

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 19th 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: Banicki, Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez and Perchinski. Trustee Peterson was absent. Also present were Village Attorney Frank Burkey, Fire Chief Al Martinez, Deputy Fire Chief Jeff Roesner, 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 BANICKI'S REPORT

Trustee Banicki referred to Code Enforcement Officer Ed Myers. Mr. Meyers reported that he's been working with Trustee Banicki and the Village Attorney and recently sent a list to Mr. Fink. Mr. Meyers also met with some of the contractors on Union Avenue and asked that they move their construction equipment behind their fences. These contractors include; Carta Construction, All Right Signs and Art Garrett.

Since the March 5th Board Meeting, Code Enforcement has assisted the Police Department with ten stray dog calls and has completed 30 re occupancy inspections.

Mr. Meyers is investigating the septic problem on Fink's property and will report back with results. He is waiting for a return call from the Illinois EPA.

Fifteen new cases will be brought into Housing Court and notices have been sent to Real Estate agents regarding sign permits.

327 Durham is scheduled for demolition due to a fire at the property.

Code Enforcement wrote a total 32 of citations.

TRUSTEE SEEHAUSEN'S REPORT

None

TRUSTEE KOZY'S REPORT

Trustee Kozy referred to ESDA Director/Project Manager Roger Mumford. Mr. Mumford reported that recently 3 light poles have been knocked down and should be re installed in the next two weeks.

Mr. Mumford has been working with Code Enforcement to resolve some drainage problems. A neighbor changed the natural swale and has been advised to remove the dirt from the alley to allow the natural flow of the drainage.

Trustee Seehausen asked Mr. Mumford to assist Harry Hammock in getting certain lights at Veterans Park repaired.

TRUSTEE LOPEZ'S REPORT

No Report for the Community Center or the Recreation Department

Trustee Lopez asked the Board to consider allowing Bloom High School to hold "Boogie with the Band 5K Run" on May 12th at 9am at Veterans Park. Trustee Perchinski made a motion to allow the 5K run, as long as there are no prior conflicts. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Banicki, Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

TRUSTEE PERCHINSKI'S REPORT

Trustee Perchinski had no report for the Fire Department, but thanked Chief Martinez for his years of service as Fire Chief for the Village of Steger. The audience applauded Chief Martinez. President Sherman expressed his thanks to Chief Martinez and said that the Chief has been a great asset to the Village.

BILLS

Trustee Seehausen made a motion to approve the bills for payment as funds allow. Trustee Banicki seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Banicki, Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Scott Smith of 87 E. 227th Street addressed the Board and stated that the address posts the Department of Public Works has been installing are not deep enough into the ground. He also stated that he has his address posted in three places on his property and does not care to have the Village's address post on his property. President Sherman instructed Mr. Smith to leave the post at the Village Hall as he exits the building.

Tom Joseph of Mainstreet Organization of Realtors and the Illinois Association of Realtors approached the Board regarding Ordinance No. 850-1 as it deals with Real Estate signs. Mr. Joseph expressed his disapproval of the sign ordinance on behalf of real estate agents and brokers. He questioned the application of the Ordinance, the fee and the application for sign permits.

Attorney Burkey recommended that the Board re evaluate the Ordinance.

Sue Rossi of ReMax 2000 asked the Board to reconsider the Sign Ordinance. Ms. Rossi stated that real estate signs are a realtor's most valuable tool and that the real estate market is "fragile".

Bruce Hackel approached the Board and expressed his feelings that the enforcement of the Ordinance will be burdensome to the Village Hall staff and Code Enforcement.

John Cella of 3544 Union expressed concern that the burden of a sign permit fee could force landlords to sell and leave the Village.

Trustee Perchinski stated the Ordinance needs to be reviewed.

Jim Rossi of ReMax 2000 re stated that the market is "fragile". He suggested that realtors will be happy to assist the Village in researching the market, as the Village reconsiders the Ordinance.

Alberto Lucente of 3329 Carpenter Street stated that when cars are parked on his street, he has to drive through mud to get around them. President Sherman asked Code Enforcement Officer Ed Meyers to investigate the parking situation. Mr. Lucente also stated that his daughter lives at 3306 Loverock. He stated that Loverock is very poor condition and would like the Village to make repairs to the street.

Mr. John Cella of 3544 Union reported that 36th Street on the west side of Union, also is need of attention. He asked that when the Village repairs Loverock, 36th Street is also repaired.

Harry Hammock of Baseball stated that the League has had trouble with losing baseballs and breaking windows. Hammock stated that a net is being delivered to the Village and can be installed to protect neighbors and from losing baseballs. Hammock said that the Village can request an intergovernmental agreement with another village (Homewood) to borrow equipment to install the nets. Trustee Lopez made a motion to enter into an intergovernmental agreement to borrow equipment over a weekend to install the netting. Trustee Banicki seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Banicki, Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Lopez made a motion to purchase cable to be used to secure netting at the softball fields, as requested by Harry Hammock. Trustee Banicki seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Banicki, Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

Chuck Harris of 22540 Sherman Road asked for assistance to stop neighbors from throwing garbage in the street and get neighbors to maintain the homes. Code Enforcement Officer Ed Meyers will contact the Mortgage Companies of record regarding abandoned or foreclosed homes. Mr. Meyers reported that Mike, the Crime Free Housing Administrator, is working with him on the problem.

Layne Platopoulos of 3210 Sandy Ridge Drive reported that cars are parking across the sidewalks and she has to walk her baby buggy in the street. Mrs. Platopoulos asked for assistance in clearing the sidewalks. Chief Stultz replied that if cars are parked across the sidewalk, Mrs. Platopoulos should call the police to report and that tickets will be issued. President Sherman stated that he will look into the problem.

Harry Hammock stated that in Homewood and Glenwood, the Villages make repairs and maintenance to foreclosed and abandoned homes and then lien the property for the cost of the repair. Village Clerk Recupito advised Mr. Hammock that the Village of Steger, too liens properties for repairs and recovers its costs.

Jeff Watson asked about the status of his Freedom of Information request. Clerk Recupito stated that all available information was supplied to Mr. Watson. Mr. Watson stated that at the previous Board Meeting, Code Enforcement Officer Ed Meyers stated he had a file several inches thick and that the file Watson received was much smaller. The Village Clerk reiterated that he had given Mr. Watson all the information available about 3801 Union Avenue, but if he felt something specific was missing he should call the clerk in the morning.

Michael Petreikis of 22711 Woodlawn asked for copies of his continuing education hours, training hours and call percentages for the time he worked for the Steger Fire Department from 2005-2010. Mr. Petreikis stated that he requested the information three months ago and is now in danger of suspension from the South Chicago Heights Fire Department because he has not produced the documentation. Deputy Fire Chief Jeff Roesner stated that he received the request on Sunday, March 18th at the Fire Station. The request has been processed and Mr. Petreikis was advised prior to the start of this evening's meeting, that the paperwork is ready.

Tom Joseph asked that Mayor Sherman and Village Attorney Burkey meet with him to discuss Ordinance No. 850-1 in the next few days. Mayor Sherman agreed to meet any time.

Trustee Seehausen requested that two ceiling fans be installed at the Community Center workout room. Trustee Lopez promised to look into it with Community Center Director Diane Rossi.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

OLD BUSINESS:

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

Village Clerk Recupito spoke to the Keeling Family and was informed that they'll be working with the Crete Lions Club to provide a recycling facility for e waste and that it if no longer necessary to locate a Steger facility for the recycling. Trustee Perchinski mentioned that he's been in contact with another group that does not require an indoor space for e waste. He'll share the information with Clerk Recupito.

Trustee Lopez made a motion to table an update to the use of Village vehicles policy until usage reports are received from all department heads. Trustee Perchinski seconded the motion. Voice Vote: all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the Annual Business License renewal procedures, inspections and forms as provided. Trustee Seehausen seconded the motion. Voice Vote: all ayes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement by and between Will County 9-1-1 and the Village of Steger. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Banicki, Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Banicki made a motion to table Discussion on adopting a Debt Recovery Ordinance until Attorney Burkey has a chance to review. Trustee Perchinski seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Banicki, Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Seehausen made a motion to table an Intergovernmental Agreement by and between the Illinois Office of the Comptroller and the Village of Steger regarding access to the Comptroller's Local Debt Recover Program. Trustee Banicki seconded the motion. Voice Vote: all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to table the from the Village Clerk's request for approval of certain projects to be completed with funds from a Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity grant. Attorney Burkey suggested a whole house generator at the Community Center might be more important than one for the Village Hall. Project Manager Mumford will collect pricing. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Banicki, Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Seehausen made a motion to approve the request Michelle Foreman of Signature Sports Bar and Grill for an extension on her 45 day temporary business license. Her temporary license will expire March 22nd. Trustee Kozy seconded the

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

Trustee Seehausen made a motion to approve the request of Sandra Gibbs, Event Coordinator for the Steger Fire Department 6th Annual Easter Egg Hunt to hold the event on Friday March 23rd and Saturday March 24th in the open field kitty corner from the Fire Department Headquarters. Trustee Banicki seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Banicki, Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Kozy made a motion to approve the Village Clerk's request to advertise for bids for; Asphalt, Gravel/Stone, Lawn Mowing, Concrete, Tree Trimming/Removal, HVAC Maintenance and Street Lights Maintenance. Trustee Seehausen seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Banicki, Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Seehausen made a motion to authorize a second letter from Superintendent of Public Works Bill Cox regarding to the 77 remaining non-compliant (Ord. 981) homes. Trustee Banicki seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Banicki, Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to waive the bidding process and accept the low bid of Keith's Power Equipment as quoted for a Public Works Mower as requested by Trustee Seehausen. Trustee Kozy seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Banicki, Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to accept Bradley Rivera as a probationary firefighter/investigator, Shawna Rivera as a probationary firefighter and Robert Malone as a probationary firefighter/EMT pending background checks, as requested by Fire Chief Al Martinez. Trustee Seehausen seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Banicki, Seehausen, Kozy, Lopez and Perchinski. President Sherman voted aye. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee Perchinski read the Fire Department's Easter Egg Hunt schedule

EXECUTIVE SESSION 7:50pm

Trustee Seehausen made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Voice Vote: all ayes. Motion carried.

At 8:27 pm the Board returned from Executive Session to discuss personnel.

Mayor Sherman appointed Harry Hammock as Chairman of the Recreation Board. Trustee Seehausen 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 Lopez seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:29pm

Louis Sherman

Carmen S. Recupito, Jr., Village Clerk