

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 August, 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, Lopez, Sarek and Perchinski. Trustee Kozy was absent. Also present were HR Director Mary Jo Seehausen, Director of Public Infrastructure Dave Toepper, EMA Chief Tom Johnston, Police Chief Carl Mormann, Fire Chief Nowell Fillion, Community Center Director Diane Rossi and Housing Director Alice Peterson.

MINUTES

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the Minutes of the August 4th and 11th Village Board Meetings. Trustee Perchinski stated that on page 4 of the August 4th Meeting Minutes, he should have made a motion to approve the position of Fire Inspector and not to hire Richard Marino, as the Board does not hire. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Voice vote was called; all ayes. Motion carried.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

John Cashman of 3510 Phillips asked the Mayor for a dollar amount for the November Referendum. Mayor Peterson explained that the architect will discuss options later in the meeting, but the Ordinance regarding the referendum to be discussed will be for \$14,650,000.00.

Carol Lindeman of 215 Barbara Lane expressed thanks to the Department of Public Works for cleaning the creek. The park looks better and the water is flowing better as well.

Mr. Neubauer of 3017 Sangamon asked when trees on the Cook County side of the village will be trimmed and removed. Infrastructure Director Dave Toepper explained that over 300 trees need to be removed and that removal is going street by street and will get to his neighborhood. Mr. Toepper explained to Trustee Skrezyna that the process is about 30% complete and the process began with the most dangerous trees.

Virginia Bragg of 3523 Peoria, representing Steger Little League asked for permission to hold tag days on August 29 – 30 at 34th Street and Chicago Road. Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve Little League's request. Trustee Sarek seconded the motion. Voice vote all ayes; motion carried.

Tom Seehausen of Dorsetshire Drive complimented the Board on the job done on the streets on the west side of town and asked when the east side might expect road work. Director Toepper explained that the engineer is looking at the roads and hopes to go to bid this year.

REPORTS

Infrastructure Director Dave Toepper reported that work on removal of trees continues.

Mr. Toepper also reported that Dollar General hopes to be open for business in two weeks.

Fire Chief Nowell Fillion reported year-to-date the Fire Department has had 882 calls. In the previous two week period, the Fire Department has had 70 ambulance calls, 12 fire calls, 1 accident call and 3 calls for Mutual Aid.

There have been two new hires on the department and currently 5 applications are being processed.

On August 12th the Department attended Mutual Aid Training with Crete, Crete Township, South Chicago Heights and Beecher Fire Departments.

Four Department members are currently enrolled in the Prairie State E.M.T. program. The annual Street Dance was held on August 16th and was a great success.

Police Chief Carl Mormann reported that he attended the Suburban Major Accident Reconstruction Team (S.M.A.R.T.) meeting and is a member of its Board. Chief Mormann will be assigning an officer to the team.

EMA Chief Tom Johnston invited the Village Board Members to attend EMA training meetings on Sunday evenings at 6pm.

Community Center Director Diane Rossi had no report.

HR Director Mary Jo Seehausen had no report.

Housing Director Alice Peterson attended a South Suburban Land Bank meeting on July 21st. A bank that owned a house at 35th Street and Morgan donated the house to the SSLB with a closing in the next 30 days. The bank also donated \$10,000 for improvements to the house. Mrs. Peterson is attempting to contact a private company that flips houses. The company has expressed interest in a home at 34th Street and Wallace.

Trustee Ryan Buxton gave a financial report. His report is attached. Trustee Buxton reported that the audit will begin in September and budget work will begin shortly, due to the change to a calendar year from the fiscal year. An "action plan" was required by the previous audit. Policy and procedures items need to be built out. Templates are being reviewed.

TRUSTEES' REPORTS

Trustee Sarek stated that the Girls Softball program has raised money to install a permanent fence with a double gate all the way around the softball field. Mayor Peterson suggested that the Recreation Board weigh in on the fence.

Trustee Skrezyna inquired if the trees to be removed will be replaced. Director Toepper explained that the Village Administrator has been working on grants for trees to replace those removed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mayor Peterson discussed the possible options for rebuilding the Village Hall. The Police Department would cost \$4.9 million to bring up to code. The cost to build a new building would cost an estimated \$10 million. One new building for both the Village Hall and the Police Department or renovating the current Village Hall for the Police Department and building a new Village Hall would cost approximately \$14,650,000.00. This cost includes land acquisition, building, landscaping, furniture, computers, desks, utility connections, etc. Insurance will be a consideration of the actual dollar amount that will be required.

PAYING THE BILLS

Trustee Skrezyna made a motion to pay the bills as listed. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following trustees voted aye; Buxton, Skrezyna, Lopez, Sarek and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to adopt ORDINANCE NO. 1073 PROVIDING FOR AND REQUIRING THE SUBMISSION OF THE QUESTION OF ISSUING GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS TO THE VOTERS OF THE VILLAGE OF STEGER, COOK AND WILL COUNTIES, AT THE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON THE 4TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2014. Trustee Perchinski set the amount to be requested at \$14,650,000.00. Architect Mario Planera explained that the number is high, but better to be overreaching than short sighted. Mr. Planera explained that the number includes a 4% escalation assumption per year over 3 year period. Trustee Perchinski stated educating residents to the project and its costs will be important. A combined building for Village Hall and Police Department would be 20,000 square feet. If the Police Department renovates and stays at 35 W. 34th Street a Village Hall would be built with 10,000 square feet. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following trustees voted aye; Buxton, Skrezyna, Lopez, Sarek and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Lopez made a motion to approve RESOLUTION NO. 1060 BYTTOW WOODWORKING at 3205 LOVEROCK 6B TAX ASSESSMENT CLASSIFICATION. Trustee Skrezyna seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following trustees voted aye; Buxton, Skrezyna, Lopez, Sarek and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

Mayor Peterson appointed Mark Huddle as bond counsel for the potential bond issue regarding the referendum. Mr. Huddle would only be paid if bonds were issued. Trustee Perchinski made a motion to concur with the Mayor's appointment. Trustee Sarek seconded the motion. Voice vote all ayes; motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the Village Administrator's request to send HR Director and Administrator to the IML Conference to be held in September. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following trustees voted aye; Buxton, Skrezyna, Lopez, Sarek and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to allow Kmart to use the Village Parking lot at 3231 Chicago Road on October 4th for the annual Community Safety Event. Trustee Sarek seconded the motion. Voice vote all ayes; motion carried.

The next meeting of the Steger Village Board will be held on Tuesday September 2nd

The Village Hall will be closed on Monday September 1st for Labor Day.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to adjourn to closed session to discuss Contract negotiations, Criminal Investigations and Personnel. 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 Discussion of Ongoing, Prior or Future Criminal Investigations (Discussion Of This Matter Held in Closed/Executive Session Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(14))." Trustee Sarek seconded the motion. Voice vote all ayes; motion carried. **7:49pm**

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to return to regular session. Trustee Sarek seconded the motion. The roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Buxton, Skrezyna, Lopez, Sarek and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried. **8:56pm**

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Sarek made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Skrezyna seconded the motion. Voice vote all ayes; motion carried.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:57pm.

Kenneth A. Peterson, Jr., Village President

Carmen S. Recupito, Jr., Village Clerk