

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 5<sup>th</sup> day of August, 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, Perchinski, Kozy, Lopez, Skrezyna, Buxton and Mayor Peterson.

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

**AWARDS, HONORS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

None

**MINUTES**

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 1st meeting as written. Trustee Skrezyna seconded the motion. Voice vote. All Trustees present voted aye. Motion carried.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Mayor Peterson opened the audience participation portion of the meeting by asking to move his part of the agenda to precede audience participation. Trustee Perchinski made a motion to move the Mayor's comments to precede audience participation. Trustee Buxton seconded the motion. Voice vote. All Trustees present voted aye. Motion carried.

The Mayor opened his comments acknowledging that a lot of people present want to know what has been happening since the flood and the process that we are going through. The village is working hard to try and find ways to get water out of our community. We are working on a major drainage plan for the Village of Steger. We already have one study and are updating so we can go to Metropolitan Water Reclamation District to get funding to start working on some of this. We are also working on a 5-year road plan. Need to fix the flooding first than the roads. All of this takes money, and the Village is limited on funds. We are going to the state and both counties trying to find help, and MWRD to find additional funding. It is important that you all know that we are working to find a solution. We have collected a lot of

information regarding the recent flood, it has gone through both counties, the state and on to the federal government. The federal government has informed us that we do not meet the requirements for FEMA funds. We have not heard from the state yet, but we have heard from some not-for-profits that have reached out to us. The Red Cross and others are developing qualifications for getting aid.

Julie Stone presented a history of flooding at their home going back to 2004. They have flooded once and sometimes twice a year since. Mrs. Stone described damage and costs that they continue to incur because of these 100-year storms that hit very frequently. She believes they have done all they can to protect their property to no avail. She is asking for more information regarding what steps the Village is planning to help with this problem. Mayor Peterson stated that it is not that we have done nothing, but we are limited in funds for doing the improvements that recent studies suggest.

Harry Hammock approached the board and asked if Steger is part of IRMA. We are not. He questioned if the Village has contacted Thorn Creek Basin. Mayor Peterson stated that he had not sat down with them yet, but Thorn Creek claims they do not control storm drainage. He questioned Red Cross help and wondered how many homes were affected and EMA Chief Johnson stated that it was over 300. Mr. Hammock addressed the engineering survey and things that could have been done. Mayor Peterson pointed out that the fix has to start in the east and work west. Mr. Hammock is concerned about putting money back into his home and is concerned with the Villages liability.

George Bolos presented information regarding his property on Chicago Road that is adjacent to the new Citco station on Chicago Road and Steger Road. He claims he was not given written notification as required by law of construction of the new gas station that he believes is affecting his building. He voiced many concerns regarding surveys and construction.

Carol Lindemann questioned whether our retention ponds are kept clean. The Mayor stated that they are clean, but we need to address them. Dave Toepper said he would look at them.

Jerry lafollo addressed issues with speeding cars on Phillips Avenue between 34<sup>th</sup> St. and 35<sup>th</sup> St. Mr. lafollo gave the board a proposal for 3 speed bumps along this stretch of roadway. The Village will evaluate the proposal. He also pointed out issues on 35<sup>th</sup> St in the morning during school hours that more stop signs are needed to slow cars in the area of the school.

Dan Cicale addressed the drainage issues in Miller Woods and questioned what the plan is for that area. It is part of the plan that is being prepared for MWRD.

Michael Porter approached the board regarding weeds that are overgrown on Lisa Lane and Oakland Drive causing vision issues for drivers, runners and walkers. Additionally, he addressed the condition of roads in Royal Oak Subdivision. He questioned if the Village is involved in the "Roll Program" for fixing roads. Some damaged asphalt has been fixed, but others ignored. Dave Toepper will look into why they would fix some bad spots and leave others and will address the overgrown grass issue.

Winona Johnson of Royal Oak Estates. She questioned if there were flood gates in Steger, and the Mayor stated that there are no flood gates in Steger. Thorn Creek has flood gates which may or may not have played a part, but we are still investigating. She also questioned the pond on Oakland Drive that rises to the street when it rains real hard.

## REPORTS

**Village Administrator Mary Jo Seehausen** voiced appreciation for everyone who reached out to her and her husband Tom regarding the death of his dad Tom Seehausen Sr., former Village Trustee in Steger.

**Director of Public Infrastructure Dave Toepper** No report.

**Fire Chief Nowell Fillion** thanked all the POC's that came out to help on the night of the flood. They made a big difference in helping keep loss at a minimum. Chief Fillion also presented plans to replace the existing ladder truck that is in need of repairs with a newer model that is in much better condition for about the same cost as repairing the current rig.

**Police Chief Patrick Rossi** pointed out that Tuesday August 6, 2019 is National Night Out for 1<sup>st</sup> Responders. There will be demonstrations and activities.

**EMA Chief Tom Johnston** As of last week we have 320 homes damaged in the flood. Cook County may have more to add.

**Community Center Director Diane Rossi** Reported that they held their Summer Picnic for all the kids that participated in Summer Club. There were about 60 people there and many activities. Thank you to the Village and all the volunteers.

**Housing and Community Development Director Alice Peterson** No report.

**Village Attorney** not present

**Treasurer** Gave a brief summary of the May Financial Reports.

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### TRUSTEES' REPORTS

**Trustee Buxton** No report.

**Trustee Skrezyna** No report.

**Trustee Lopez** No report.

**Trustee Kozy** Basketball has won three tournaments. Finished in the top three in six tournaments. They won a major in Milwaukee. Our 18 and under in softball won a tournament three weeks ago and took second in Indiana two weeks ago. 18 and under won their tournament last weekend.

**Trustee Perchinski** No report.

**Trustee Joyce** No report, but want to express sympathy to the family of Marjorie Hyatt.

**VILLAGE CLERK** read a thank you note from the family of Thomas Seehausen. Additionally, Clerk Zagone thanked everyone who has offered assistance with issues regarding the flooding of his house.

### PRESIDENT PETERSON

#### BILLS

Trustee Skrezyna made a motion to approve the bills listed on warrant list #909. Trustee Buxton seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Joyce, Perchinski, Kozy, Lopez, Skrezyna and Buxton. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Joyce made a motion to approve the bills listed on warrant list #911. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Joyce, Perchinski, Kozy, Lopez, Skrezyna and Buxton. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Ordinance No. 1216

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 1216, AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING AN AGREEMENT FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY COMMONLY KNOWN AS 3605 MORGAN STREET, STEGER, IL., BY A DEED IN LIEU OF FORECLOSURE OF LIENS. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye: Joyce, Perchinski, Kozy, Lopez, Skrezyna and Buxton. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 1217

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 1217, AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE QUALIFICATION-BASED SELECTION (QBS) POLICY FOR ENGINEERING AND DESIGN RELATED CONSULTANT SERVICES PAID FOR WITH FEDERAL FUNDS FOR THE VILLAGE OF STEGER, ILLINOIS. Trustee Skrezyna seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye: Joyce, Perchinski, Kozy, Lopez, Skrezyna and Buxton. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to grant a Business and Liquor License to Sam-N-Irene's located at 3331 Chicago Road pending inspections. Trustee Joyce seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye: Joyce, Perchinski, Kozy, and Lopez. Trustees Skrezyna and Buxton voted no. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion at 8:05 pm to adjourn to closed session to discuss the Acquisition of Real Property and the Purchase Price of the same. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Joyce, Perchinski, Kozy, Lopez, Skrezyna and Buxton. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

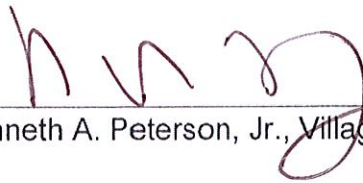
Trustee Joyce made a motion to reconvene following closed session. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Joyce, Perchinski, Kozy, Lopez, Skrezyna and Buxton. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

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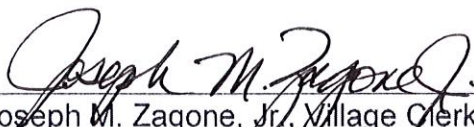
There being no further business,

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.



Kenneth A. Peterson, Jr., Village President

  
Joseph M. Zagone, Jr., Village Clerk