

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 5<sup>TH</sup> day of May, 2014 in the Municipal Building of the Village of Steger with President Peterson 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: Skrezyna, Kozy, Lopez, Sarek and Perchinski. Also present were HR Director Mary Jo Seehausen, Director of Public Infrastructure Dave Toepper, Fire Chief Jeff Roesner, EMA Chief Tom Johnston, Police Chief Greg Rambo, Community Center Director Diane Rossi, Village Administrator Mike Tilton and Village Treasurer Ryan Buxton.

**AWARDS, HONORS & SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS**

Trustee Lopez made a motion to move Resolution No. 1055 from New Business to this point in the agenda. Trustee Sarek seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Mayor Peterson invited Pam Banicki and her family to come forward. The Village Clerk read Resolution No. 1055, A RESOLUTION HONORING TRUSTEE ANDREW L. BANICKI. Trustee Lopez made a motion to approve Resolution No. 1055. Trustee Sarek seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Skrezyna, Kozy, Lopez, Sarek and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried. Pam Banicki thanked the Board and the community for their support.

**MINUTES**

Trustee Lopez made a motion to approve the minutes as written, with one minor change of phrasing. Trustee Sarek seconded the motion. Voice vote was called; all ayes. Motion carried.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

John Cashman of 3510 Phillips approached the Board regarding the cost of building permits in Steger. Mr. Cashman submitted a letter to the Board and has suggested the Board look into the permits costs and compares them with neighboring communities. Mayor Peterson will be reviewing permit fees with Public Infrastructure Director Dave Toepper. Trustee Sarek commented that Mr. Cashman's letter also referred to parking spaces at Raspberry's Restaurant. Trustee Sarek recommended the two end spaces be designated No Parking areas. Mayor Peterson assured Mr. Cashman that the Board will look into the parking situation.

Meredith Horn of 22805 State Street discussed a proposal for purchase of property at Sauk Trail and Cottage Grove. Ms. Horn explained that a huge liability exists for the purchaser of old gas stations. Mayor Peterson explained that at this point, the attorneys have been instructed to gather information regarding the properties under discussion. Mayor Peterson thanked Ms. Horn for sharing her concerns.

Roger Wommack 3535 Halsted shared information regarding the June 21<sup>st</sup> Dixie Dash. The annual event will be held at the Kmart parking lot. Mr. Wommack requested traffic assistance from EMA and picnic tables from Public Works. Mr. Wommack explained that the Dixie Dash Committee has offered a sign (at no charge to the Village) and needs some historic photos to be used on the sign. Clerk Recupito will contact the Historical Society for photos. Mr. Wommack also suggested the Village provide a D.J. for the event. Mayor Peterson will provide some contacts.

## **REPORTS**

**Village Administrator Mike Tilton** reported that the Village has received a \$25,000 grant from the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity for road and infrastructure repair.

Mr. Tilton will be applying for a no cost grant for CMAP and zoning ordinance update.

Mr. Tilton will be meeting Thursday with Lydia regarding the tree grant.

**Director of Public Infrastructure Dave Toepper** reported that Public Works will begin hydrant flushing in the next few weeks. Notice will be given to residents and the whole town will be flushed spring and fall going forward. Mr. Tilton suggested a CodeRed message be sent out to advise neighbors of the flushing.

Mr. Toepper also reported that tree removal services will begin soon.

**Fire Chief Jeff Roesner** reported that in April, the Fire Department responded to 14 Fire calls and 83 Medical calls. There were 16 mutual aid given and 13 received. Thus far in 2014 the Fire Department has responded to 428 calls.

**Police Chief Greg Rambo** had no report.

**EMA Chief Tom Johnston** reported that in April, EMA had 6 emergency call outs, 12 patrols and 2 special details. The new emergency siren has been delivered and installation is to be scheduled shortly.

**Community Center Director Diane Rossi** had no report.

**HR Director Mary Jo Seehausen** had no report.

**Village Treasurer Ryan Buxton** reported on the period ending April 30th, his report is attached.

## **TRUSTEES' REPORTS**

**Trustee Skrezyna** had no report, but asked Director of Public Infrastructure to introduce Romulus Biris the newly hired Code Enforcement Officer.

**Trustee Kozy** had no report.

**Trustee Lopez** had no report

**Trustee Sarek** reported opening day for Girls Softball will be Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. The Softball league has had a number of larger bills recently, and requests help from the Village. Recreation Board President Harry Hammock has offered to borrow a bucket truck, at no cost, the next time softball netting needs to be installed or removed for repairs.

Trustee Sarek asked about a budget for *The Steger Days of Music*. Mayor Peterson explained that plans are underway. Mayor Peterson is also looking for sponsors for the event.

**Trustee Perchinski** reported that the Fire Department lost a member today; Captain Jim Couch passed away. Captain Couch was with the Department for sixteen years.

### **CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk had no report.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The Mayor had no report

### **BILLS**

Trustee Skrezyna made a motion to pay the bills as listed, as all members have copies. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Skrezyna, Kozy, Lopez, Sarek and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

A letter from John Cashman regarding building permit fees, railroad crossing at 35th Street and parking situation at Raspberry's Restaurant.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Trustee Lopez made a motion to table indefinitely the request by Chief Rambo to fill the Administrative Assistant position that was vacated with the promotion/job change of Ms. Seehausen to HR Director. Trustee Perchinski seconded the motion. Voice vote was called; all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the request of Summer Band Director Edward Fitzgerald for a budget of \$3,300 for the 2014 Summer Band. Trustee Sarek seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Skrezyna, Kozy, Lopez, Sarek and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve RESOLUTION NO. 1056 AUTHORIZING ENTRY INTO A CONTRACT TO JOIN THE SOUTH SUBURBAN GIS CONSORTIUM AND APPOINTMENT OF A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE STEERING COMMITTEE. Trustee Sarek seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Skrezyna, Kozy, Lopez, Perchinski and Sarek. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried. Mayor Peterson stated that pursuant to the resolution, he will be appointing Mr. Toepper as the Village representative.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the Fibromyalgia Awareness Day Proclamation. Trustee Sarek seconded the motion. Voice vote was called; all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to table indefinitely, an Amendment to the Agreement between the Village of Steger and Municipal Systems, Inc. regarding web-based software. Trustee Skrezyna seconded the motion. Voice vote was called; all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski explained that the Police Department is required to have separate space from the Village Hall. Currently, the HR Director's office is in the Police Department. Several options are available, including renovations, expansion or new construction. Mayor Peterson and Mr. Tilton have been discussing options and financing with a company. Mayor Peterson suggests collecting all proposals and making a decision.

Trustee Lopez made a motion to approve the request of The Steger-South Chicago Heights Library to host a Movie in the Park Night on Friday August 8th at Veterans Park starting at dusk. Trustee Sarek seconded the motion. Voice vote was called; all ayes. Motion carried.

After discussion, Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the request of Police Chief Greg Rambo for approval of purchase of in-car computers for eight police cars with necessary hardware. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Approximate cost is \$38,000.00. Chief Rambo explained that smaller notepads are more portable. Chief Rambo expects installation can be completed in house at approximately an additional \$1,000.00. There will be a monthly fee of about \$50 per month for air cards. Three year, no interest financing is available. Chief Rambo expects that \$25,000 will need to be financed. The remainder is available in federal drug seizure money and some 9-1-1 money coming in. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Skrezyna, Kozy, Lopez, Perchinski and Sarek. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Kozy made a motion to approve the request of the American Legion Post 521 for chairs and traffic control for the annual Memorial Day service. This year's event will be held on Monday, May 26th at 10am. Mayor Peterson has been invited to speak at the event. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Voice vote was called; all ayes. Motion carried.

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Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the Temporary Business License Application of The Treasure Chest at 33 East 34th Street, pending inspections. Trustee Skrezyna seconded the motion. Voice vote was called; all ayes. Motion carried.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

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

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:41pm.**

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Kenneth A. Peterson, Jr., Village President

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Carmen S. Recupito, Jr., Village Clerk