

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 3<sup>rd</sup> day of January, 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; Thurmond, Stewart, Trotier and Joyce. Trustee Perchinski was present via ZOOM. Trustee Lopez was absent. Mayor Peterson was present.

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**

Mayor Peterson announced the winners of the 2022 Christmas Decorating Contest.

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: 3029 Union Ave.

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: 3220 Peoria St.

1<sup>st</sup> Place: 3646 Halsted Blvd.

**MINUTES**

Trustee Joyce made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 19<sup>th</sup> meeting as all members have copies. Trustee Stewart seconded the motion. Voice vote; all ayes. Motion carried.

**AUDIENCE**

Resident Mark Gerrity of 314 Royal Oak Dr. addressed the board regarding garbage pick-up this week. He confirmed that pick-up is one day late this week due to the New Year's holiday. He pointed out that the posted calendar was incorrect. He also pointed out pot holes that have developed on Oakland Drive and Royal Oak Drive. Mr. Toepper made note to address the issues.

**REPORTS**

**Village Administrator Mary Jo Seehausen** Mayor Peterson reported on the frozen pipe at the Community Center that did substantial damage to the storage room and the workout room. The water did not get to the gym floor. A request has been submitted to the insurance company to evaluate repairs that need to be made and exercise equipment that was damaged in the workout room. A service company was brought in to help dry out the affected areas, but a more thorough cleaning and repairs to damaged

walls may be necessary. The insurance appraiser has to come in and assess the damage before we can allow public access to the building again. We hope to know more in the next 24 hours. We will better be able to layout a construction schedule and be able to understand how it is going to impact the Community Center. Until that time, the Community Center will remain closed as we go through this process.

**Director of Public Infrastructure Dave Toepper** I am in the process of gathering all the year end stats from the building department, the water department and I should have something together for the next board meeting.

**Fire Chief Michael Long** We had a record-breaking year in 2022. Each year we normally see about 100 call volume increase. This year we had 300 more than normal. We ended 2022 with a structure fire and we began 2023 with a structure fire. Thankfully they were both put out pretty quickly and I would like to thank Sargent Jordan Lane for his quick action on the first one. Part of the reason our call volume is up so much is our surrounding communities are hurting pretty bad for staffing. Thankfully we are not, we have enough EMT's at the moment so we were able to staff both ambulances for all of December. I am happy to report that we did not give up any income to anyone else. We will be billing out a little over \$50,000.00 more than normal. We ran 49 mutual aid calls when we normally do 10.

**Police Chief Greg Smith** We are working on our end of year stats, will be getting those out to you pretty soon. Last week I sent out 2 blotters because of the holidays. The one sent on Wednesday we had a suspicious person reported on Mach Lane. Detectives did a follow-up and determined individual was there legitimately on behalf of a mortgage company taking pictures. I want to reassure residents that there was no stalker in the area.

**Community Center Director Diana Rossi** No further report.

**EMA Chief Tom Johnston** We have had four calls for service since the last meeting. We helped Public Works with a water main break on Chicago Road and 30<sup>th</sup> Street where traffic is pretty heavy.

**Village Attorney** No report.

**Treasurer** No report.

**MAYORS REPORT** No report.

**VILLAGE CLERK** No report.

**TRUSTEES REPORTS**

**Trustee Trotier** I have nothing to report tonight, just thanks to Public Works besides their regular duties, I saw them removing Christmas Trees from the boulevard. There are still a few trees with ornaments. It was a long day for them so I thank you very much. Mayor Peterson joined in asking if we are doing a Christmas Tree bonfire. Fire Chief Long stated that since not all trees have been collected, it is still to be determined if and when the burn would take place. Mayor Peterson asked if people take their own trees over themselves to Veteran's Park, or are we picking them up. Dave Toepper stated we have done both ways. If someone calls Village Hall for pick-up, we will come get it.

**Trustee Joyce** I want to wish everyone a Happy New Year. I hope everyone had a safe Holiday Season. I want thank Diane Rossi, Pat Rossi the workers at Community Center and Roy Stone for taking care of the Community Center when the damage was discovered saving it from being much worse. Thank you to the Fire Department and all others that helped that night. I want to thank Dave and Public Works for the work they have been doing in the weather. A reminder to residents to clean-up in front of their homes so when it does snow again, nothing can be projectiled toward your house or cars by snow plows.

**Trustee Lopez** No Report.

**Trustee Thurmond** I want to congratulate and thank Diana Rossi for holding down the fort on her day off and vacation. We have had multiple main breaks the past two weeks. Our crew jumps in and takes care of them. I really want to thank Julie Stone for allowing her husband to be out at all hours to help take care of us. I appreciate that. Piggy backing the main break issue, I have done research and I would really like to take advantage of the Code Red system to announce main breaks so it can be a simple statement of main breaks in the area that may cause low pressure, you may need to run water to clear sediment, etc. It certainly is a public service announcement that we can make.

**Trustee Stewart** Happy New Year to everyone. Diane let me know about the Community Center. I am sure it has impacted some of the sign-ups for volleyball and a few stragglers for basketball. I am going to check with Dave and Steve, I know when I talked with Dave, we were nearing 100 for basketball. Volleyball was really down; it may be something we want to do a robocall or some type of announcement to the community that we are still taking signups for Volleyball. Mayor Peterson stated that when we have a better idea when the Community Center can re-open, we can let them know options for signing up. We are approaching the start of the season and need to know when we can schedule gym time. Steger schools are not available this week as the school buildings are closed for the holiday break.

**Trustee Perchinski** No report.

**BILLS**

Trustee Joyce made a motion to pay all bills as listed when funds become available.

Trustee Thurmond seconded the motion.

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

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to table ORDINANCE NO. 1285: AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND CONSENTING TO AN APPLICATION BY 3300 HOLEMAN, LLC AND JDM COATINGS, INC. FOR A CLASS 6B DESIGNATION UNDER THE COOK COUNTY REAL PROPERTY ASSESSMENT CLASSIFICATION ORDINANCE, AS AMENDED, FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF STEGER, STATE OF ILLINOIS.

Trustee Thurmond seconded the motion. Voice vote; All ayes. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to adopt RESOLUTION NO. 1173: A RESOLUTION PROVIDING AN INDUCEMENT TO THE VILLAGE OF STEGER AND GD ENTERPRISES, LLC IN CONNECTION WITH THE REDEVELOPMENT OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3145 CHICAGO ROAD IN THE VILLAGE OF STEGER, COUNTIES OF COOK AND WILL, STATE OF ILLINOIS.

Trustee Trotier seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Thurmond, Stewart, Trotier,

Before casting his vote, Trustee Joyce stated that he does not see what the issue is in the different inducements of helping businesses stay in town. We keep tabling one, but we freely approve all the other ones. Trustee Joyce reiterated that he is just making a statement that we are holding up one business of their approved program through the county. Mayor Peterson interjected that the business asking for the inducement asked us to table this request. The village asked for certain information that they do not yet have available. Trustee Joyce asked if we ask other businesses for this information. Mayor Peterson stated that this a Class 6B that is different from other requests. This is the first time we had a Trustee request information. Trustee Perchinski stated that the other

ordinance is not putting any money back into real property. Mayor Peterson stated that it is not reallocating the taxes it is already in a TIF district requesting funds. Trustee Joyce stated it is reallocating funds and it is no different than you asking at home for a re-assessment on your property. The tax burden doesn't change if it's a homeowner or business. We have done this with multiple businesses, we did this at the meeting before this, 6A for a new business, but the end result and purpose of this program is to keep a business in town before they close up and move elsewhere which would leave us with vacant business on which the tax rate automatically goes down. With that Trustee Joyce voted yes.

Joyce and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried

Following brief discussion started by Trustee Perchinski to review the increases, Then asking in making the motion that more attention be paid to cleaning the foyer in Village Hall:

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the 2023 contract with Absolute Best Cleaning Services, Inc. Trustee Trotier seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Thurmond, Stewart, Trotier, Joyce and Perchinski. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried

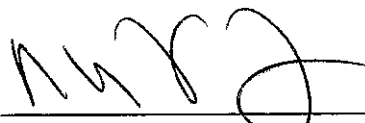
Being no further business:

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

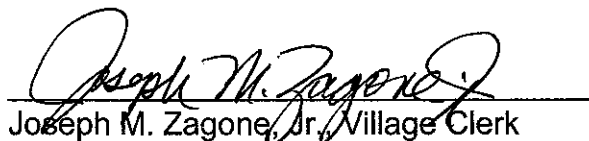
Trustee Trotier stated she had one more comment: I want say thank you to the School Board member Nick for being with us. Thank you for sharing your time.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:18 pm.



Kenneth A. Peterson, Jr., Village President



Joseph M. Zagone, Jr. Village Clerk