

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 16th day of March, 2015 in the Municipal Building of the Village of Steger with the Village Clerk Carmen S. Recupito, Jr. attending and President Kenneth A. Peterson, Jr. presiding.

Boy Scout Troop #100 led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance

The Village Clerk called the roll and the following Trustees were present: Buxton, Skrezyna, Kozy, Lopez, Sarek and Perchinski. Also present were Village Administrator Mike Tilton, HR Director Mary Jo Seehausen, Deputy Fire Chief James Baine, Director of Public Infrastructure Dave Toepper, EMA Chief Tom Johnston, Housing and Community Development Director Alice Peterson and Police Chief Carl A. Mormann.

AWARDS, HONORS & SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

Mayor Peterson read RESOLUTION NO. 1073 A RESOLUTION HONORING EAGLE BOY SCOUT TIMOTHY G. PORTER II. Trustee Perchinski made a motion to accept Resolution No. 1073. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried. Mayor Peterson, The Village Board and the audience congratulated Mr. Porter. Mayor Peterson also presented Mr. Porter with a U.S. flag that was flown over the U.S. capitol.

Fire & Police Board Secretary Matt Wenzel and Commissioner Roger Wommack swore Jordan Lane to the office of Full Time Patrolman. Police Chief Mormann Mayor Peterson, the Village Board and audience congratulated Officer Lane.

MINUTES

Trustee Lopez made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous Board Meeting, as written. Trustee Sarek seconded the motion. Voice vote was called; all ayes. Motion carried.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Robin Beeson of 37th Street and Chicago Road discussed concerns regarding resident parking in her neighborhood. Mayor Peterson will discuss the concerns with the Public Infrastructure Director and Police Chief.

Jim Patrevito of 85 East 227th Place inquired about the Village Ordinance regarding dogs. Mr. Patrevito expressed concerns with a neighbor on State Street. Infrastructure Director Dave Toepper is addressing the issue.

Mr. Patrevito also inquired about road construction in his neighborhood. Director Toepper replied that Iroquois Paving is set to do the work in coming months.

REPORTS

Village Administrator Mike Tilton reported that Iroquois Paving is scheduled to complete road work on Rt. 1 from Richton Road to Joe Orr Road. Roger Wommack will share the information with the “Drivin the Dixie” Committee at its next meeting.

Robinson Engineering has started its process at the Quiet Zones at railroad crossings on 35th, 34th and 31st Streets. He discussed Steger’s needs for both a Village Hall and water infrastructure.

Administrator Tilton was in Washington D.C. last week. He met with Senator Dick Durbin’s office and Congresswoman Robin Kelly’s office. Both Durbin’s people and Kelly’s people were very receptive.

Director of Public Infrastructure Dave Toepper reported that Public Works is working on spring clean up, scheduling spring street sweeping,

Deputy Fire Chief James Baine was called away to an ambulance call.

Police Chief Carl A. Mormann referred to his weekly reports.

Chief Mormann also reported that the first Coffee with a Cop March 9th at the Louis Sherman Community Center went very well with 25 residents and 9 officers attending. The next Coffee with a Cop will be April 13th at Raspberry’s Pancake House.

EMA Chief Tom Johnston congratulated Jordan Lane on being sworn in as a Patrolman.

Chief Johnston reported that this Saturday EMA will be helping Columbia Central with a Band and Choir event at the school.

Community Center Director Diane Rossi was absent.

HR Director Mary Jo Seehausen had no report.

Housing and Community Development Director Alice Peterson reported she attended a Metropolitan Mayors Caucus meeting. The Housing and Community Development Committee met prior to tonight’s meeting and adopted a “Welcome to Steger” news residents’ packet. The packet will be on the Village website and in flyers at the Village Hall. The Committee is also working on a Landlord/Tenant agreement. The Illinois Department of Housing has a new program; a 30 year fixed rate mortgage with down payment assistance to first time home buyers and repeat home buyers. It’s the first time it’s being offered to repeat home buyers. The information is available at @homeillinois.

Trustee Buxton gave the financial report. His report is attached to the minutes.

TRUSTEES' REPORTS

Trustee Skrezyna had no report.

Trustee Lopez had no report.

Trustee Sarek reported that the Football program planned to seed the football field. The program requests \$200 from the Village to assist in the cost of the seeding as the "Steger Days of Music" will be using the field this summer. Trustee Perchinski made the motion, seconded by Trustee Skrezyna. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Perchinski, Sarek, Lopez, Kozy, Skrezyna and Buxton. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Sarek also reported that the gym floor at the Community Center has been repaired and looks great.

Trustee Perchinski had no report.

CLERK'S REPORT had no report.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT- State of the Village Report

Mayor Peterson reported that he is very impressed with the work the Board and the employees have done. Two years ago, when he took office he faced an estimated \$1,000,000.00 deficit. With the hard work of the Board, the Department Heads and all employees, the Village is now at a surplus of over \$560,000.00.

Mayor Peterson explained that the new Governor of Illinois has been taking some revenues away from the Villages. The Core proposal could take away about \$480,000.00 from the Village. Steger has to work hard to stay efficient to stay in the black and not go back into the red.

Over the past year, we've improved our water quality, increased police presence and the number of officers, brought back the newsletter with advertisers that pay for the newsletter, created new programs to deal with foreclosed and abandoned homes, better internal controls and financial reporting, LED lights have been installed in the park, many trees have been removed due to disease and insects and hired a Village Administrator and reorganized operations. A 30 year old law suit with the Village of Crete has been settled and Steger is now working with Crete to build a bike path from Crete to Steger. Working with South Suburban Mayors and Managers and surrounding communities, an enterprise zone has been established on IL394. Steger is in the final stages of creating the "quiet zone" so that trains no longer blow their horns as they pass through town. New technologies are making the Village more streamlined and responsive. Work on a new Village Hall and Police Station continues. Information gathering is in progress, when information is complete, the Village will come back to the residents to share. The Board will want input from residents.

BILLS

Trustee Skrezyna made a motion to pay the bills as listed, with one exception. The invoice for EXCEL Electric should be \$1,200. Trustee Kozy seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Buxton, Skrezyna, Kozy, Lopez, Sarek and Perchinski. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

OLD BUSINESS:

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to table Mayoral Appointments to Boards and Commissions, at the Mayor's request. Trustee Kozy seconded the motion. Voice vote was called; all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to table the Liquor License Application of Mahmood Lakha 500 Food Mart at 500 W. 34th Street until Mahmood comes to the Board with a new plan. Trustee Sarek seconded the motion. Voice vote was called; all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to table indefinitely Discussion on Village Stickers for 2015. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Voice vote was called; all ayes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to adopt RESOLUTION NO. 1072 FOR IMPROVEMENT BY MUNICIPALITY UNDER THE ILLINOIS HIGHWAY CODE. Trustee Sarek seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Buxton, Skrezyna, Kozy, Lopez, Sarek and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Lopez made a motion to adopt RESOLUTION NO. 1074 AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE OF STEGER TO MAKE APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDS AND AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT AND VILLAGE CLERK TO EXECUTE CERTAIN DOCUMENTS FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE VILLAGE. Trustee Perchinski seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Buxton, Skrezyna, Kozy, Lopez, Sarek and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the request from Steger Little League to hold its annual Opening Day parade on Saturday April 25th. All participants will ride in vehicles and candy will not be thrown on the parade route. Trustee Sarek seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the request from Police Chief Carl A. Mormann for a full time Police Officer. Trustee Buxton seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Buxton, Skrezyna, Kozy, Lopez, Sarek and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

Director of Public Infrastructure Dave Toepper requests permission to purchase lawn mowers. Mr. Toepper explained he'd like to purchase two John Deere from Shorewood (trading in two owned by the Village) and one Martin Implement (trading in other mowers now owned by the Village). This budgeted purchase would effectively double the pieces of equipment needed. Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the request. Trustee Skrezyna seconded the motion. Roll was called and the following Trustees voted aye; Buxton, Skrezyna, Kozy, Lopez, Sarek and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

After discussion with Tasha Williams regarding the Temporary Business License Application of Touche's at 3336 Chicago Road, Trustee Perchinski, expressing concern for teenagers on Chicago Road and parking, made a motion to table the application. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Trustee Perchinski suggested a better location might be available for the business. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to table the Temporary Business License Application of On-a-Roll at 27 E. 34th Street. Trustee Sarek seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to table the Liquor License Application of On-a-Roll at 27 E. 34th Street. Trustee Sarek seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the request of The Salvation Army to conduct; Donut Days Friday and Saturday May 29 & 30 and June 5 & 6 and the Red Kettle Campaign November 6th through December 24th 2015 Monday through Saturday. Trustee Sarek seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

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

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:35 pm

Kenneth A. Peterson, Jr., Village President

Carmen S. Recupito, Jr., Village Clerk