

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 6th day of July 2021 in the Municipal Building of the Village of Steger and via Teleconference that was made available to all residents. Mayor Peterson led all in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Mayor Peterson called the roll. The following Trustees were present, Thurmond, Lopez, Kozy, Trotier and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson was present. Trustee Joyce was present via ZOOM. Village Clerk Zagone was absent.

Also present: Village Administrator Mary Jo Seehausen, Director of Public Infrastructure Dave Toepper, Fire Chief Nowell Fillion, EMA Chief Tom Johnston and Police Chief Kevin Shaughnessy. Community Center Director Diana Rossi was absent.

**AWARDS, HONORS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Mayor Peterson read a proclamation honoring Captain Noella Garcia upon her retirement from the Village of Steger Fire Department after 23 years of service. Mayor Peterson pointed out highlights from Captain Garcia's many years of service to our community. She rose through the ranks over those 23 years to Lieutenant in 2001, to her current rank of Captain in 2012. Captain Garcia was instrumental in many Fire Department events over the years and she will be dearly missed.

The Village introduced its newest Police Officers. Officer Mario Valenzquez, Officer Parker Aftanas and Officer Michael Waresiak who were previously sworn in. Each gave a brief introduction of who they are, what they have accomplished and what they plan to bring to the Village. All have completed the 14-week intensive Police Academy at the Macon County Law Enforcement Training Center in Decatur, IL. Mayor Peterson presented each officer with their certificates of completion.

**MINUTES**

Trustee Lopez made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 21st Regular Meeting as written. Trustee Kozy seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

A Steger Resident spoke to the board about concerns over flood issues that arose again with recent storms. Mayor Peterson reassured her that the flooding issues are

on the top of his list of projects he hopes to accomplish. The Village is still waiting for funds to be released to begin the repairs and improvements needed throughout the Minutes July 6, 2021 page 2

Village. Village Administrator Mary Jo Seehausen reported that while the Village has been granted funding for a small portion of the multi-million-dollar project, the funds have not yet been released to the Village.

**Village Administrator Mary Jo Seehausen** No Report.

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

**Fire Chief Nowell Fillion** reported that they had their ISO rating review and that it should be complete in the next few weeks.

**Police Chief Kevin Shaughnessy** Thanked the Mayor, the Board of Trustees and the Police Commissioners for the three new police officers presented tonight.

**EMA Chief Tom Johnston** Thanked the first responders who assisted in the cleanup of trees in Miller Woods following damage done by storms last week.

**Community Center Director Diana Rossi** No Report.

**Village Attorney** No Report.

**Treasurer**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORTS**

**Trustee Thurmond** Thanked Captain Garcia for her years of service to the Fire Department and welcomed the new police officers. Trustee Thurmond stated that he has been working on a plan with Culligan Water to offer free normal installation of a filter system along with a small rental fee to change filters every 6 months as long as they show their Village water bill. More information on this plan is to follow. Trustee Thurmond also spoke about a follow up every week on audience participation and concerns. He mentioned that when a resident comes up to speak of an issue, that department head should have an answer for the following board meeting.

**Trustee Trotier** mentioned that she has attended the Steger 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee meetings and is excited for the upcoming events and strongly encourages all village residents to come out and celebrate.

**Trustee Joyce** No Report

**Trustee Lopez** gave a special thanks to Captain Garcia for her years of service to the community and also welcomed the 3 new police officers. Trustee Lopez also mentioned that with the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday being observed on Monday the 5<sup>th</sup>, garbage pick-up will be delayed by one day until Thursday July 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Trustee Perchinski** gave thanks to Captain Noella Garcia for her years of service and also welcomed the 3 new police officers. Trustee Perchinski also mentioned that the Fire Department's Harley Davidson motorcycle raffle was still going on and encouraged the community to purchase tickets. Trustee Perchinski had a proposal and mentioned speaking to a vendor in regards to them hosting a small flea market in K-mart parking lot on every Sunday from now through October 10<sup>th</sup>. Trustee Trotier spoke about having standards set forth for the vendors. Trustee Perchinski reassured Trustee Trotier that it will be very family oriented. Trustee Lopez reminded the Board that this type of event is not a board issue, but should be vetted through Village Administrator Mary Jo Seehausen and the Director of Infrastructure Dave Toepper for approval. Administrator Seehausen said she would have a sit down to discuss dates and make sure the event is family oriented.

**Trustee Kozy** No Report.

**VILLAGE CLERK** No Report

**MAYORS REPORT** No Report

### **BILLS**

Trustee Thurmond made a motion to approve the bills listed with the exception of one bill from a landscape contractor. After discussion it was determined that the work was completed and that the bill should be paid after consulting with the contractor. Trustee Thurmond amended his motion to pay the bills as listed. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Thurmond, Lopez, Kozy, Trotier, Joyce and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson Voted Aye. Motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE** None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** None

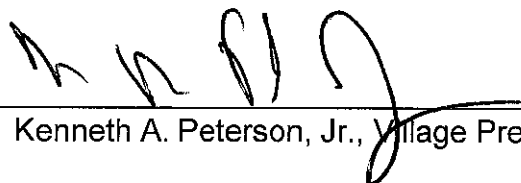
**NEW BUSINESS:**

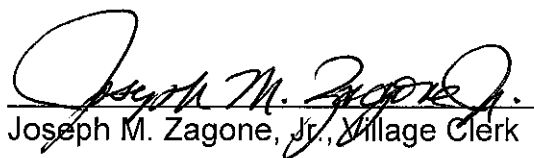
Trustee Perchinski made a motion to table the discussion and possible approval of Downtown Strategic Visioning Workshop and Limited Retail Recruitment Proposal until the next meeting. Trustee Thurmond seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

There being no further business,

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

  
Kenneth A. Peterson, Jr., Village President

  
Joseph M. Zagone, Jr., Village Clerk