

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 7<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2022 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 for the roll. The following Trustees were present; Thurmond, Kozy, Trotier, Joyce and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson was present. Trustee Lopez was absent.

Also present: Village Administrator Mary Jo Seehausen, Director of Public Infrastructure Dave Toepper, Police Chief Greg Smith, Assistant Fire Chief Mike Long, EMA Chief Tom Johnston and Community Center Director Diana Rossi.

**AWARDS, HONORS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

Village Clerk Zagone read RESOLUTION NO. 1164 Honoring Deputy Police Chief Gerald C. Ruff II.

Trustee Joyce made a motion to adopt RESOLUTION NO. 1164: A RESOLUTION HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF STEGER POLICE DEPARTMENT DEPUTY CHIEF GERALD C. RUFF II. Trustee Perchinski seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Congratulations were offered by Mayor Peterson and Police Chief Smith.

Mayor Peterson also reminded all that there will be a celebration at the Community Center on Thursday March 10<sup>th</sup> from 2-4 pm to honor Deputy Chief Ruff's retirement.

Kevin Avers was introduced as newly sworn Part-Time Patrolman for the Village.

Jason Stevenson gave a presentation regarding Boy Scout Troop #100. He gave a history of the Boy Scout program in the Village that goes back nearly 100 years. He voiced concerns of dwindling numbers of active scouts and asked for any help possible from the Village to try and encourage new scouts. The Village will look to getting information on the Village webpage as well as inviting scouts to participate in Village events that will help improve exposure to the community. Scouts have always been welcomed help at many village functions including food basket distribution, Octoberfest, parades and Kiwanis Pancake Breakfasts to name a few. The Village will continue to welcome their efforts to help in the community. Mayor Peterson invited all scouts to come out on Saturday April 23<sup>rd</sup> to take part in Steger's Earth Day Clean-up event. Many of the Village Trustee's also offered assistance to help the scouting program in any way that they can.

## **MINUTES**

Trustee Joyce made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 22nd Regular Meeting as all members have copies. Trustee Perchinski seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

## **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

None

## **REPORTS**

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

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

**Assistant Fire Chief Mike Long** Announced that the Fire Department is bringing back their Easter Egg Hunt this year on Sunday April 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Police Chief Greg Smith** Referred to his monthly report.

**EMA Chief Tom Johnston** EMA has one member coming off medical leave and another member who wants to re-join.

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

**Village Attorney**

**Treasurer**

**MAYORS REPORT** Announced that the Village will be sponsoring Earth Day Clean-Up on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Look for advertisements to announce times and locations.

**VILLAGE CLERK** Reminder, Public Hearing regarding Annual Appropriations Ordinance for Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2022 to be held Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 6:45 pm, and the Regular Village Board Meeting will follow directly after.

## **TRUSTEES' REPORTS**

**Trustee Thurmond** Questioned if there was an update on the Union Ave road project. Village Administrator Seehausen stated that the engineering has been done and those are bills that have been paid which will be reimbursed because it is a grant. Bids for construction will go out the end of the year or beginning of next year. Timing is due to the timing of the grant.

Trustee Thurmond then asked about getting discussion of changes to the lighting ordinance on the next agenda and also a discussion on Village Vehicle Stickers and their pricing. Village Administrator Seehausen stated that she is gathering the information needed to determine how many vehicles there are in the village and whether the sticker program is still best. Due to timing, Village Stickers for next year have been ordered. There is time to raise prices before the letters go out. Finally, I would like to give kudos to Public Works again for another water main repair that went all night.

**Trustee Trotier** Announced that the village is looking for volunteers for Earth Day. Any Organizations, clubs or schools can check with Trustee Trotier to get signed up. Village Administrator Seehausen also stated that we are working with MWRD to get composting bags and tree starters to use for the event and will be given out first come, first served. Republic Services will be providing vests and gloves for the event.

**Trustee Joyce** No Report.

**Trustee Lopez** No Report.

**Trustee Perchinski** No Report

**Trustee Kozy** Softball is still practicing inside, no update on football or volleyball, basketball is progressing well, Little League has sign-up going on and Opening Day is April 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **BILLS**

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the bills listed when funds are available. Trustee Kozy seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Thurmond, Kozy, Trotier, and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Trustee Joyce voted aye to all bills except for the bill for Gianopolis; he voted no. Motion carried.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

None

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

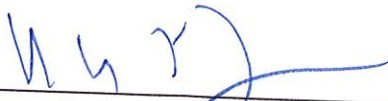
Trustee Joyce made a motion to approve a Special Events Application for Steger Little League Opening Day Parade April 30<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of May 7<sup>th</sup> pending all Village approvals. Trustee Perchinski seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Thurmond, Kozy, Trotier, Joyce and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

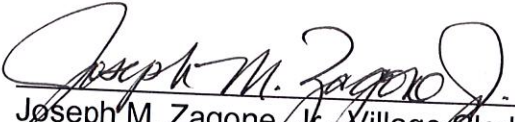
Trustee Joyce made a motion to approve the 2022 Steger Summer Band program. Trustee Trotier seconded the motion. Trustee Perchinski questioned why the School District does not pay for this since they have trice the budget of the village. Trustee Joyce stated that it is a community band that is supported by state statute. Additionally, it is open to all, not just children in the Steger Schools. Following discussion regarding South Chicago Heights contributing since their residents are included: Trustee Perchinski made a motion to table approval of the Steger Summer Band program. Trustee Kozy seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Kozy, Trotier, Joyce and Perchinski. Trustee Thurmond voted no. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

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 8:55 pm.

  
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Kenneth A. Peterson, Jr., Village President

  
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Joseph M. Zagone, Jr., Village Clerk