

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 16th day of May, 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, Lopez, Kozy, Trotier and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson was present. Trustee Joyce was absent.

Also present: Director of Public Infrastructure Dave Toepper, Police Chief Greg Smith, Deputy Fire Chief James Baine, EMA Chief Tom Johnston and Community Center Director Diana Rossi. Village Administrator Mary Jo Seehausen was absent.

AWARDS, HONORS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION

None

MINUTES

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the minutes of May 2nd meeting as all members have copies. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

REPORTS

Village Administrator Mary Jo Seehausen Mayor Peterson spoke on behalf of Village Administrator Mary Jo Seehausen in her absence. The water tower construction documents for bid are being finalized this week. We expect to publish later this week or early next week. The street evaluations are being finalized, so those reports should be before this board at our next meeting.

Director of Public Infrastructure Dave Toepper Been busy chasing tall grass. There have been 55, 48-hour notices given to unkept residences. No Water main breaks.

Deputy Fire Chief James Baine No report.

Police Chief Greg Smith Announced 5,796 calls, up 16% over last year. 600 of those cases are offenses which is up 3% over last year.

EMA Chief Tom Johnston Have some quotes in the works for various items and we had one vehicle go down this weekend. Working to see if it is repairable.

Community Center Director Diana Rossi Over the last two weeks we have had about 550 people that have come through the Community Center combined for all functions.

Village Attorney

Treasurer No Report

MAYORS REPORT No Report.

VILLAGE CLERK Read two notes of thanks from the family of Martin Baine for assistance and expressions of sympathy during their time of loss.

TRUSTEES' REPORTS

Trustee Trotier I attended a South Suburban MMA Grant writing workshop. It covered local tourism and it is a matching grant program, but I am hoping that if there are some left over funds from last year, we can use it to help promote our town and what we are doing. I have signed up for the South Suburban Mayors Association 2020 Gala. Each participating municipality is asked to provide a gift basket to be raffled off. I will talk to local businesses and restaurants for gift certificates. Anyone who knows a business that would like to be included can contact me. The American Legion will host the Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday May 30, 2022. So, mark your calendars for that date. I have been doing some housing research and have narrowed down one property that could be good for the land bank. I am glad the Village is going after unkept yards in town. I am also interested in bringing back the Beautification Committee in our Village. I think any effort we can give to making our town more attractive will be encouraging to other homeowners to maintain their yards. Then, there are a couple of items I would like to have addressed. Hidden Gem, I put in a request about the vanity sink in front of their establishment. Dave Toepper stated that business has not been opened. They have been contacted about the issue. The second item is furniture on the curb on 32nd Street. Again, Dave Toepper stated that a ticket has been issued and the landlord has been informed. Finally, I would like a date and information for the Police National Night Out. Chief Smith stated that it will be held on the same date as the National event the first Tuesday in August.

Trustee Lopez No report.

Trustee Thurmond I have reached out to Administrator Seehausen regarding a Softball Tournament to take place in coordination with the Village Event this Summer. I will have details if the event is happening at the next meeting. I talked to Dave Toepper a little about water quality issues. I expressed willingness to gather information and address the board with a water quality report. Mayor Peterson stated that we do this through the State of Illinois. We have to be very careful with what is published and do it based on State requirements. Dave Toepper stated that we have trained personnel that gather the information, report it to the State and the report is published. Mayor Peterson confirmed that Trustee Thurmond wants the report that we already publish be reiterated. Trustee Thurmond responded "correct". I have a question about the warning notices. Is procedure to attempt to discuss with the resident before issuing warnings? Dave Toepper responded, it is not typical to do that, however, it does depend on the circumstances. Mayor Peterson stated we always do what is best on an individual basis. There are repeat offenders that we know, discussion will not do any good. If an owner has worked with us in the past, we will continue to work with them. New offenders will be approached before they are tagged. It is a case-by-case issue. Trustee Thurmond stated that this issue was prompted for him through posts on social media. Mayor Peterson reiterated that it is not the job of any Trustee to try and handle any situation on their own. Mayor Peterson stated that our procedure officially is to enforce compliance the best we can. Trustee Lopez stated that having been on the board a long time, we see that we deal with the same violators all the time, but I really want to commend Dave and Tim for the excellent job they have been doing. Our Code Enforcer is very present in our Village and getting things done. Trustee Thurmond further commended the Department because I have noticed that enforcement is being done. Next, Trustee Thurmond asked if there is anything the Village can do in assisting Little League with controlling weeds around their playing fields at Harold Hecht Park. Mayor Peterson stated that there are fields the Village can assist with, and some that it cannot. The main field with the brick dugouts is on Village Property. The two fields to the west are not Village property, they are on Cook County Forest Preserve property. The Village is not allowed to do any work on those fields. Dave Toepper has discussed the issue with Little League.

Trustee Joyce No Report.

Trustee Perchinski No Report.

Trustee Kozy No Report.

BILLS

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the bills listed when funds are available. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Roll was called.

The following Trustees voted aye; Thurmond, Lopez, Kozy, Trotier and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

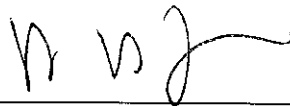
NEW BUSINESS:

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to accept the bid from Seal Tight for roof repairs at Fire Station #1. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Thurmond, Lopez, Kozy, Trotier and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

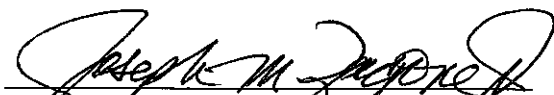
Being no further business:

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:21 pm.



Kenneth A. Peterson, Jr., Village President



Joseph M. Zagone, Jr., Village Clerk