

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 20th day of May 2024 in the Municipal Building of the Village of Steger, Illinois. Mayor Peterson led all in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

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

Also present: Administrator Mary Jo Seehausen, Director of Public Infrastructure Dave Toepper, Fire Chief Mike Long, Police Chief Greg Smith, EMA Chief Jason Stevenson, Community Center Director Diana Rossi, and Village Attorney James Vasselli.

AWARDS, HONORS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION

None.

MINUTES

Trustee Lopez made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 6th Village Board meeting as all members have copies. Trustee Trotier seconded the motion. Voice vote; Trustees Thurmond, Lopez, Stewart, Trotier and Joyce Voted Aye. Mayor Peterson voted Aye. Motion carried.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Matt Polanski of 3221 Butler Ave. came to the board questioning what hospital you are taken to by ambulance, either from Will or Cook County. Fire Chief Mike Long explained that the nature of the call determines which hospital you go to. There are issues for which we cannot cross state lines. Most often patients are transported to Franciscan Olympia Fields. In some extreme cases a patient may be transported to Franciscan Dyer.

Julie Stone of 3301 Hopkins came before the board regarding the Drainage Project that the board recently rejected all bids. She questioned if the project will still happen this year. Village Administrator Seehausen explained: The bids are going back out on May 28th. I expect to have the bid results back to this board on June 17th, and yes, the project will be going this year. The first phase will be followed by the second phase in the Fall. The total specs are not in yet, but the first phase is expected to be 33rd Street.

Diane McCormick of 3242 Hopkins came before the board to ask if someone can talk with TTS Granite about their dogs. The dogs get out in the middle of the night and are doing their duty on our sidewalks, yards and driveways. Mayor Peterson and Village Administrator Seehausen said that calls would be made to the owners.

REPORTS

Village Administrator Mary Jo Seehausen I want to give my condolences to the Nardoni Family. We will be closed Monday May 27th for Memorial Day along with all non-essential services. The Memorial Day Service will be held, sponsored by the American Legion, on Monday May 27th at 10 am on the Boulevard. June 1st is the 18th annual Day of Prayer. It will be held in the Gazebo if it is not raining starting at 10 am. If it rains, it will be held at the First Apostolic Church on State St. Thursday May 30th we will be planting 23 trees at Veteran's Park. This is part of the Open Land Tree Grant that we got. We will also be doing a Fall planting on the Boulevard, by the Police Department and at Firemen's Park that we will have more information on later. The trees are about 8 feet tall and 1 ½ - 2" in diameter. An update on 3345 Chicago Road, the owner is expecting his renderings for the proposed business in the next two weeks. So, he is still moving, just a little slower than he anticipated. The new BP station looks like they are 30 days out from opening. They will be submitting drawings of awnings that still need to be put up. We are still moving a little slowly with the indoor soccer facility, but we are still moving that project along as well. I hope to have that in front of the board at the next meeting.

Director of Public Infrastructure Dave Toepper Just to add a little bit about what Mary Jo said about the trees: a couple of the trees that we are planting they say will process 500 gallons of water a day. Part of the Open Lands vision is to help with green infrastructure, so this should help with drainage. Public Works has finished flushing all the hydrants, we're doing our best to get our arms around all the tall grass between Public Works and Code Enforcement. There is a lot.

Chief Michael Long For the month of April we ran a total of 152 calls for service: 132 Medical, 20 fire and 36 calls from neighboring towns. We did have a small fire at the Dixie Laundromat, but it was contained to dryers and did not make it into structures. As Village Administrator Seehausen stated, Former South Chicago Heights Fire Chief Larry Nardoni passed away on Saturday. We will be having a walk through at Steger Memorial Chapel on Thursday May 23rd at 7 pm. His memorial service will be held at Immanuel Luther Church on Friday May 24th at 10 am. We will have a procession to the cemetery in Monee.

Police Chief Greg Smith Just a couple things we have to take care of this month at the Police Department: DC Fajman and myself attended the Illinois Chief of Police Conference, this part of our mandatory training for the year. Det. Darge and I attended the monthly Bloom Trail meeting, these meetings are held once a month regarding security at the school. These meetings are also attended by Cook County Sheriff's Minutes May 20, 2024, page 3

Police and Sauk Village Police Department, and sometimes South Chicago Heights. We have a new graduate from Cook County Sheriff's Academy, doing great in field training. We attended the 80th District Public Safety meeting. We have a couple other upcoming mandates. We assisted the South Chicago Police Department: they invited us to participate in Cop on Top which took place at Dunkin to benefit Special Olympics. And just recently we have had a lot of burglary of motor vehicles. To help us out, we ask that residents keep their vehicles locked.

EMA Chief Jason Stevenson I want give you a brief report on what we have accomplished in my first 5 months. We are working really hard on staffing, I have two new employees: Jack Willett and Mitchell Briggs. We are working on updating our uniforms so that we are more clearly marked as EMA. Working with Village Administrator on getting bids and prices on different options. We are working on a new Training Guide to make our training a little more professional. We are doing a lot of training: I just went to the Will County Municipal EMA Coordinator's meeting; these will be held quarterly. They go through all the stuff going on with Will County Emergency Management. Working really hard with Cook County on the Hazmat Mitigation plan. There is a lot of work to do to keep with their schedule for mandates. We are doing search and rescue training with Monee EMA. We are working with Will County on their Mutual Aid Group. The siren installation will begin soon. We put three of our vehicles up for surplus sales: we go one vehicle from Rich Township EMA that we have put into service and working with the fire department and Village Administrator regarding the ambulance that will be decommissioned. We would like to convert it to a Command Unit Vehicle. Finally, we are working on the need to change out our radios that are now obsolete and do not communicate on the new band width. With higher responding, we are going to be able to help track our scheduling, our calls, paging out our guys and communicating with the team.

Community Center Director Diana Rossi For the month of May the Community Center has had approximately 1500 people enjoy the facility, so it is quite busy at this time of year. Also, we did purchase all of our flowers today, so if you want to come in, the Atrium is just gorgeous.

Village Attorney No report.

Treasurer Trustee Lopez reported that Will County Real Estate tax bills were recently mailed out and are due on June 1st. Make sure you get that taken care of on time. The second phase is due in September.

MAYORS REPORT I want to give my condolences to the Nardoni Family.

VILLAGE CLERK Read a thank you note on behalf of the Family of Mark Kozy.
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TRUSTEES REPORTS

Trustee Thurmond: I attended the 2024 elected officials training event. This event is hosted by the Will County Center for Economic Development. Topics discussed included Economic Development, community development, presentation by ComEd on Energy Efficiency. I found the event very informative.

The water committee met to discuss Steger's water system and potential remedies to connect dead ends.

I attended the Crete Township Special meeting on May 14th. Where Supervisor Mike Liccar gave the presentation for a resolution to purchase Sertoma-star building and the 15 acres it sits on. The resolution passed by a vote of 109 to 49 (the official vote count has not been posted as of May 16th 2024). Supervisor Liccarr added the acquisition of the property was supported by members of the Will County Board, Nicholas Smith state representative of the 34th district Anthony DeLuca state representative of the 80th district. During the presentation supervisor Liccar outlined a wish list of programs, services, and possible intergovernmental opportunities the facility will pursue including outdoor activities.

BILLS

Trustee Lopez made a motion to pay all bills when funds become available. Trustee Joyce seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Thurmond, Lopez, Stewart, Trotier and Joyce. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS:

Trustee Lopez made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1315: AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING AND AWARDED A BID FOR THE LEAD WATER SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM YEAR 1, TO FIVE STAR ENERGY SERVICES, LLC. AS THE LOWEST RESPONSIVE AND RESPONSIBLE BIDDER CONTINGENT UPON IEPA APPROVAL FOR THE VILLAGE OF STEGER, COOK AND WILL COUNTIES, STATE OF ILLINOIS. Trustee Stewart seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Thurmond, Lopez, Stewart, Trotier and Joyce. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

Village Administrator Seehausen explained that this was for the parking lot at the Community Center, the front of the Community Center, the parking lot across the street from the Community Center, the one at Veteran's Park and the one around the Concession Stand. Trustee Joyce recommended putting in conduit for future lighting needs that would prevent tearing up new asphalt to install. Following further discussion:

Trustee Joyce made a motion to approve paving work to be performed by Holland Asphalt, waiving any applicable bidding requirement. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Thurmond, Lopez, Stewart, Trotier and Joyce. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Joyce made a motion to approve event dates and budget not to exceed the donations received for Steger Day of Music and Parade August 17th and 18th, 2024, October Fest Sunday October 6, 2024 and Santa Parade/Food Drive and Miracle on 34th Street, Saturday November 23, 2024. Trustee Stewart seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Thurmond, Lopez, Stewart, Trotier and Joyce. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

Trustee Joyce made a motion to approve a request from St. Liborius Church for their annual picnic to be held on September 8, 2024, with the Village closing south bound Halsted Blvd from 34th to 35th St. from 9 am to 5 pm. Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Thurmond, Lopez, Stewart, Trotier and Joyce. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

At 7:27 pm:

Trustee Joyce made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session for the purposes of discussion of appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (1)

For the purposes of discussion of litigation of appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (1)
Trustee Lopez seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Thurmond, Lopez, Stewart and Trotier. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Trustee Joyce voted no. Motion carried.

At 8:08 pm

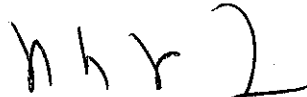
Trustee Thurmond made a motion to reconvene the regular session of the Village Board Meeting. Trustee Joyce seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Thurmond, Lopez, Stewart, Trotier and Joyce. Mayor Peterson voted aye. Motion carried.

Being no further business:

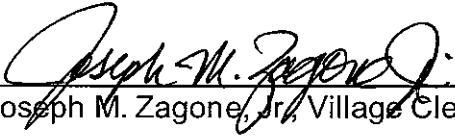
Trustee Thurmond made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.



Kenneth A. Peterson, Jr., Village President



Joseph M. Zagone, Jr., Village Clerk