	March 2011	-Delay
STATE INCOME TAX	\$	0.00	April 2011	-Delay
LOCAL USE TAX	\$	12,354.19	May 2011	
MOTOR FUEL TAX	\$	19,597.86	May 2011	
UTILITY REVENUE	\$	11,516.24	May 2011	
UTILITY REVENUE	\$	14,579.60	May 2011	
WILL COUNTY FINES	\$	193.00	May 2011	
COOK COUNTY FINES	\$	1,418.39	March 2011	

Trustee Seehausen made a motion to accept the Collector's Report and place it on file. The motion was seconded by Trustee Kozy. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye: Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez, Peterson and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the 2nd Quarter Firemen's Payroll. Trustee Seehausen seconded the payroll. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye: Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez, Peterson and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

A thank you note from Elaine Egdorf of the Drivin' the Dixie Committee for the the Village's contribution to the event.

A letter from Matt Wenzel of the Driving the Dixie Committee

OLD BUSINESS:

Trustees Seehausen and Peterson discussed with the Board the concerns of business people and residents regarding the hours of operation in the industrial park. Trustee Peterson reported that meetings are to be scheduled to further discuss the concerns of residents and the businesses in the area. Trustee Seehausen made a motion to table the subject indefinitely. Trustee Peterson seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye: Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez, Peterson and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Trustee Peterson made a motion to approve ORDINANCE NO. 1016 AN ORDINANCE MAKING THE APPROPRIATION FOR THE CORPORATE PURPOSE OF THE VILLAGE OF STEGER, COUNTIES OF COOK AND WILL, ILLINOIS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING ON THE FIRST DAY OF MAY, 2011 AND ENDING ON THE THIRTIETH DAY OF APRIL, 2012. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye: Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez, Peterson and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve ORDINANCE NO. 804.10 AMENDING CHAPTER SIX, SECTION 6-76 ENTITLED LIMITATIONS ON LICENSES. Trustee Peterson seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye: Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez, Peterson and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Seehausen made a motion to adopt RESOLUTION NO. 998 AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE OF STEGER TO ASSESS A TEN DOLLAR (PER READING) SURCHARGE TO CUSTOMERS THAT HAVE YET TO PURCHASE A POSITIVE DISPLACEMENT METER REMOTE STYLE READING DEVICE. Trustee Peterson seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye: Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez, Peterson and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Seehausen made a motion to approve RESOLUTION NO. 999 FOR IMPROVEMENT BY MUNICIPALITY UNDER THE ILLINOIS HIGHWAY CODE. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye: Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez, Peterson and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Peterson made a motion to table An Intergovernmental Agreement with Illinois Department of Transportation and the Village of Steger for traffic signals maintenance. Trustee Kozy seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye: Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez, Peterson and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Lopez made a motion to table indefinitely the Homewood Disposal Service, Inc. and Skyline Disposal recycling proposal. Trustee Peterson seconded the proposal. Trustee Perchinski seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Seehausen made a motion to approve Mayor Sherman's request to attend the annual Illinois Municipal League Conference September 15-17, 2011. Conference registration is \$250.00. Hotel rate is \$209 per night. Trustee Seehausen's motion included only the Mayor. Trustee Kozy seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye: Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez, Peterson and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Peterson made a motion to ratify the Board action of June 28th to allow Village Engineer to work with ILEPA on behalf of the Village, regarding MS4 Stormwater permit. Trustee Perchinski seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to ratify the Board action of June 29th to allow the Steger Fire Department to use 330 Sauk Trail for training, at the owner's request. Trustee Peterson seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Lopez made a motion to ratify the Board action of June 29th to allow First Apostolic Church to use west ball field at Veterans Park for a few games on Sunday, July 17th from 2pm to dusk. Trustee Peterson seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Seehausen made a motion to ratify the Board action of June 29th to amend his motion on June 6th to approve the Village's application for a Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Grant in the amount of \$50,000.00. Changing the subsidizing of a whole building generator to energy efficient lighting at the Municipal Building and installation of 3 utility poles to support a net (at Veterans Park) which will prevent homes in the area from baseball damage. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Cook County CDBG awarded the Village a budget amount of \$200,000 for street reconstruction on Park, Halsted, Crescent and McKinley including curbs and gutters as needed.

Trustee Seehausen made a motion to approve the request from Cornell Hudson of the Fire and Police Board to hold a Police Sergeant Examination on July 30, 2011. The cost is not expected to exceed \$700.00. Trustee Peterson seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye: Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez, Peterson and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve Patrick Garcia and Melissa Garcia as probationary Firefighters, pending background checks and physical examinations at the request of Fire Chief Al Martinez. Trustee Peterson seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve an increase in Village disabled parking fines by \$100.00 to \$350.00 (as permitted by House Bill 1316), as requested by Progress Center for Independent Living. Trustee Peterson seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye: Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez, Peterson and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried. Trustee Peterson asked the Village Attorney to amend the Village Ordinance to reflect the change.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the request from the Steger Firefighters' Association to hold its annual street dance on Saturday, August 27th from 5 to 11pm at the Fire Department Headquarters at 3320 Lewis Avenue. The Firefighters Association would like to borrow traffic barricades, trash receptacles and all available picnic tables. They also request ESDA's support for the event and that the 3300 block of Lewis be closed from 4pm to midnight for the event. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye: Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez, Peterson and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the request from the Steger Firefighters' Association for a temporary special use liquor license for August 27th from noon to midnight serving beer and wine only at the annual Street Dance to be held at the Fire Department Headquarters at 3320 Lewis Avenue.

Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye: Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez, Peterson and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Kozy made a motion to approve the request from Joe Zagone of the Steger Kiwanis Club to hold its annual Peanut Day on Friday September 23, 2011. Kiwanis would like to sell peanuts at the major intersections of the Village and will provide safety cones and insurance. Trustee Peterson seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Peterson made a motion to approve the request of Jeff Bowman of 11 West 35th Place requests permission to host a block party on Saturday July 23rd. Trustee Peterson's motion limits the hours of the event to 2pm to midnight. Bowman requests traffic barriers to block off the street from 35th Place at Emerald to the east end of 35th Place at Chicago Road. Trustee Perchinski seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Seehausen made a motion to approve the request from First Apostolic Church to borrow 10-15 picnic tables on Friday, July 22nd from 9am to 2pm for Vacation Bible School picnic. Trustee Kozy seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the request from the Steger-South Chicago Heights Public Library to show the movie Rango at Veterans' Park on Friday August 5 (August 12th rain date). Trustee Peterson seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to install a stop sign on the west side of the Steger Commons building at the alley. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye: Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez, Peterson and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Seehausen made a motion to approve the Business License Application of Self Defense Studio, LLC at 16 E. 33rd Place, pending inspections. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye: Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez, Peterson and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

With the recommendation of Village Engineer Joe Schudt, Trustee Seehausen made a motion to accept the low bid of Invisusewer for the Infiltration Inflow work. Trustee Peterson seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye: Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez, Peterson and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

The Village Engineer explained that some overage funds from last year have been applied to this year's CDBG project #10-043, making that budget closer to \$250,000.00. Trustee Peterson made a motion to go out to bid for road reconstruction on parts of Peoria Street, as recommended by the Village Engineer. Trustee Perchinski seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye: Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez, Peterson and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Peterson made a motion to table Mayoral Appointments until after Executive Session. Trustee Perchinski seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

John Kaminski of 3335 Carpenter expressed concerns about the recent increase in crime. Kaminski asked what the Police Department is doing to combat crime. Trustee Peterson responded that the Police Department is aware of a group of juveniles that are burglarizing unlocked cars. There is another group that is kicking in back doors to enter and burglarize homes. The Police have a number of leads and are working to put an end to these two groups.

Robert Alexander of 3325 Hopkins inquired about the condition and activities over the weekend, including gun shots, at 3310 Hopkins. Trustee Peterson reported that a juvenile is in custody and another lead is under investigation. Peterson also stated that the Police are actively pursuing resolution to the situation.

Christie Ebert of 222 Barbara Lane, Coordinator for the Steger Neighborhood Watch stated that Neighborhood Watch is looking to organize volunteers to walk through neighborhoods and watch for suspicious individuals and activity. Ms. Ebert asked that neighbors report suspicious activity to the Police and not to say "it's none of my business".

Michelle Helsel of 188 W. 37th Place expressed frustration over crime in the community. Ms. Helsel asked why the Police Blotter in the Newspaper does not include all crime in the area. Trustee Peterson replied that the Newspaper determines the information that is released. Ms. Helsel stated that it would be helpful to know the vehicle being used for these burglaries. Trustee Peterson will discuss with Chief Stultz the information that can be released to the community. Ms. Helsel asked that the residents should work together to fight crime in the Village. Ms. Helsel thanked the Neighborhood Watch for their commitment and hard work. She suggested everyone attend their meetings.

Trustee Peterson acknowledged the concerns of Ms. Helsel and others. He thanked her for attending the meetings and the suggestion that all residents pull together.

Julie Stone of 3301 Hopkins reported severe flooding at her property due to being the “low spot” on the block. Ms. Stone asked that the engineer look into the problem. Trustee Peterson asked the Village Engineer and Project Manager look into the flooding and perhaps have the creek dredged out.

Pat Rossi of the Steger Police Department addressed the audience and explained that some of the juveniles arrested in the incidents discussed earlier. Rossi stated that it is unwise to leave desirable, easy to steal items visible to passersby. He stated that residents need to call the police when suspicious activity occurs. He also stated that juveniles in general receive lesser sentences than adult offenders. Rossi stated that the role of the Police is “reactionary.” When a call is received they “react.” Because of that, it is absolutely necessary for the residents to call when there is a problem.

Jeff Watson of 3749 Union Avenue stated that he witnessed illegal activity in front of the Hopkins home and contacted the Police. The Police arrived and tracked down four of the juveniles. Watson assured the Board he will continue to call the Police.

Village Attorney Burkey addressed the audience and discussed the need for the Village to receive its money from the state to assist in funding crime prevention. Mr. Burkey asked everyone to contact their state representatives and request the money that is due to the Village.

John Patrevito of Miller Woods is experiencing excessive speeding in the neighborhood. Mr. Patrevito would like a fiber glass speed bump installed to slow the traffic. The speed limit is 25mph there. Speeders are going 45-50 mph and do not stop at the stop sign.

Steve Thurmond approached the Board and reported that the Dixie Car Wash raised \$480.00 that was donated to the Chamber for the Fireworks display. The Hit it to Win it at Steger Summer Faire brought in \$295.00 that was donated to the Neighborhood Watch Program. Thurmond questioned the “abrupt closing” of the Faire at 10:15pm. He, too expressed concern about the recent increase in crime. He also recommended the police department reschedule its officers and bring back bicycles and ATVs to help in the problem. Trustee Peterson stated that the Village is actively working to resolve the crime problem and will continue to do so. Thurmond also asked if a different Police Chief might be better able to deal with crime. He asked again if cameras in high crime areas would help. Trustee Peterson advised him that he is researching cameras and other deterrents.

Michelle Helsel thanked the ESDA and its Director Roger Mumford for the job they do patrolling the village streets for very little pay.

Laurie Jones of 3622 Peoria stated that many areas of the Village are experiencing flooding problems. She wondered that perhaps village sewers are at fault.

Minutes of July 18, 2011 – page 9

Comments from the Floor (cont.)

Trustee Seehausen made a motion to adjourn to executive session at 8:30pm.

Trustee Peterson seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION-to discuss Personnel

Trustee Seehausen made a motion to reconvene the Board meeting at 9:20pm.

Trustee Peterson seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye: Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez, Peterson and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. The Meeting was reconvened.

Mayor Sherman appointed John Kaminski to Southeast Rail Mass Transit District Organization meetings, with the concurrence of the Board. Trustee Peterson made a motion to approve the Mayor's appointment. Trustee Perchinski seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye: Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez, Peterson and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Trustee Seehausen moved that the meeting adjourn. Trustee Kozy seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:22PM

Louis Sherman

Carmen S. Recupito, Jr., Village Clerk