

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 2nd day of December 2024 in the Municipal Building of the Village of Steger, Illinois. Village Clerk Zagone 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, Joyce and Perchinski.

Also present: Village 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 Ed Campbell.

Clerk Zagone: In the absence of a chair, is there any objection to me, as clerk, proceeding with this process as I have done in the past when the mayor was not present?

With no objection:

I will now take nominations from the floor to fill the vacancy of the office of President of the Village of Steger beginning with Trustee Stewart.

Is there someone you would like to nominate?

Trustee Stewart nominated himself, Gerald Stewart.

Clerk Zagone: Trustee Stewart, do you accept the nomination?

Trustee Stewart: I do.

Trustee Thurmond, do you wish to make a nomination?

Trustee Thurmond addressed the village attorney: would it be appropriate to forego the proceedings here and just move on to appointing a mayor pro-tem?

Trustee Perchinski: it's on the agenda.

Village Attorney: If it is on the agenda, I suppose you could table it until you reach, I would rather not have some open dispute. We can table the whole matter, but that is up to the chair.

Clerk Zagone: I believe the process has begun, we might just as well complete it and then you can make your further motions.

Trustee Thurmond: I nominate Bill Joyce.

Clerk Zagone: Bill Joyce, do you accept the nomination?

Trustee Joyce: Yes

Trustee Trotier, do you have a nomination to make?

Trustee Trotier: I do, I nominate Ernie Lopez.

Clerk Zagone: Trustee Lopez, do you accept the nomination?

Trustee Lopez: Yes.

Trustee Joyce, do you have a nomination to make?

Trustee Joyce: I do not.

Trustee Perchinski, would you like to make a nomination?

Trustee Perchinski, No nomination.

Trustee Lopez, would you like to make a nomination

Trustee Lopez: No.

Trustee Perchinski asked for discussion: I would like to remind every trustee up here that you have taken an oath to uphold the Constitution of the State of Illinois. The constitution says that we have a Mayor, a Clerk and six Trustees. If you are not willing to step down, you should not accept that nomination. If you're not going to do the job right now, what says you're going to do the job right in the future?

Clerk Zagone: Any further discussion?

Hearing none, we will take the vote.

I will call your name and you can tell me who you vote for.

Trustee Stewart:	Gerald Stewart
Trustee Thurmond:	Bill Joyce
Trustee Trotier:	Ernie Lopez
Trustee Joyce:	William Joyce
Trustee Perchinski:	Ernie Lopez
Trustee Lopez:	Ernie Lopez

Clerk Zagone: we are at a stalemate again.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to appoint Trustee Lopez Chairman Pro-tem for the meeting. Trustee Trotier seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Thurmond, Lopez, Stewart, Trotier and Perchinski. Trustee Joyce voted no. Motion carried.

AWARDS, HONORS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITION

None

MINUTES

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 18th Village Board meeting as all members have copies.

Trustee Thurmond offered to second the motion if Trustee Perchinski would amend it, I would second it if we could remove the discussion leading up to the Blood Drive striking.

Trustee Perchinski: I won't amend that.

Clerk Zagone: it was put in public record, I am not sure how I would remove it.

Trustee Thurmond: we are still striking the item, but I would like the discussion removed.

Trustee Perchinski: There is a motion, do we have another second?

Chairman Pro-tem Lopez: we did have a second, Trustee Trotier.

We have had discussion, am I safe in saying that the recorded minutes were all discussed here, which is why they are on the agenda. He is looking to strike the discussion regarding the blood drive.

Clerk Zagone: It's just part of the minutes from the November 18th minutes.

Trustee Thurmond: Not all. Clerk Zagone: He just wants the one discussion pulled.

Trustee Thurmond: All I am saying is there is nothing wrong with just having the striking of the item without having the discussion.

Trustee Perchinski: there is a first and a second.

Chairman Pro-tem Lopez: I will handle this, we are discussing this Trustee Thurmond. We have a first and we have a second.

Clerk Zagone: He is talking about the discussion as I have put it in the minutes as it happened, he wants struck. He doesn't want that on the permanent record.

Chairman Pro-tem Lopez: Duly noted, we will proceed with rollcall.

Trustee Trotier seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Lopez, Stewart, Trotier and Perchinski. Trustee Thurmond voted no. Trustee Joyce abstained. Motion carried.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Cameron Peterson of 3134 Sandy Ridge Dr. came before the board: I just want to come up here and thank everyone who is sitting here right now for everything they did over the weekend. It was a beautiful time, Miracle on 34th Street went very well. I know the Pancake Breakfast on Sunday also went very well. So, I just wanted to say thank you very much to the Board and our Department Heads for doing everything that they did over the weekend. I also want give a special thanks to the Dreixler family for always making sure that Santa Claus comes out every year in order to supply the food we use for the Food Baskets in the future. I also want to give a special thanks to the Skryzyna Family and the Buxton Family for setting up all the events. It truly was great to see the events in my dad's honor. Couldn't ask for anything more. I am very, very grateful for all of you Department Heads, especially for all that you do for this village. You guys come in here day after day with the dedication and the love and support for this town. That is why you are sitting where you are. I am very, very grateful to have you guys here. So, Thank you.

Chairman Pro-tem Lopez: Thank you. Well said! Again and, I thank everybody for this weekend. Everybody participated, everybody and the residents showed up. The smiles

on all the kids faces, that was awesome. Again, thank you to the Peterson's, Skryzyna's and Buxton's.

REPORTS

Village Administrator Mary Jo Seehausen I have no report, but I do have two items. I wanted to correct two my dates on the Board Meetings for 2025. I need to strike Tuesday January 7th to Monday January 6th, and then Tuesday the 21st and not Tuesday the 22nd. Another thing is, we have all of our TIF reports that go to the state comptroller's office, and it is not an item that needs approval, but I do need the Pro-tem to be able to sign documents along with me as the TIF Administrator. I have those here tonight, so I wanted to be on record that he will be signing them for us. That's all I have for tonight. Thank you everyone.

Director of Public Infrastructure Dave Toepper No report.

Chief Michael Long I just wanted to thank everyone who came out this weekend and supported our Firefighter Association Pancake Breakfast. We had a huge turn-out, almost ran out of Pancakes this year! Congratulations to all our raffle winners.

Police Chief Greg Smith No report.

EMA Chief Jason Stevenson No report.

Community Center Director Diana Rossi No report.

Village Attorney No report.

Treasurer No report.

MAYORS REPORT No Report.

VILLAGE CLERK I just have a thank you note to read from the family of Thomas Terry. Thank you, guys, for your generosity during this trying time. We truly appreciate you thinking about our family and showing support in this most difficult time. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. With love, DaVanna, Nick and Kids.

TRUSTEES REPORTS

None

BILLS

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

CORRESPONDENCE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS:

Owners of IImages LLC gave a brief description of the business planned. Trustee Perchinski questioned truck traffic and was assured that truck traffic would be kept to a minimum, just dropping off and picking up material stored at location.

Trustee Stewart made a motion to approve a new business license application for IImages LLC at 3645 Union Ave; pending inspections. Trustee Thurmond seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Thurmond, Lopez, Stewart, Trotier, Joyce and Perchinski. Motion carried.

Owners of Prestige Auto presented plans for online auto sales from this location.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve a new business license application for Prestige Auto at 3645 Union Avenue; pending inspections. Trustee Stewart seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Thurmond, Lopez, Stewart, Trotier, Joyce and Perchinski. Motion carried.

Trustee Joyce made a motion to approve the 2025 Board Meeting Dates with corrections as stated. Trustee Perchinski seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Thurmond, Lopez, Stewart, Trotier, Joyce and Perchinski. Motion carried.

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

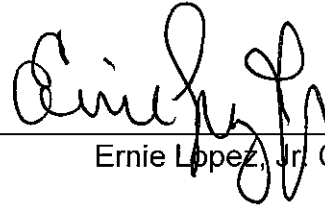
Minutes December 2, 2024, page 6

Trustee Joyce made a motion to reconvene general session. Trustee Thurmond seconded the motion. Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Thurmond, Lopez, Stewart, Trotier, Joyce and Perchinski. Motion carried.

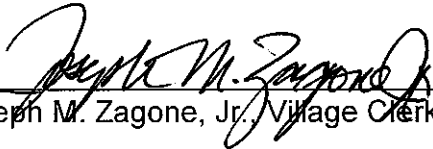
Being no further business:

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.



Ernie Lopez, Jr. Chairman Pro-tem



Joseph M. Zagone, Jr. Village Clerk