

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 7:15 P.M. on this 15th day of June 2026 in the Municipal Building of the Village of Steger, Illinois. Mayor Joyce led all in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

The roll was called. The following Trustees were present; Hanus, Kaminski, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski.

Also present: Village Administrator Joseph Wiszowaty, Police Chief Greg Smith, Assistant Superintendent of Public Works Roy Stone, Fire Chief Mike Long, EMA Chief Jason Stevenson, Community Center Director Fay Kiaurakis and Code Enforcement Officer Paul Myers

RECOGNITIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Joyce introduced new EMA officers and members:

Deputy Chief: Randall C. Johnston

Sergeant: Jack Willett

New Members: Richard Tobeck and Christina Marie Bibbs

Village Clerk Joe Zagone gave each the Oath of Office.

MINUTES

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve the minutes of June 1, 2026 meeting as all members have copies.

Trustee Stewart seconded the motion.

Voice vote; All ayes. Motion carried.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Michael Porter of Steger came before the board to ask if the Village was planning impact signage for illegal Fireworks. He said it was brought up last year to have signs showing fines to help deter some of that, so just wondering if that is possible.

Mayor Joyce asked Police Chief Smith to research the information and get some signs made.

REPORTS

MAYOR'S REPORT

Members of the Board, I would like to provide a brief update regarding the ongoing flood issues that continue to impact the Village of Steger and the actions we have recently taken on behalf of our residents. As everyone is aware, our community has experienced repeated flooding events over the past several years. These events have affected homes, businesses, roadways, drainage systems and other public infrastructure throughout the Village. Unfortunately, many of our residents have suffered property damage and significant hardship as a result of these reoccurring floods. In response to these ongoing challenges, I have submitted a formal request to the State of Illinois seeking assistance and asking the State to consider issuing a disaster declaration for the Village of Steger. In that request I outlined the significant impacts these flooding events have had on our residents, businesses and public infrastructure. I have also emphasized the financial burden that these events have placed on the Village including emergency response efforts, drainage maintenance, roadway repair, pumping operations and other recovery activities that continue to strain our local resources. The request asked the governor and state representative Anthony DeLuca for the state to provide emergency assistance, engineering and technical support and financial resources to help address both immediate impacts to flooding and long-term infrastructure improvements necessary to reduce future flooding risks. Specifically we requested assistance with drainage improvements, culvert upgrades, roadway reconstruction, storm water management projects and other flood mitigation measures. I also stressed the importance of expediting previously discussed state and federal flood mitigation projects. Our residents cannot continue to endure repeated flooding while critical projects remain delayed. While we have not yet received a formal response, I want the board and the public to know that the Village is actively advocating for our residents and pursuing every available opportunity to find outside assistance and funding. We will continue to work with our engineers, elected officials, state agencies and federal partners to identify solutions and to bring resources into our community. Flooding remains one of the most significant infrastructure and quality of life issues facing the Village today. Addressing it will require a coordinated effort and partnership at every level of local government. Please know that this administration remains committed to pursuing these solutions and keep the board as additional information becomes available.

VILLAGE CLERK

Village Administrator

Thank you Mr. Mayor. I am pleased to report that the Village has received notification that we will be receiving \$35,000.00 in assistance from Cook County from their additional ARPA Funds to help relieve some of the water billing for some of our residents. We will be have a Resolution on the next Board Agenda confirming that information.

Included in your packet, but not asked for approval is the request for proposals for our garbage contract. As you should be aware, this contract expires at the end of this year. We have until the end of July to notify our current carrier whether or not we will extend

that or that we will be going out for RFP. The last board meeting the Village authorized me to prepare that Request for Proposals. I will be sending that out this evening. The proposals are due back here at 4pm on July 16, 2026. The request for proposals is pretty extensive, it is also seeking some more security for the Village's position. Right now we only have \$100,000 performance bond, we are increasing that to \$250,000 as a requirement for the Request for Proposals. We will have the opening of these proposals at 4 pm on July 16th. That's all I have Mr. Mayor.

Village Attorney No report.

Village Engineer Just want to touch base and let everyone know that MFT Roadway resurfacing projects is going to get started this week. Roy informed me today that he had talked with them this afternoon and the subcontractor is going to be starting the concrete work on Kings Road the end of this week. There will be a pause to make sure any lead water lines have been replaced. At that point milling and roadway overlay resurfacing can happen. I will have an updated timeline at the next Village Board Meeting.

Trustee Perchinski: Florence Avenue is horrible, but that is one of the projects that is coming up here, right? Village Engineer: Yes, we have limited funds to work with, but a portion of Florence between 31st and 33rd Sts will be resurfaced.

Trustee Perchinski: Isn't that part of the flood water mediation project? I don't want to put in a new street then dig it up for sewers.

Mayor Joyce and the Village Engineer responded that the cross streets are not affected.

Police Chief Greg Smith

Meetings, Conference and Training:

Police Law

Legal Update and Review

standing authorizations for jurisdictional cooperation;

- the property rights of divorcing spouses;
- whether an underlying offense is required for an obstructing an officer charge;
- criminal charges for a suspect's refusal to identify oneself;

searching individuals on mandatory supervised release (MSR);

warrantless entries based on open doors and security alarms; and

new law that went into effect on June 1, 2026

Chief Smith, D.C. Fajman, Sgt. Bautista, and Ofc. D'Anna attended a LCC and South Agencies meeting held at the South Chicago Heights Police Department.

- Chief Smith & D.C. Fajman met with ILEAS coordinator.

Chief Smith met with Pastor Jones and Pastor Walker from Living Will Church.

Chief Smith, D.C. Fajman = Training mandate – "Crisis Intervention", "Autism Informed Response", and "Firearm Restraining Orders"

- Chief Smith attended School District 194 Yearly Safety Review Meeting

· Department Training - Crisis Center of South Suburbia provided training "Responding to Strangulation Events"

D.C. Fajman completed CJIS certification

Special Events:

- 250th Meeting
- Evergreen Cemetery Clean Up
- Memorial Day Ceremony
- Lisa's Rainbow Run
- Columbia Central Graduation
- 250th Celebration Raffle at Police Department

Traffic Education & Enforcement:

Steger Police Conducted seven (7) Traffic Studies in the 0-200 Block of Richton Rd.

1. 5/27/26 0917 to 1017 – Sgt. Hillman – Avg. Speed 31.5 mph
2. 5/27/26 1000 to 1300 – Ofc. D'Anna – Avg. Speed 31.0 mph
3. 5/27/26 1305 to 1405 - Chief Smith – Avg. Speed 28.93 mph (1-Warning Citation issued)
4. 5/27/26 1650 to 1705 – Ofc. D'Anna = Avg. Speed 30.1 mph
5. 5/28/26 0720 to 0759 – Chief Smith – Avg. Speed 29.57 mph
6. 5/30/26 1630 to 1730 – Sgt. Hillman – Avg. Speed 30.02 mph
7. 6/1/26 1830 to 2000 – Ofc. D'Anna – Avg. Speed 31.2 mph

Additionally, the department took part in the Annual Torch Run to benefit the Special Olympics. Torch Run T-shirts are still available for \$20 each at the police department.

Fire Chief Mike Long

During the month of May 2026, the department responded to a total of **172 calls for service**. The operational breakdown is as follows:

EMS Runs: 130 incidents, representing 75.6% of our total monthly volume.

Fire Runs: 42 incidents, representing 24.4% of our total monthly volume.

Mutual Aid Given: The department provided outside assistance to neighboring communities a total of 33 times.

Mutual Aid Received: The department required outside assistance from neighboring communities a total of 7 times.

Department Operations

Hosted Mutual Aid Training: The department hosted a multi-department training drill focusing on fire attack, ventilation, and truck operations. Personnel from Crete and Steger Estates attended.

Compliance Success: Both frontline ambulances successfully passed their annual Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) inspections.

Personnel Training & Milestones

We continue to push for advanced training and certification across all shifts:

Advanced Command Training: Captain Stevenson completed an intensive Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) training program in Tinley Park. Additionally, Captain Stevenson and Lieutenant Cartalino attended a specialized Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) class in Bourbonnais.

EMT Academy Graduations: Carlos Cortes and Adriana Nava graduated from EMT school and passed their National Registry exams on their first attempt.

Fire Academy Graduations: Melissa Choi and Michelle Espejo graduated from the Fire Academy. Michelle Espejo finished as the academy valedictorian and received the Brian Carey award.

Assistant Superintendent of Public Works Roy Stone

Good evening,

Public Works has been extremely busy with day-to-day operations, this includes mowing, completing service calls and locates, patching potholes, and maintenance in the shop.

There have been 11 water main breaks since May 19th

Street sweeping is scheduled to start on June 22nd and continue throughout the week until completed.

Chipping will also start the week of June 22nd for branches not whole trees.

Just a reminder that hydrant flushing has started and will continue every Tuesday through October.

Community Center Fay Kiaurakis

Good evening everyone. There is so much to share tonight. June 3rd we had our IDNR fishing and live animal show. We had 2 shows with a total of 22 children coming to learn and have fun. All the kids received a candy prize for catching a fish in the park. Our Mayor Joyce, Roy Stone, Administrator Joe, Trustee Thurmond, and some of our Public Works gentlemen brought their children/Grandchildren and I am asking the entire Board to please stop by at our Water Balloon fight on June 26 and bring some family members. We then had our Craft Fair on Saturday June 6th, it was a small fair with 8 vendors. There was about 20 people all day. The vendors said they would love to come back next year and Sunday's Craft Fair was canceled. June 8th we had the DMV pop-up. We had 7 – DL, 8 – ID's, 9 – Real DL, 12 - Real ID's, 1 – Real CDL, and 10 – vehicle stickers, totaling 47 residents helped. They were really happy with our location and requested we host them again. So, I scheduled them to return May 3, 2027 & Nov 1, 2027. June 9th we had Will & Cook County Assessor's office come to the Community Center, 9 – people were helped and they asked if we could host them again as well, because the residents gave them great feedback about this location. I'm waiting to hear a confirmation for next year from both offices, I'll keep you posted. June 12th we had the Red Cross Pop-Up. We had 10 donors come out and donate. They took 6 whole blood units and 4 power red units. Our donor drive will save approximately 30 lives! So huge a thank you to all that donated Red Cross also requested that we make this a regular site as donors were happy it was so close to where they live and such a great room. Prefect size, easy to get in and out of, and perfect temperature controls. I'm waiting on a confirmation. We also had our Stop the Bleed certification program, we were able to certify 12 people, including me. They too requested our location host again and I am waiting for verification on next year's dates. Saturday June 13th, we had our K-9 Demonstration and Camp Out, turned Camp-In. Ella the Blood Hound dazzled all 10 kids and 10

adults that came out. The rain forecast for the day scared some parents a bit, so we camped in the gym. We pitched our tents with the help of the Steger Boy Scouts, Thank you very much, we roasted hot dogs and s'mores on a small propane burner. Thank you Mayor Joyce for that and the super long skewers & Thank you Trustee Cindy for the donation to the S'mores fund. We played an all ages game of capture the flag, that everyone loved, and they even pulled me into it. Until my body reminded me I'm too old and too out of shape for these games. It is a night none of us will soon forget. All of the kids asked if they could come back and do it again as they left the center. So, on July 11th we are going to try again for a Camp Out, with games, and a movie. I even asked if Ella the Bloodhound could join us again. She was able to sniff out the location of one of your kids, we want to see if she can do it again. I ask that everyone from the board make there way over and see how much fun our kids are having at our camp out and maybe bring your own tent and join in, let's all forget we're adults for one night and play like kids again. This week we are hosting the Emissions pop-up in the Veterans Park large lot near the Community Center. Monday – Thursday 10am-4pm. It is very quick, I did it myself, and they were finished in record time. They can also sell you the registration stick right there as well. The Four Winds trip is canceled for June 24th. Finally, our all ages Water balloon fight is June 26th from 12-5pm, I even picked-up a water table for the little guys. Come on out and wear something white, Chief Long is providing the water and we're going to add food coloring so we can see what team hits who.

EMA Chief Jason Stevenson

Patrols and training for our new members are continuing.

We have had 5 storm call outs since last report.

We have had 2 accident assist.

We assisted with the little league parade and the Loyalty Day parade in New Lenox

We assisted with the traffic for the recent 5K run on the boulevard.

Staffed security at Columbia Central Graduation.

I attended the safety meeting with the school district.

We have been taking advantage of the supplies at Cook County EMA. We have picked up sign board for the Community Center events and also a generator for the long power outage at the DPW building. I have requests in for more equipment for the other upcoming events.

We attended training at Cook County Emergency management for the Meridian Archer 1200 Mobile Barrier and Archer Rapid Gate systems. It was attended by Jason Stevenson, Jack Wilette, Rich Tobeck, Paul Myers, Greg Smith and Pete Fajman.

The Annual contract for our siren maintenance is signed and turned in to Braniff. I am waiting on a date for this year.

Code Enforcement Paul Myers

Good Evening everybody, since the last meeting we had 15 re-occupancy inspections, 10 animal tickets and placed 4 dogs into Cook County care. We have issued 50 grass tickets, 25 trash can tickets, assisted the fire department on a garage fire, assisted the fire department for a car into a building, assisted the police department with a lost child, assisted the police department with flood and that's about it. We have done 10 stop work orders.

TRUSTEES REPORT

Trustee Hanus

Good evening, as of tonight I would like to give an update on my street name sign project. To date I have scouted about 40% of the streets, mostly on the West side of town. As of now I have verified a total of 123 street name sign poles. Here is the breakdown as follows: We have about 83 right now that are good, 18 are missing, 7 are damaged, 15 are mis-aligned. I have a damaged stop sign at 33rd and Butler. My goal is to complete this project by the end of July with a full report. This report will include exact sign pole locations and a description of the issues for each street name sign pole. Once completed, I will turn over my report to Roy Stone and present a full completed report at the following board meeting when this is all done. I know this is a small project, but it is one more step for the improvements and progress for our Village and I am proud to be a part of that. Thank you.

Mayor Joyce: One last thing on reports, Paul or Chief, what is the ticket for failure to display a Village Sticker? Chief Smith: \$50.00. Mayor Joyce: Village stickers are on sale right now. Through June 30th they are normal price. If you wait until July 1st, they double in price. If you wait until July 1st or some time after, if you get a ticket, it's \$50 plus the double cost of a Village Sticker. Please get them downstairs or you can order them online.

BILLS

Trustee Hanus made a motion to pay Request #5 to Robinson Engineering for Lead Service Line Replacement Year 2 for Project and Construction Management Engineering. Trustee Trotier seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Kaminski, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried.

Trustee Thurmond made a motion to pay the bills as listed when funds become available. Trustee Stewart seconded the motion.

Discussion: Trustee Perchinski: There is a bill on there for Axon? I was not sure what that is for, it's for \$5,000.00 on page 4. Chief Smith: that is for our tasers.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Kaminski, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Joyce: I am asking for a motion to place on file for official response for Royal Oaks Home Owners Associations letter and the response given to them.

Trustee Perchinski: I make a motion to table this as we did not have this in our agenda packet. Also, I would like us to have our agenda packet on Friday evenings. We got ours today just before noon and that is not enough time to get through everything.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to table a request to place on file for the official record: a letter from the Royal Oak Estates Homeowners Association and the Mayors response.

Trustee Trotier seconded the motion.

Voice vote; All ayes. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to table ORDINANCE NO. 1348-2026 An Ordinance Amending Article II, Chapter 86 of the Village of Steger Municipal Code regarding Water Rates, Water Fund Stabilization, Capital Improvement Funding, Senior Citizen Credit and Related Water Utility Fees.

Trustee Thurmond seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Kaminski, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried

Trustee Hanus made a motion to adopt ORDINANCE NO. 1349-2026 An Ordinance approving a Real Estate Contract to purchase property by and between Robert F. Berner and the Village of Steger.

Trustee Stewart seconded the motion.

Discussion: Trustee Perchinski: I think this would be really nice to have, but I also think we have bigger fish to fry. This money could be better served to go towards infrastructure. Mayor Joyce: The grant money we are using, the DECO funds we were going to use for the flood mitigation that was our portion of the Lou Sherman Drive storm sewer replacement that the Army Corp of Engineers has put a moth ball moratorium on. We have to spend this money, Conrad has reached out DECO and they have allowed us

to use that grant money to purchase this property and its mitigation. So, this property will be purchased at no cost to the village.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Kaminski, Stewart, Thurmond and Trotier. Trustee Perchinski voted no. Motion carried

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to adopt with corrections ORDINANCE NO. 1350-2026 An Ordinance approving and consenting to an application by Rinea, LLC for a Class 8 Designation for 3108 Louis Sherman Drive.

Trustee Thurmond seconded the motion.

Discussion: Trustee Perchinski: There is conflicting verbiage in here. The correct spelling is Rinea which is on the front of this, but further back there is a misspelling. I would like my motion to be "with correction"

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Kaminski, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to adopt RESOLUTION NO. 1214-2026 A Resolution authorizing the Illinois Municipal League to collect the 2% Foreign Fire Insurance licensing fee for the Foreign Fire Insurance Board of the Steger Fire Department.

Trustee Hanus seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Kaminski, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to adopt RESOLUTION NO. 1215-2026 A resolution to declare Surplus Property and to authorize the Village Administrator to dispose of surplus property in accordance with 30 ILCS605 et seq.

Trustee Hanus seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Kaminski, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried

BOARD ACTIONS

Trustee Stewart made a motion to approve the ACH payment to Gov Deals, as an agent for the City of Blue Island, Illinois for the purchase of a 2001 International Boom Truck in the amount of \$22,500.00.

Trustee Trotier seconded the motion.

Discussion: Trustee Perchinski: What motor is in this truck, do you know Roy? Roy

Stone: I do not. Trustee Perchinski: Is it the inline 6 or the V-8?

VA Wiszowaty: The only reason this is on the agenda is because it was already approved. This is just approving payment. In answer to your question, this is a 2001 International 4700 Conventional Cab 7.6 liter L-6 Diesel. Trustee Perchinski: That answers my questions.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Kaminski, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried

Discussion: Trustee Perchinski: Why on our agenda does it say motion to approve, motion to deny? VA Wiszowaty: Because I am asking the board to deny the next item. Trustee Perchinski: Shouldn't we just put what the item is and not what the board should be doing? Mayor Joyce: It is a recommendation from the Village Administrator. VA Wiszowaty: There was a memorandum in the packet. Mayor Joyce: You can vote to not agree with the recommendations of the Administration or you can agree with it.

Trustee Kaminski made a motion to deny a new business license for "Nita's Snacks" proposed for 1136 E. Sauk Trail, Steger due to the fact this is a single-family residential home and not zoned for commercial use.

Trustee Hanus seconded the motion.

Discussion: Trustee Perchinski: So things like this, she didn't even qualify for this. We shouldn't even have this in front of us. VA Wiszowaty: They applied for the business license, since the board's practice is to approve them, then it is their discretion to deny it.

Trustee Perchinski: Even if they don't qualify? VA Wiszowaty: Even if they don't qualify, there is no mechanism with which to deny or approve if it is within the staff's right to approve a business license without the board's approval. If the board is approving, they should be denying as well.

Trustee Perchinski: Have we talked to her about going for a variance with zoning? VA Wiszowaty: The problem with a variance is it's a single-family residential property and intended use would probably require a zoning change. Trustee Perchinski: Paul and I have been talking about a couple of businesses on Richton Road that just moved in, put in roads and are industrial businesses.

Voice vote; All ayes. Motion carried.

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve a new business license application for Sunday Inc. dba Homeland Foods Store located at 33 E. 34th St. pending inspections with the ability of the Village Administrator to deny issuing the license depending on the services they will be providing.

Trustee Stewart seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Kaminski, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried

Trustee Trotier made a motion to approve a new business license application for Bright Minds Child Care located at 118 E. 34th St. in Steger, pending inspections.

Trustee Perchinski seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Kaminski, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried

Trustee Perchinski made a motion to approve an Agreement with Modern Midways, Inc. to permit a Village Sponsored Carnival for the Steger 250 Celebration on July 23, 24, 25 and 26, 2026 with the Village of Steger listed as additional insured.

Trustee Stewart seconded the motion.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Kaminski, Stewart, Thurmond, Trotier and Perchinski. Motion carried

Trustee Trotier: Does the Village of Steger get some benefits from this agreement?

Mayor Joyce: Modern Midways has offered this to the Village with the Village providing Porta-potties and security. In the contract, the Village will receive 25% of all ticket sales from dollar one up to \$100,000. Ticket sales over \$100,000 then goes to 30%, which will be paid out on Sunday night at the end of the event. The only other thing in the contract is that for three years, if Steger wants to hold a carnival, Modern Midways has first right of refusal.

Trustee Thurmond made a motion to approve and Agreement with Johny Rockets Fireworks for Fireworks Display in an amount of \$15,000.000 to be held during the Steger 250 Celebration on July 26, 2026.

Trustee Stewart seconded the motion.

Discussion: Trustee Perchinski: We do not have the appropriate information to make a decision on this. Trustee Trotier: On this \$15,000, is any of the money coming from donations? Mayor Joyce: There is a letter going out to businesses seeking donations to offset the cost of the event. The plan will be to use money that has been raised for this. This will not be using Taxpayer money. Trustee Trotier: So, will this money come from money we have raised as a committee? Mayor Joyce: No. Those funds were raised for what the committee has planned. We can use money raised from the carnival, even if it is a slow carnival, we will get a \$25,000 check from them. This will all be donated funds, not taxpayer money.

Roll was called. The following Trustees voted aye; Hanus, Stewart, Thurmond and Trotier. Trustee Perchinski abstained and Trustee Kaminski voted no. Motion carried

Being no further business:

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:24 pm.

William Joyce, Village President

Joseph M. Zagone, Jr. Village Clerk