

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 5th day of March, 2012 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 and Perchinski. Trustee Banicki was absent. Also present were Village Attorney Frank Burkey, Fire Chief Al Martinez, Deputy Fire Chief Jeff Roesner, Superintendent of Public Works Bill Cox, Community Center Director Diane Rossi, ESDA Director Roger Mumford, Code Enforcement Officer Edward Myers, and Police Chief Richard Stultz.

MINUTES

Trustee Seehausen moved that the reading of the 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 PERCHINSKI'S REPORT

Trustee Perchinski referred to Fire Chief Al Martinez. Chief Martinez reported that in February the Fire Department responded to 81 ambulance calls and 20 fire calls. There were a total of nine mutual aid calls given and five mutual aid calls received. There were 69 hours of training, including CPR, rescue awareness, search and rescue and reading smoke.

TRUSTEE PETERSON'S REPORT

Trustee Peterson reported that a residents meeting was held at the Village Hall to discuss the KMR Trucking license situation. Trustee Peterson reported that the Village Engineer is looking into records for the Sandy Ridge Subdivision Development Agreement. Trustee Peterson reported that there are also some drainage issues in the subdivision that must be researched in regard to a noise barrier fence. He will be researching and will bring back to the board further information when it is available.

Trustee Peterson also reported that the Chicago Southland Chamber of Commerce is holding an Expo at the Tinley Park Convention Center on March 30th & 31st. He asked that the Village promote the event on the Village Hall marquee and the Village website.

Police Chief Stultz reported that the Police Department will be doing "range training" now through next month.

TRUSTEE LOPEZ'S REPORT

Trustee Lopez referred to Community Center Director Diane Rossi. Mrs. Rossi reported that the Community Center fundraiser was held Saturday March 3rd and raised \$5,914.83 for children's programs. Mrs. Rossi thanked all who donated to the cause. The funds will be used for afterschool programs and to fully fund the Halloween Party for children. Trustee Lopez thanked Mrs. Rossi for her efforts and the efforts of Betsy Honea in putting the fundraiser together.

TRUSTEE KOZY'S REPORT

Trustee Kozy referred to ESDA Director/Project Manager Roger Mumford. Mr. Mumford reported that the Drivin' the Dixie will be held at Veterans Park this year. The Village will provide food again this year for the participants.

Mr. Mumford reported that two light poles were recently knocked down; one by a hit and run driver, the other by a wind storm. The Village electrical contractor has both poles at his shop where he'll repair the bases of the poles and hopes to have them re installed next week.

Mr. Mumford also reported that he and Code Enforcement Officer Ed Myers have been meeting with Dept. of Natural Resources regarding three drainage problems in Miller Woods. Another drainage issue exists off Chicago Road where a homeowner has dumped material that will cause area flooding. The material should be removed after the frost has cleared.

Mr. Mumford is also working on paper work for grants for both Veterans Park and Hecht Park.

TRUSTEE SEEHAUSEN'S REPORT

Trustee Seehausen referred to Superintendent of Public Works Bill Cox. Mr. Cox reported that in February all samples taken came back from ILEPA as satisfactory. The Water Department repaired four main breaks in the month of February.

Mr. Cox asked the Board to consider waiving the bid process and accept the proposal of Emergency Power Solutions of \$21,135.95 for a 48KW gas generator for the well house. Trustee Seehausen made a motion to approve the request. 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.

Mr. Cox also reported that maintenance of lawn equipment is underway in preparation for the spring season.

Mr. Cox met with the Village Engineer's office to discuss the detention area on Union Avenue. Storm water is draining into the sanitary sewer. The problem will be addressed this year.

TRUSTEE BANICKI'S REPORT

In the absence of Trustee Banicki, Trustee Lopez referred to Code Enforcement Officer Edward Myers. Mr. Myers reported that in February there were sixteen (16) permits issued for total revenue of \$2,139.00.

Mr. Myers asked that the Village Attorney draw up something to fall back on regarding recent complaints of mold in the area.

Mr. Myers stated that he continues to work with Trustee Banicki and Village Attorney Burkey regarding the ongoing situation at 3801 Union Avenue. Trustee Peterson asked how many tickets have been issued to 3801 Union Avenue. Mr. Myers stated that A/O tickets, C Tickets, Housing Court Tickets and Warnings have been issued. Mr. Burkey stated that the homeowner, Jeff Fink, was brought to court in 2009 and was to maintain the property over the following 6 months. Mr. Burkey was not informed of any deteriorating condition at the property. So, the court case expired. Mr. Myers offered photographs of the property to Trustee Peterson who stated he does not need photos; he wants Mr. Myers to fix the problem. Mr. Myers stated that the boulders and trees on the parkway at 3801 Union are not as big a problem as the junk automobiles on the property. Trustee Peterson asked that Mr. Myers continue to work under the direction of Trustee Banicki and continue to provide information that Trustee Banicki can share with the Trustees. Code Enforcement Officer Butch Brown stated that of the tickets issued to the owner of 3801 Union has also been issued citations for not having a business license. Trustee Perchinski asked about occupancy permits. Mr. Myers reported that each of the six homes inspected by Code Enforcement for re occupancy have been approved. Mr. Myers stated that there are three homes on Richton Road and three on Union Avenue owned by Mr. Fink. Trustee Lopez asked that all Board members receive the information regarding the citations, so that they may follow up with Trustee Banicki.

BILLS

Trustee Seehausen made a motion to approve the bills for payment as funds allow. 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.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Scout Leader Steve Thurmond reported that he is working with Scouts and the Steger Fire Department to locate a structure and placement of that structure so that the Village can accept donations of e-waste to be used to benefit Veterans through the Keeling Foundation program.

Betsy Honea, former Trustee, expressed concern that the Village would consider giving Village vehicles to Village employees who are not first emergency responders. Mrs. Honea expressed concern that with the cost of gasoline and the upkeep of vehicles, that the current policy be left in place.

Jeff Watson, 3749 Union Avenue asked Trustee Peterson to read aloud the 2009 court order regarding 3801 Union Avenue. Attorney Burkey stated that after 18 months in court, the case was dismissed and the property to be maintained or re opened after 6 months. Mr. Burkey was not informed of any status change at the property. Mr. Watson stated that in 2003 the EPA inspected the property and determined that grass must be maintained and all junk yard material should be kept in storage area of property. Mr. Watson stated that Mr. Fink's property at 3801 Union Avenue continues to be a nuisance and to operate without a business license. Mr. Watson asked for resolution to the nuisance. President Sherman thanked Mr. Watson for his input.

A Crete resident came forward and stated that Mr. Fink dumps his septic on a neighbor's property that floods into her yard. She also stated that he has not obtained building permits for any of the rehab work he has been doing there. Code Enforcement Officer Ed Myers stated that citations have been written for those violations. The Crete neighbor also has witnessed Mr. Fink draining something into the storm sewer. Trustee Seehausen asked Superintendent of Public works Bill Cox to inspect the storm sewer. The Crete neighbor also stated that when the Code Enforcers put a red code violation sticker on the buildings, Mr. Fink has removed them. Chief Stultz stated that that is indeed an offense. Chief Stultz also explained that "Crime Free Housing" ordinance will not pertain to this situation, it will pertain to renters.

Cliff of 512 W. Richton Road stated that Jeff Fink dug a trench for a pipe without permission across his property and property of others. Mr. Fink was also seen putting a hole in the sewer lines. Cliff stated that raccoons and other animals are seen in the area presumably from the poor condition of Fink's property.

COLLECTOR'S REPORT

The Village Clerk read the gross payroll for February 2012 which was \$205,334.23.

The Village Clerk read the Thorn Creek Basin Sanitary District charges for the month of February 2012, which was \$28,551.78.

The Village Clerk read the following Collector's Report for February 2012:
Collector's Report (cont.)

MUNICIPAL SALES TAX	\$44,930.43	December 2011
TELECOMMUNICATION TAX	\$24,350.43	December 2011
STATE INCOME TAX	\$ 0.00	Sept. 2011-DELAY
STATE INCOME TAX	\$ 0.00	Oct. 2011-DELAY
STATE INCOME TAX	\$ 0.00	Dec. 2011-DELAY
LOCAL USE TAX	\$11,374.48	January 2012
MOTOR FUEL TAX	\$19,355.87	January 2012
UTILITY REVENUE	\$20,662.00	January 2012

UTILITY REVENUE	\$ 14,061.08	January 2012
WILL COUNTY FINES	\$ 682.33	January 2012
COOK COUNTY FINES	\$ 328.76	December 2011

Trustee Seehausen made a motion to accept the Collector's Report and place it on file. The motion was seconded by Trustee Perchinski. Voice Vote: all ayes. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

OLD BUSINESS:

Trustee Peterson made a motion to table Reconsideration of KMR Trucking's business license and the possibility of sound barrier fence construction. Trustee Perchinski seconded the motion. Voice Vote: all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to table the request from the Keeling Family Foundation to place receptacles in the Village to collect unwanted electronics waste for recycling. The Keeling Family Foundation will use proceeds from the recycled e-waste to provide free computer training to military veterans. Steve Thurmond of Boy Scouts is working on construction of a weather proof structure at the Fire Department. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Voice Vote: all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Peterson made a motion to table an update to the use of Village vehicles policy. Trustee Perchinski seconded the motion. Voice Vote: all ayes. Motion carried. Trustee Peterson asked that all department heads with vehicle priveledges report to the Board with the number of calls from home they've responded to over the past year.

Trustee Seehausen made a motion to inspect businesses on an annual basis, prior to renewal. 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 discussion of Business License renewal procedures, inspections and forms so that the Fire Department may review the inspection report forms. Trustee Perchinski seconded the motion. Voice Vote: all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to accept the offer from Little League to make repairs to Hecht Park Concession Stand in exchange for the ComEd bill (\$1,256.86). 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.

Attorney Burkey explained that parkways and alleys are Village owned “right of ways”. As property of the Village, the Village has the right to trim and/or remove trees on Village owned right of ways.

NEW BUSINESS:

Trustee Peterson made a motion to accept the proposal from AH Websites to revamp the Village Website at a cost of \$3,000. Trustee Seehausen 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 allow the Steger Neighborhood Watch to place “Neighborhood Watch” signs up at more locations throughout the Village. Trustee Peterson directed the Neighborhood Watch to meet with Police Chief Stultz to determine which signs can be used. Trustee Peterson seconded the motion. Voice Vote: all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Seehausen made a motion to pay the Visu-Sewer invoice as recommended by Village Engineer Joe Schudt’s office. 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 made a motion to approve the request of Annmarie Kladis of Girl Scouts Unit 641 to plant a fir tree at the Community Center. To commemorate the Girl Scouts’ 100th birthday, a plaque will accompany the tree. The scouts would like to hold a small ceremony on April 21 or 22 to plant the tree. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Superintendent of Public Works will contact JULIE regarding placement of the tree. The Girls Scouts need to contact Community Center Director Diane Rossi to discuss a location for the tree. Voice Vote: all ayes. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION 7:52pm

Trustee Seehausen made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel and contract litigation. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez, Peterson and Perchinski. Motion carried.

At 8:06 pm the Board returned from Executive Session to discuss personnel. Trustee Perchinski made a motion to return to the Board Meeting. Trustee Kozy seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to return to the Board Meeting. Trustee Seehausen seconded the motion. Voice Vote: all ayes. Motion carried.

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Mayor Sherman appointed Mike Tilton as Crime Free Housing Administrator. Trustee Peterson made a motion to concur with the Mayor's appointment. 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.

ADJOURNMENT

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

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:07pm

Louis Sherman

Carmen S. Recupito, Jr., Village Clerk