

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 4th day of April, 2016 in the Municipal Building of the Village of Steger with the Village Clerk Carmen S. Recupito, Jr. attending and Mayor Peterson presiding.

Village Clerk Carmen S. Recupito, Jr. called the roll. The following Trustees were present; Joyce, Perchinski, Sarek, Lopez, Skrezyna and Buxton. Also present were Fire Chief Nowell Fillion, Police Chief Ken Boehm, Director of Public Infrastructure Dave Toepper, EMA Chief Tom Johnston, Human Resources Director Mary Jo Seehausen and Housing and Community Development Director Alice Peterson.

AWARDS, HONORS, SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

None

MINUTES

Trustee Sarek made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 21st Board Meeting and the March 28th Special Board Meeting, as all members have copies. Trustee Skrezyna seconded the motion. Voice vote was called; all eyes were recorded. Motion carried.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Tom Seehausen addressed the Board. Mr. Seehausen thanked the Board for the work that was done in his subdivision on Durham, Tiverton and Camden. Mr. Seehausen asked why the work on Tinbury, Dorsetshire and Hereford. Director of Infrastructure Toepper explained that road work is prioritized by need. Mayor Peterson explained that he will sit down with Infrastructure Director Toepper and prioritize the roadwork and publish the list for residents.

Mr. Seehausen asked about work to be done on 225th Street. Mayor Peterson explained that while Steger is spearheading the project, Cook County will be paying for the road work. Mr. Seehausen discussed with Mayor Peterson ownership of the road. Administrator Tilton explained that two years ago a culvert collapsed on 225th Street. Mr. Tilton explained that CDBG funds cannot be used for the repairs due to the income of 225th Street residents. The only way, it appears, is to participate in a program through Cook County that includes residential and industrial areas. No Steger funds would be used for the project.

REPORTS

Village Administrator Mike Tilton reported on the ComEd grant. The \$10,000.00 grant would be used to acquire property for the bike trail. Notification of the grant award is expected in June.

The traffic counts was moved to this week for the train study.

A Zoning Board Meeting will be held later this month regarding a more effective Sign Ordinance.

Mr. Tilton also attended the 9-1-1 Board Meeting. Will County is building a brand new building for 9-1-1 services. Discussion included funding of the building. Mr. Tilton reported that the Crete Mayor Mike Einhorn was elected Chairperson of the “Board of 31”. Mr. Tilton is on the Building and Design Committee.

Director of Public Infrastructure Dave Toepper and Administrator Tilton attended the Metropolitan Planning Council meeting regarding watershed and grant opportunities. They will continue to attend the monthly meetings.

Mr. Toepper met last week with K-Plus and went over some flooding concerns. K-Plus is 2-3 weeks away from finalizing the flood study.

Mr. Toepper is currently working on the CDBG application. CDBG Board is no longer giving grants for road projects. Mr. Toepper is researching alternative transportation projects that could be allowable with CDBG funds.

Mr. Tilton explained to Mayor Peterson that regarding the State Street property, we are waiting to see if we get that property. IDNR has just two people working in the office. Mr. Tilton will go to Springfield next week, Al Ronan will set Mr. Tilton up with some people down there.

Fire Chief Nowell Fillion report that Firefighter Sweetwood has completed his first week of VMO certification class at Prairie State College.

Training on ventilation was held at the property donated to the Village with Crete.

Deputy Police Chief Patrick Rossi thanked the Fire Department and Rich Atwood for certifying the Police officers and records clerks in AED certification. The Police Department now has three AEDs with two on the streets at all times, as well as the narcan. The Department is up to state standards for those requirements.

Park Forest is planning a “practical” for “Active Shooter” response at their Village Hall. The training will be Friday April 15th at 7pm.

EMA Chief Tom Johnston reported the EMA had one weather watch, five emergency callouts, four events, five regular patrols for a total of 263 man hours in March. Two members attended training in Hanover Park.

Chief Johnston also reported the bus re-wiring in complete and now ready to go.

Community Center Director Diane Rossi thanked Chief Fillion for training her staff on the use of AED.

Mrs. Rossi thanked the Board for the flowers and condolence cards in the recent loss of her father.

Assistant Village Administrator Mary Jo Seehausen updated the Board on the job opportunities with the Village. The CSO position is now closed. The part time records clerk position is also now closed. Mrs. Seehausen and Mr. Tilton will review the applications. A part time Community Center position will be posted after it is returned from Legal.

The Volunteer Policy and Conduct should be ready for the Board at the next meeting.

A couple of people are going through backgrounds for the Fire Department.

Mrs. Seehausen and Mr. Tilton will be conducting interviews for the van driver and hope to have that up and running in 30-60 days.

Renewal for medical is coming up with very low increases on the HMO side. Final numbers should be ready the 25th. Mrs. Seehausen said that we'll be going for July 1.

Housing and Community Development Director Alice Peterson reported on the free Housing seminar to be held on April 16th 9:30am-11:30am at the Louis Sherman Community Center

Mrs. Peterson announced the Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast will be Sunday April 10th at the VFW.

Village Attorney Kurt Asprooth was absent.

TRUSTEES' REPORTS

Trustee Buxton Treasurer's Report is attached.

Trustee Buxton reported that the Miller Woods/Metropolitan Water Reclamation De Annexation work continues. Approximately \$4,300 has been raised to engage an attorney to represent the group in court. .

Trustee Skrezyna had no report.

Trustee Lopez had no report.

Trustee Sarek reported Girls Softball needs some screenings for the field. Anthony expects 2 truckloads will be needed at about \$350 each. Infrastructure Director Toepper will contact Anthony to discuss.

Trustee Perchinski had no report.

Trustee Joyce asked that all Board members review the Business License application he has provided and share their ideas with him.

Trustee Joyce also explained that Steger Days of Music plans are moving along and tickets are now on sale.

CLERK'S REPORT had no report.

PRESIDENT PETERSON reported on a letter he received from Tim Glass regarding a change to liquor licenses. Mr. Glass is interested in a liquor license allowing him to open for service at 7am. Mayor Peterson stated the American Legion has expressed an interest in opening early. Bambino's has expressed interest as well. Mayor Peterson asked for input from the Board. Trustee Perchinski commented that workers getting off of overnight shifts might like stop for a drink after work, just like those getting off work at 5pm. He'd be in favor of an earlier license. Both Crete and South Chicago Heights have businesses that open at 6am serving alcohol. An American Legion representative explained that opening at 7am caters to two groups of customers; those working an overnight shift and retirees. Mayor Peterson felt that the two extra morning hours would keep customers in town rather than taking business to town north or south. Mayor Peterson suggested letting the market dictate the need rather than government dictate. Mayor Peterson wants to have the Board's opinions prior to adding to next meeting's agenda. Trustee Skrezyna would like residents' input. Mayor Peterson suggested a public hearing before the next Board Meeting. Trustee Buxton requested that types of businesses allowed to hold liquor licenses and gaming machines be discussed. Mayor Peterson explained that licenses can be beer and wine only or full liquor. Packaged liquor, restaurants, bars (with and without entertainment) and private clubs are licensed for liquor. The state requires a "pour" license to have gaming, up to 5 machines per license. The hearing will be prior to next meeting.

Baseball has contacted Mayor Peterson regarding two night games on April 25th & 30th. Trustee Sarek explained that a "demand hit" of \$500-\$600. Mayor Peterson will discuss this with Baseball representatives.

BILLS

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

CORRESPONDENCE

None

OLD BUSINESS:

Trustee Buxton made a motion to approve the request of Columbia Central Band Director Edward Fitzgerald for a budget of \$3,250 for the 2016 Summer Band Program. An invoice has been issued to the Village of South Chicago Heights for \$500 contribution to the band. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Roll was called.

The following Trustees voted aye; Joyce, Sarek, Perchinski, Lopez, Skrezyna and Buxton. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the proposal from Tecnica Environmental Services, Inc. for asbestos abatement at 3324 Phillips and 16 West 31st Street at a combined cost of \$7,800.00. Mr. Toepper explained that once the asbestos is removed, Cook County will tear the houses down. Trustee Joyce seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Joyce, Sarek, Perchinski, Lopez, Skrezyna and Buxton. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Buxton made a motion to accept the Engagement Letter and Professional Services Agreement from Plante Moran, PLLC for audit services. Trustee Joyce seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Joyce, Sarek, Perchinski, Lopez, Skrezyna and Buxton. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

Director Toepper explained that Keeling Family Foundation/VetTechUS is a recycling program through SSMMA. May 7th has been reserved to do this. The cost is \$20 per tv to be recycled, in exchange for a \$20 voucher toward a refurbished computer. The Village website and social media will be used to promote the program which will be held at the Kmart parking lot. Trustee Skrezyna made a motion, seconded by Trustee Sarek. Voice vote was called; all ayes. Motion carried.

Trustees Sarek and Buxton expressed concerns about the number of businesses and types of businesses to be issued liquor licenses in the village. George Bolos approached the Board regarding his Temporary Business License Application for Luxury Salon at 3412-3416 Chicago Road, pending inspections. Mr. Bolos explained his plan to offer alcohol and gaming machines to clients of the salon. Massage, Hair stylists, manicurists and pedicurists will be available at the salon. Mr. Bolos explained that some women would not go to a bar to play a gaming machine, but would come to a salon. The largest gaming machine revenue business in the area is a car wash in Blue Island. Mr. Bolos explained that there are four doors to the salon. The salon and gaming areas could be accessed separately. Mayor Peterson explained that the Village has no control over gaming, only over liquor licensing. Mr. Bolos stated his building has been empty for two years. Mayor Peterson explained that no revenue was generated from the business for two years. Trustee Buxton explained that the building is in the TIF district and can be refaced. After further discussion, Trustee Joyce made a motion to approve the Temporary Business license application, pending inspections. Trustee Skrezyna seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Joyce, Sarek, Perchinski, Lopez, Skrezyna and Buxton. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Joyce made a motion to table the Liquor License Application of George Bolos of Luxury Salon at 3412-3416 Chicago Road for a B-1 Beer and Wine Only License until the next Board meeting after the Public Hearing regarding liquor licenses, types of businesses that can have licenses and liquor and gaming licenses. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

There being no further business to discuss, Trustee Perchinski made a motion to adjourn. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:56 pm

Kenneth A. Peterson, Jr., Village President

Carmen S. Recupito, Jr., Village Clerk