

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 March, 2019 in the Municipal Building of the Village of Steger with the Village President Kenneth A Peterson, Jr presiding. President Peterson led all in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Village Clerk Joseph M. Zagone, Jr. called the roll. The following Trustees were present, Joyce, Kozy, Lopez, Skrezyna, Buxton and Mayor Peterson. Trustee Perchinski was absent.

Also present were: Village Administrator Mary Jo Seehausen, Police Chief Patrick Rossi, Fire Chief Nowell Fillion, Director of Public Infrastructure Dave Toepper, EMA Chief Tom Johnston and Community Center Director Diane Rossi. Housing and Community Development Director Alice Peterson was absent.

AWARDS, HONORS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION

None

MINUTES

Trustee Lopez made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 4th meeting as written. Trustee Skrezyna seconded the motion. Voice vote. All Trustees voted aye. Motion carried.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Chuck Paris resident on Sherman Rd stated he had discussion with neighbor regarding unsightly trash in yard. Neighbor was unaware of issue and said he would work on it. Dave Toepper will follow up.

Meredith Horn resident 22805 State St. Presented visual aids of drainage ditch issues in Miller Woods. Pictures show garbage collecting in ditch and her hope is some maintenance can be performed. Evasive grasses now growing and preventing ditch from performing. Dave Toepper responded that it is an issue that can be dealt with.

David Galbreath resident 22754 Miller Rd approached the board with similar issues regarding roads and ditches in Miller Woods. Lack of culverts in his area are allowing water to destroy the road. He has pothole he repairs about every 3 months. Mayor Peterson responded he is aware of road issues there and in other areas and that it is a priority of his to seek a solution to the problem. Mr. Galbreath

also stated that there is a lot of garbage being left along the roads in the area. Efforts will be made to try and clean this area up.

There was some further discussion regarding abandoned houses in town that are being looked into.

REPORTS

Village Administrator Mary Jo Seehausen No report

Director of Public Infrastructure Dave Toepper No report.

Fire Chief Nowell Fillion The Fire Department is selling Autism Awareness T-Shirts at \$20 each and available in all sizes. Steger Fire Association will have it's annual Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday April 13th. Sign-up starts at 8:30 and will kick-off at 9 o'clock for ages 1 through 10. There is no cost for this event.

Police Chief Patrick Rossi referred to his Weekly Report.

EMA Chief Tom Johnston asked that residents be aware that with the warming wet weather that the ground is saturated that could cause flooding in low lying areas and to be careful when driving in downpours.

Community Center Director Diane Rossi No report.

Housing and Community Development Director Alice Peterson was absent and no further report from Board Liaison Skrezyna.

Village Attorney not present

Treasurer No report.

TRUSTEES' REPORTS

Trustee Buxton No report

Trustee Skrezyna No report

Trustee Lopez Yard Waste pick-up will begin on April 1st. Reminded residents they can clean their yards and put waste in containers on the curb on Garbage Day and stickers for containers are available in Village Hall. Make sure branches are bundled and less then 4 ft long.

Trustee Kozy No report.

Trustee Perchinski Absent

Trustee Joyce No report as a Trustee, but want to remind everyone that the Kiwanis Father/Daughter Dance is this Saturday at Columbia Central School. Tickets are on sale, there is no age limit. Tickets presale are \$10 or \$12.50 at the door. Everyone is welcome to attend. Starts at 6 pm and goes until 9 pm. Light dinner, games and prizes.

VILLAGE CLERK Election coming up on April 2nd. Steger Polling place is again in the Elmer Joyce Firehouse on Emerald Ave instead of the South Heights Community Center.

PRESIDENT PETERSON Will save comments for later in the meeting.

BILLS

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

CORRESPONDENCE – none

UNFINISHED BUSINESS- none

NEW BUSINESS:

Trustee Buxton made a motion to adopt Ordinance No 1210, An Ordinance abating the levy of taxes related to general obligation bonds (alternative revenue source), series 2018 for the Village of Steger, Cook and Will Counties, Illinois. Trustee Joyce seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Joyce, Kozy, Lopez, Skrezyna and Buxton. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried

Trustee Joyce made a motion to adopt Ordinance No 1211, An ordinance amending Chapter 10 of the Municipal Code of Steger, Illinois by adding regulations regarding raffles for the Village of Steger, Illinois. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Joyce, Kozy, Lopez, Skrezyna and Buxton. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

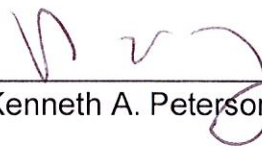
Mayor Peterson opened discussion of the Public Hearing on the 2019 Appropriation Budget. The budget that was handed out showed that we were not balanced by \$187,000, but found additional expenditures that were not correct and we are now out of balance by \$229,000 give or take. We are working really hard to try to get this in balance because obviously we want a balanced budget, so we have given ourselves a week to do that. We have to get this done by the 31st so there will be a public hearing on March 28th at 6:45 and then there will be a special meeting at 7 o'clock

immediately thereafter and we really need everyone to look at the budget and give us your thoughts. We are about as lean as we can get. I thought there was a lot we could cut, but there's really not a lot to cut. We really need to look at the revenue side of our budget to get that up as much possible so that we have services to deal with drainage, water, roads. It becomes harder and harder every year to continue because our revenues are pretty flat but costs go up. We need to start getting business, more residents to create more income tax because we want to avoid increased real estate taxes. Sales tax is key, but gaming is the only revenue source that has been increasing. Department Heads are asked to revue anything they can do with costs and we will be back next week to try and get this balanced.

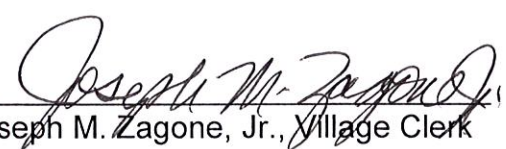
There being no further business,

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:16 pm.



Kenneth A. Peterson, Jr., Village President



Joseph M. Zagone, Jr., Village Clerk