

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 21st day of July, 2014 in the Fire Department Headquarters 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: Buxton, Skrezyna, Kozy, Lopez and Sarek. Trustee Perchinski was absent. Also present were HR Director Mary Jo Seehausen, Director of Public Infrastructure Dave Toepper, EMA Chief Tom Johnston, Police Chief Carl Mormann, Community Center Director Diane Rossi and Village Administrator Mike Tilton.

AWARDS, HONORS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

The Clerk swore into office Fire Chief Nowell Fillion. Lt. Mike Long and Lt. Rick Gibbs presented Chief Fillion with his Chief's hat and fire helmet. Lisa Fillion pinned the Chief's badge onto Chief Fillion's uniform.

MINUTES

Trustee Lopez made a motion to approve the Minutes the July 7th Village Board Meeting, as written, as all members have copies. Trustee Sarek seconded the motion. Voice vote was called; all ayes. Motion carried.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Bob Joyce of 3246 Phillips approached the Board and inquired of the decision to remove Mr. Roesner as a paramedic and firefighter from the Steger Fire Department. Mayor Peterson explained that the decision was his and that of the Fire Chief.

Roger Wommack of 3535 Halsted Boulevard requested assistance for traffic control from EMA for a car show at Columbia Central School on August 9th. Chief Johnston agreed to provide one or two members for traffic control.

Charles Fillion of the Steger Area Chamber of Commerce thanked the Village Board and all Village Departments for assistance during the recent Steger Summer Faire.

Layne Marino Platopoulos of 3210 Sandy Ridge Drive approached the Board. Ms. Platopoulos reported that scavengers have been seen at the former Tidy John location.

REPORTS

Village Administrator Mike Tilton reported that the Village of South Chicago Heights wants to include the train tracks at 26th Street in the quiet zone study.

Mr. Tilton also explained that the architect should have dollar figures to present regarding the damage at the Village Hall at 35 W. 34th Street, due to the June 30th fire.

Director of Public Infrastructure Dave Toepper reported that the tree program is underway. The trimming service will probably be removing trees in the Village for the next 6 weeks. With help from the Steger Fire Department, Mr. Toepper hopes to begin flushing hydrants soon.

Fire Chief Nowell Fillion reported that in June the Fire Department responded 73 emergency calls; 11 fire and 62 ambulance. There were eight calls for Mutual aid and five were received. Chief Fillion reported on a recent fire on Morgan Street. He stated that his Department “knocked down” the fire in 26 minutes. He was very pleased with the success of the department. He also thanked Lisa Fillion, Colleen Watson and Christina Ragusin for their help and support, stuffing envelopes and helping out around the fire house. Chief Fillion also congratulated Todd Ragusin on completion of his basic firefighter test.

Police Chief Carl Mormann reported on daily police activities during the previous two week period.

EMA Chief Tom Johnston reported that Emergency Management was preparing for patrols and security at the upcoming Steger Days of Music.

Community Center Director Diane Rossi had no report.

HR Director Mary Jo Seehausen updated the Board on the insurance company’s progress regarding the damages due to the fire of June 30th. Ms. Seehausen also asked that those employees who have not yet submitted life insurance information need to do so right away.

TRUSTEES’ REPORTS

Trustee Lopez had no report.

Trustee Sarek reported that the baseball program has raised some concerns regarding the fireworks scheduled for July 27th. Charles Fillion of the Chamber of Commerce assured Mr. Sarek that the fireworks will not be set up until after the baseball tournament’s conclusion on July 26th.

Trustee Kozy had no report.

Trustee Skrezyna had no report.

Trustee Buxton had no report.

THE CLERK had no report.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mayor Peterson thanked all Village Departments for their cooperation during the recent fire. Mayor Peterson also expressed gratitude to all Department Heads for their efforts during the fire

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; Buxton, Skrezyna, Kozy, Lopez and Sarek. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Trustee Lopez made a motion to accept the SSLBA Intergovernmental Agreement. Trustee Skrezyna seconded the motion. The roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Buxton, Skrezyna, Kozy, Lopez and Sarek. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Trustee Lopez made a motion to approve ORDINANCE NO. 1072 CLARIFYING THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE OFFICE OF FIRE CHIEF FOR THE VILLAGE OF STEGER. Trustee Sarek seconded the motion. The roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Buxton, Skrezyna, Kozy, Lopez and Sarek. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Lopez made a motion to approve the request of Police Chief Carl A. Mormann to purchase a 2015 Ford Explorer at a cost of \$29,861.00 which includes installation of necessary equipment. Trustee Skrezyna seconded the motion. The roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Buxton, Skrezyna, Kozy, Lopez and Sarek. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Skrezyna made a motion to borrow the funds to purchase the 2015 Ford Explorer. Trustee Buxton seconded the motion. The roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Buxton, Skrezyna, Kozy, Lopez and Sarek. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Skrezyna made a motion to approve the request of Police Chief Carl A. Mormann to purchase the Lexipol law enforcement policy manual and daily training bulletins at an initial cost of \$4,950.00. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. The roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Buxton, Skrezyna, Kozy, Lopez and Sarek. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Sarek made a motion to approve Fire Chief Nowell Fillion's proposal for a second shift. Trustee Skrezyna seconded the motion. The roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Buxton, Skrezyna, Kozy, Lopez and Sarek. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Sarek made a motion to approve the Village's participation with 9 neighboring communities, in the RECon Booth to promote the Village of Steger with national businesses and big box retailers. Trustee Buxton seconded the motion. A deposit of \$650.00 will be required. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Buxton, Skrezyna, Kozy, Lopez and Sarek. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Sarek made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Board regarding a zoning change from B-1 to R-2 Single Family Residential at the address commonly known as 84 E. 34th Street, as requested by the petitioner. Trustee Skrezyna seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Buxton, Skrezyna, Kozy, Lopez and Sarek. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Skrezyna made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Board regarding a special use variance on the property commonly known as 3140 Union Avenue to allow for operation of a Day Care Center at the property currently zoned B-1 Business District. Trustee Buxton seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Buxton, Skrezyna, Kozy, Lopez and Sarek. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried. Discussion followed regarding parking at the area. The petitioner, Tina Schwartzkopf asked that she be allowed to use an area currently designated a street (but not paved) as a parking area for up to 4 employees and parents dropping off children. Police Chief Mormann suggested that he and Fire Chief Fillion look at the area to make certain that rescue vehicles can gain access to the area in the event of an emergency. Trustee Skrezyna made a motion to table the parking issue until the Fire and Police Chiefs can investigate. Trustee Sarek seconded the motion. Voice vote was called; all ayes. Motion carried.

After discussion, Trustee Lopez made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Board to allow Adult Use in Industrial Areas zoned M-1 and M-2 only and that those businesses are required to comply with all state and county requirements for adult use businesses. Trustee Skrezyna seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Buxton, Skrezyna, Kozy, Lopez and Sarek. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

Village Administrator Mike Tilton will research an alarm system for the recreation building at Veterans Park.

At the request of the Steger Firefighters' Association, Trustee Sarek made a motion to close the 3300 block of Lewis Avenue on August 16th for the Annual Firefighters Street Dance from 9am to midnight. Emergency Management staff will be available for the event. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Voice vote was called; all ayes. Motion carried.

After discussion on the Temporary Business License Application of Knightway Services at 22840 Woodlawn Avenue, Trustee Lopez made a motion to table the request. As Knightway is a trucking company, the Board needs to know if any trailers will be stored at the site and if so, what will be stored in them. Trustee Kozy seconded the motion. Voice vote was called; all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Lopez made a motion to approve the temporary license application of Dollar General Store at 3009 Chicago Road, pending inspections. Trustee Skrezyna seconded the motion. Voice vote was called; all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Lopez made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss personnel: 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (2) Collective bargaining matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees, pursuant to Section 2(c)(2) of the Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) Appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees, pursuant to Section 2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act. Trustee Kozy seconded the motion. The roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Buxton, Skrezyna, Kozy, Lopez and Sarek. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried. **7:35pm**

Trustee Lopez made a motion to return to regular session. Trustee Skrezyna seconded the motion. The roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Buxton, Skrezyna, Kozy, Lopez and Sarek. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried. **7:55pm**

ADJOURNMENT

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

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:56pm.

Kenneth A. Peterson, Jr., Village President

Carmen S. Recupito, Jr., Village Clerk