

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 21st day of February, 2023 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.

The roll was called. The following Trustees were present; Lopez, Stewart, Trotier and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson was present. Trustees Thurmond and Joyce were absent.

Also present: Director of Public Infrastructure Dave Toepper, Fire Chief Michael Long, Police Chief Greg Smith, 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 the February 6th meeting as all members have copies. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

AUDIENCE

Gerald Brossmer of Steger approached the board regarding issues he has encountered. Mr. Brossmer is former Director of Public works for the Village and has held similar positions in surrounding communities. His issue is with Nicor Gas and the subcontractors doing the work in the village. Mr. Brossmer has had several conversations with Dave Toepper regarding these issues, the first of which is that Nicor sprayed markings on the sidewalk to show that work was planned, but never received a letter explaining what work was to be done. He believes the Village needs to address the subcontractors that are doing this work. I have directed the contractor and Nicor Gas that they are not to enter his property or make any attempt to run a new line through his property. Mr. Brossmer described issues he has had with encounters with Steger Police. There has also been an issue with Mr. Brossmer's water bill that was incorrectly read and double billed. Discussion has been had with Dave Toepper and Mayor Peterson explained that he would investigate this issue and get it resolved without penalty. He brought a \$511 water bill and he said I have never been late paying my bill. Mr. Brossmer further described a situation when there was a problem with the old water tower. He was asked to come in and was able to correct the issue. Mr. Brossmer has been instrumental with several surrounding communities working to help with water transmission lines. While

Mr. Brossmer appreciates the work Nicor needs to do, they cannot dig up our yards. I cannot allow Nicor Gas to turn my yard into a disaster zone when it doesn't have to be handled that way. I don't have a problem disconnecting from Nicor and putting in a propane tank. Nicor has told Mr. Brossmer that they will try to work with him on this project. I have always been a person who doesn't hold back and pretty much say what is on my mind. I just want to let the Village know to be aware that there is an entity out there that is not going run away or cower from these utilities. I had gone to the police department and told them that I am trying to be reasonable and honorable with this, the officer recommended that I bring my issues to the Village Board. Mayor Peterson and Dave Toepper are going to look into the work and damage that may be done to property. Mayor Peterson stated that he would look into both his issues. Mr. Brossmer concluded offering his services if they are ever needed.

Resident Ricardo Sanchez approached the board regarding an abandoned house at 28 West 30th Street. Mr. Sanchez has been trying to research the ownership in hopes of acquiring the property if it is available either through auction or back taxes. Dave Toepper believes the property may have recently sold, but is going to find out for sure and let Mr. Sanchez know the status of the property. Mayor Peterson described how the Village deals with houses that it acquires, but that house is not one of them.

REPORTS

Village Administrator Mary Jo Seehausen No Report

Director of Public Infrastructure Dave Toepper No Report.

Fire Chief Michael Long Reported on a couple of educational things this week: Troy Meyers, Eric Leach and Brendon Munoz completed their HazMat Operations, so they are fully certified. Richard Gibbs completed the same class which activates his advanced operations certification and Baily Stevenson and Joselyn Jennings took a class toward their Fire Investigator Certification.

Police Chief Greg Smith We have inquired about getting some of those auto steering wheel locks to deal with Hyundai and Kia theft issues. Steger Police Department contacted both auto makers and both are sending a supply of these locks to the Village that will be distributed on a first come first serve basis. The public will be informed on Facebook when they are available for cars that require keys to start. Autos with pushbutton start are not affected.

Community Center Director Diana Rossi No Report.

EMA Chief Tom Johnston So far, the storm tomorrow is going to be a wet day for us, there is no frost in the ground, so we shouldn't have any problem with the water. Other than that, we are continuing to work on our new squad car and hopefully it will be in the fleet officially by the end of March.

Village Attorney No report.

Treasurer One note, Cook County Real Estate bills will be coming out in early March.

MAYORS REPORT The tentative tax levy ordinance and the annual appropriations ordinance for 2023 will be available with the Village Clerk beginning this Friday. We will have a public hearing on March 6 at 6:15 on that budget and then we will have a Lead Pipe Town hall Meeting at 6:30 on March 6th. The regular meeting of the Village Board will begin at 7 pm.

VILLAGE CLERK Just want to let everyone know of the passing of Bobby Joyce. He was a former Village Trustee. He coached on many levels over the years and had a great impact on our community over the years. He was a true asset to the Village and he will be missed. There will be a celebration of life at the Lou Sherman Community Center this coming Friday from 3 pm until the time of the celebration at 7 pm.

TRUSTEES REPORTS

Trustee Joyce No report.

Trustee Trotier My condolences to the Joyce Family, June 24 we will be having an electronic recycling event. We are asking all on the board to come out and help with this event. Further details to follow. The event will take place in the K-Mart Parking Lot from 9-11 am.

Trustee Lopez I too would like to give my condolences to Bobby and his family. He was a long time friend, mentor and coach. He meant a lot to a lot of people. Trustee Lopez added that the Joyce Family is very appreciative to the Village for their part in making the Celebration of Life for Bobby possible at the Community Center.

Trustee Thurmond No Report.

Trustee Perchinski I would like to offer my condolences to the Joyce Family. Bobby touched a lot of lives in a very positive way. We didn't always see eye to eye politically, but I always had a great deal of respect for him. He will definitely be missed.

Trustee Stewart Pretty much the same, I first met Bobby in the Steger Rec Program years ago, there wasn't a Saturday that he didn't make a point to come speak with me

and Ernie. He was a great asset to our community and he gave me a lot of guidance, just like Ernie did when I first came on board. He will definitely be missed. As for my report, the basketball program is running well, the softball program is under way with their winter work-outs. They are actually playing winter games in three different locations in Indiana. They are playing actual tournaments in domed facilities. The volleyball program is doing well also.

BILLS

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to pay all bills as listed when funds become available. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Lopez, Stewart, Trotier and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS:

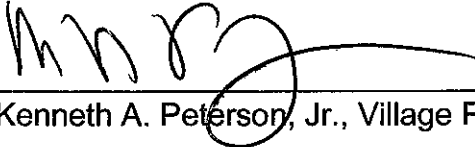
None

Being no further business:

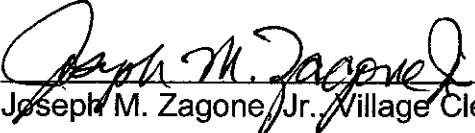
Trustee Perchinski made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 pm.



Kenneth A. Peterson, Jr., Village President



Joseph M. Zagone, Jr., Village Clerk