

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 19th 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, Kozy and Trotier. Mayor Peterson was present. Trustees Joyce and Perchinski were present via ZOOM. Trustee Lopez was absent.

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

AWARDS, HONORS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Mayor Peterson asked for a motion to amend our agenda to move Resolution No. 1157 to be presented at this time.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to amend the agenda placing Resolution #1157 under Awards, Honors and Special Recognition. Trustee Kozy seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Village Administrator Mary Jo Seehausen read Resolution #1157 honoring Officer Carol Ann Kozinski for her 23 years of service with the Village of Steger. Officer Kozinski is retiring from the Police Department following a long and dedicated career. Mayor Peterson asked that Resolution #1157 become a part of the permanent record for the Village of Steger, Illinois.

Trustee Kozy made a motion to pass Resolution No. 1157 for Officer Carol Ann Kozinski on 23 years of service with the Village of Steger. Trustee Thurmond seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Trustee Thurmond made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 6th Regular Meeting with a correction to a discussion by Trustee Perchinski. The minutes read as Flea Market and should read as a Vendor Market. Trustee Trotier seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Attilio Angellotti approached the board regarding ongoing flooding that occurs on and around his property on Sherman Rd. in Miller Woods. It is his feeling that upgrading the ditch and cleaning the creek would improve his situation greatly. Mayor Peterson described the efforts being made by the Village to correct this and other trouble areas regarding drainage in our community. While some of these repairs await funding, Dave Toepper is going to meet and see if there are things we can do in the meantime to improve the situation.

Michael Balanow approached the board as a long-time resident and veteran. He appreciates all of the efforts by the Village, but wishes something could be done to help beautify our downtown area. He also suggested a market in the old Kmart parking lot. Mayor Peterson stated that the Village recently passed efforts that will bring a market to the parking lot. Mr. Balanow stated that like surrounding communities, we need to make Steger more attractive to help draw people to our community. Dave Toepper stated that due to budget cuts, the Village was unable to do Seasonal planters as had been done in the past. Mayor Peterson added that with the budget cuts we were forced to implement, priorities had to go to public safety, police and fire, and trying to solve our flooding issues. The Village will strive to work back to being able to do the things being suggested. Mr. Balanow asked about the old Kmart building. Mayor Peterson stated that we continue to meet with potential businesses for the location. Mr. Balanow asked about street parties. There are numerous functions planned for the rest of this year in honor of Steger's 125th Anniversary. Mr. Balanow thanked the Village for its efforts.

Patrick Robinson came before the board to discuss sewer issues. He stated a water issue at a nearby business that is putting a substance known as "Slurry" that is fine particles of rock that turns to concrete that is draining into a nearby sewer. Whether by a broken pipe or for some other reason, this can create clogged pipes. Another issue that Mr. Robinson discussed is the disregard of landlords in keeping their properties nice, and that tenants are held to a standard of behavior. Asked if landlords can be required to provide privacy fences to protect neighbors. Additionally, Mr. Robinson discussed the problem with speeding vehicles in the Village. Police Chief Shaughnessy stated his shared concern with speeders. His plan is to take advantage of increased number of Police officers in town to help enforce these issues.

Village Administrator Mary Jo Seehausen Two new Welcome Signs were installed, one at 30th and Chicago Road and the other on Steger Road just West of Rte. 394.

Director of Public Infrastructure Dave Toepper No Report.

Fire Chief Nowell Fillion just reminding everyone that we have our raffle coming up for the Harley Davidson Motorcycle. Tickets are still available. The drawing is July 24th at 7:30 pm.

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Police Chief Kevin Shaughnessy No Report.

EMA Chief Tom Johnston No Report.

Community Center Director Diana Rossi No Report.

Village Attorney No Report.

Treasurer

MAYORS REPORT

Mayor Peterson invited Alice Peterson, Chairperson of the 125th Anniversary Celebration to report on the event. We are Celebrating Steger to the Tune of 125 Years. Our first event will be Friday August 20th, Movie in the Park. On Saturday we will have Fireworks, activities and family events, bands and a D.J. Then, on Sunday we will begin with Parade that will lead to the event grounds at Veteran's Park. There will be Vendors and music. I hope you will all come out and enjoy it!

Mayor Peterson announced new appointments:

Patrick Rossi as a member of the Police and Fire Board.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to accept the appointment of Patrick Rossi to the Steger Police and Fire Board. Trustee Thurmond seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Thurmond, Kozy, Trotier, Joyce and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson Voted Aye. Motion carried.

Patrick Rossi was sworn in by Village Clerk Zagone as the newest member of the Police and Fire Board.

Carmen Recupito, Jr. as a member of the Planning and Zoning Board.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to accept the appointment of Carmen Recupito, Jr. to the Steger Planning and Zoning Board. Trustee Thurmond seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Thurmond, Kozy, Trotier, Joyce and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson Voted Aye. Motion carried.

Carmen Recupito, Jr. was sworn in by Village Clerk Zagone as the newest member of the Planning and Zoning Board.

Mayor Peterson offered his thanks to these two individuals for accepting these positions and for bringing their continued dedication back to our Village.

VILLAGE CLERK No Report

TRUSTEES' REPORTS

Trustee Thurmond The information I provided at our last meeting regarding helping residents with water filtration has been put on hold. I have two other companies getting involved with assistance. When I bring it back to the board there will be the opportunity to take advantage of multiple companies offering discounts for our residents. Next, I want to say that I have seen the new welcome sign and it looks nice. Next, the Steger Wide Garage sale will take place August 6th and 7th. Fees are waived, so please take advantage. Finally, we are still looking for donations and teams for the Sons of the Legion Golf Outing being held on August 14th at Deer Creek Golf Club.

Trustee Trotier I am working with Village Administrator Seehausen on a couple of things. First, for the Senior Center, I still want to promote the Mainstreet Virtual Senior Expo and Education. It will be held August 3, 5 and 7. Programs that are beneficial for seniors and their families like destination and retirement, evaluating aging in place and housing resources for Veterans, home design, property appeal. Information will be available at the Community Center and on the Village Website. Attempts will be made to bring this directly to our community next year. Weekly snapshot for residential real estate shows the housing market may be slowing in regards to current values. The tax rate in Steger continues to help motivate buying in Steger.

Trustee Joyce No Report

Trustee Lopez No Report.

Trustee Perchinski No Report.

Trustee Kozy No report, but gave the floor to Gerald Stewart in regards to Softball. Our girls softball team last year finished 2nd in the World Series, they are ranked 11th in the country this year. Year before last they finished 4th in the Series. Trying to do some things to honor these girls and their accomplishments. We plan to have basketball and volleyball back in the fall.

BILLS

Trustee Kozy made a motion to approve the bills listed. Trustee Trotier seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Thurmond, Kozy, Trotier, Joyce and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson Voted Aye. Motion carried.

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CORRESPONDENCE None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Board members discussed the cost and results so far by Downtown Strategic Visioning Workshop & Limited Retail Recruitment. When the cost of keeping the program was weighed against the cost of ending it now, it was the general consensus that it was financially beneficial to keep the program for one more year. When discussion was complete:

Trustee Joyce made a motion to approve the contract extension with Downtown Strategic Visioning Workshop & Limited Retail Recruitment. Trustee Kozy seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Thurmond, Kozy, Trotier and Joyce. Trustee Perchinski voted no. Mayor Peterson Voted Aye. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the new business license for ALPHA Queen Beauty Supply at 24 E 33rd Place pending inspections. Trustee Joyce seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Thurmond, Kozy, Trotier, Joyce and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson Voted Aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the new business license for Woodstone Artisan, Inc. at 33 E 35th Place, pending inspections. Trustee Thurmond seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Thurmond, Kozy, Trotier, Joyce and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson Voted Aye. Motion carried.


There being no further business,

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.



Kenneth A. Peterson, Jr., Village President



Joseph M. Zagone, Jr., Village Clerk