

VILLAGE OF JUSTICE
7800 ARCHER ROAD, JUSTICE, IL
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FIRST REGULAR BOARD MEETING
March 13, 2006

President VanAllen called the Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

PLEDGE: President VanAllen led the Village Board in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Village Clerk Kathy Svoboda called the roll. Present are: President Mel VanAllen, Trustees: Vicki Kelly, Jim Gabrys, Ed Jurgel, Mike Maruszak, Rich Berkowicz and Rich Sparr. Attorney Paula Wallin is in attendance.

REVIEW OF MINUTES:

MOTION: Trustee Maruszak Moves: TO WAIVE READING OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 27, 2006 AND TO APPROVE AS SUBMITTED.

SECOND: Trustee Berkowicz

VOTE: Trustees Kelly, Gabrys, Jurgel, Maruszak, Berkowicz and Sparr, aye. All ayes. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE AND INSURANCE – Trustee Maruszak

MOTION: Trustee Maruszak Moves: To approve payables, posted March 8, 2006 numbers 1-26 in the amount of \$20,663.32.

SECOND: Trustee Berkowicz

VOTE: Trustees Berkowicz, Sparr, Kelly, Gabrys, Jurgel and Maruszak, aye. All ayes. Motion passed.

PUBLIC UTILITIES –Trustee Gabrys

Trustee Gabrys reported that there has been a rash of water main breaks in the Wesley Fields area, two on 82nd Court, and another on 83rd Court. All were repaired without incident.

The time clock at the Public Works facility stopped working and needed to be repaired. We were provided a loaner by the manufacturer to serve in the meantime.

Chipping starts April 1st. J. M. Viverito & Co., Inc. will be disposing of our waste, per contract, until June 15th, 2006. At that time, we will be quoting with Chicago Wholesale Mulch Co. in Crest Hill, IL to determine if they can provide a better rate.

Fortunately, we had no major damage from the storm last night, unlike our neighbors in Bridgeview. We have offered assistance from our Public Works Department and ESDA is working round the clock to assess and contain the damage.

The MES Reports for MFT expenditures for 2004 and 2005 have been reviewed and accepted by the State. Our next un-obligated balance statement will reflect the current available balance in the Motor Fuel Tax account.

PUBLIC SAFETY – Trustee Jurgel

Trustee Jurgel commented that he attended the 2006 Community Leader Award Presentation sponsored by Dan Lipinski on March 3rd. Our own ESDA Director Marty Vilimek was a recipient of this prestigious award. Congressman Lipinski, Senator Viverito, Mayor Alan Nowaczyk of Willow Springs and Alderman James Balcer of Chicago's 11th Ward honored him and some fourteen other distinguished volunteers who also received awards. Trustee Jurgel commented that he was very impressed with the whole event.

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING AND RECREATION – Trustee Kelly

An Aging Well Team Meeting was held at the Village Hall on March 9th. Discussion occurred about implementation of the Friendship Calls Program to contact isolated seniors in Justice.

An Aging Well Team Leaders Meeting took place on March 10th at Lyons Township Hall. Various communities in Lyons Township reviewed their individual projects.

Replacement windows for the Village Hall have been ordered and installation is expected to occur late March or early April.

The semi-annual Senior Luncheon will be held April 11, 2006 at the new, Lipinski Community Center. Tickets are free of charge to Justice seniors and may be picked up at the Village Clerk's office. The luncheon will be at 11:30 am and will feature entertainment and an educational speaker.

ORDINANCES, LICENSES & PUBLIC PRINTING – Trustee Berkowicz

Trustee Berkowicz had no report.

BUILDING, PLATS AND ZONING –Trustee Sparr

MOTION: Trustee Sparr Moves: To approve Ordinance 2006-06 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 3 ARTICLE XIII SECTIONS 3-406(10) OF THE MANUFACTURED HOME COMMUNITIES CODE; AND AMENDING CHAPTER 4 ARTICLE IV SECTION 4-94 OF THE FIRE PROTECTION CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF JUSTICE WITH REGARD TO THE INSTALLATION OF AUTOMATIC FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEMS; AND CHAPTER 12 ARTICLE II SECTION 12-49(10) MANUFACTURED HOME

COMMUNITIES - ZONING DISTRICT, GENERAL REQUIREMENTS - FIRE PROTECTION.

SECOND: Trustee Maruszak
President VanAllen explained that the code upgrades to manufactured homes apply to those mobiles that are leased or rented to someone other than the owner, or are newly constructed and added to a manufactured home community.

VOTE: Trustees Gabrys, Jurgel, Maruszak, Berkowicz, Sparr and Kelly, aye. All ayes.
Motion passed.

MOTION: Trustee Sparr Moves: To approve **Resolution 2006-08**, A Resolution Authorizing The Filing and Executing the Required Technical Assistance Grant Agreements Under the Regional Transportation Authority's General Authority to Make Such Grants for the Project Known as the Justice Metra Station Feasibility Study.

SECOND: Trustee Jurgel
Trustee Maruszak asked what the cost to the Village would be for the study. President VanAllen explained that the matching funds, payable by the Village of Justice for the study, are \$10,000.00 to be paid from the General Fund. Originally, it was proposed that the Village would fund \$25,000.00 of the cost, but we have renegotiated for the lesser amount. An application for a CMAK Grant for the \$10,000.00 investment is applied for, but has not been awarded at this time.

VOTE: Trustees Jurgel, Maruszak, Kelly and Gabrys, aye. Trustees Berkowicz and Sparr, nay. Four ayes, two nays. Motion passed.

VILLAGE ATTORNEY:

No report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Trustee Maruszak revisited the question from Mr. Ed Rusch at the last meeting regarding the discrepancy between the dollar amounts recognized by Resolutions for the 2004 and the 2005 MFT Program years and the amount published in the 2004 annual audit.

The amount shown expended from MFT in 2004 was representative of costs accrued and expended in 2004 for more than one MFT budget year and not the amount budgeted for 2004 Motor Fuel Tax expenses.

NEW BUSINESS:

SCHEDULE OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

The following meetings to begin at 7:45 p.m. and follow consecutively with topics of discussion listed in each committee.

Wednesday, March 22, 2006

Open Session

FINANCE & INSURANCE: Posted payables, ESDA and other matters before the committee.

BUILDING PLATS & ZONING: Review of the conditions on the title regarding Senior Designated use for the townhouse project (Eire Construction to Frank Gal-GFE Construction) on Frontage Rd.

ORDINANCES, LICENSES & PUBLIC PRINTING: Possible legislation regarding rules for the sale and use of tobacco products. Any new licenses available for review. Tattoo legislation.

PUBLIC SAFETY: Purchase of equipment.

PUBLIC UTILITIES: Purchase of equipment.

Closed Session

PUBLIC UTILITIES: Collective bargaining matters.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Clerk Kathy Svoboda is in receipt of a thank you from the Family of Harold Robish for our recent expression of sympathy.

WRITTEN QUESTIONS OR PETITIONS REGARDING ITEMS ON THE AGENDA:

Questions were submitted regarding the action to authorize the Feasibility Study for the METRA Station.

1. Krzysztof Wasowicz, 7510 Cronin, asked if properties near the proposed Station would be condemned under Eminent Domain and where would the monies to purchase these properties come from?

President VanAllen explained that the Village of Justice has no intention of forcing anyone to sell their home. METRA has indicated that the 3.5 acres that the Village currently owns would be potentially suitable for a parking lot and the feasibility study would identify any additional needs. President VanAllen assured Mr. Wasowicz that he had no intention of pursuing any condemnations, whatsoever.

2. Mr. John Small, 7225 S. 86th Ave., asked what the long range plans for a METRA Station at Blackstone were?

President VanAllen stated that until a feasibility study was performed there could be no concrete plans. An added incentive to performing the study is that we have no access to the other side of the railroad tracks and would like to see the I&M Canal bike trail extended through Justice. A METRA platform would provide that much needed access.

3. Gerry Mendrella, 7745 Banks, asked what the economic benefits would be from the addition of a METRA Station in the Village of Justice.

The benefits to pursuing transportation studies by not only METRA but RTA and PACE as well, are to identify the transportation needs of all of our residents. Again, the identification of an appropriate method to cross the railroad tracks would be very valuable.

4. Mr. Jim Rinkus, 7829 Garden Lane, asked if it wouldn't be more prudent to fix streets than build bike trails.

President VanAllen told Mr. Rinkus that bike trails were only considered when recreational grants funds were available. Streets are improved with MFT monies or general funds set aside for that purpose.

5. Mr. Michael Murray, 7826 Blazer, asked why, with a station in Willow Springs and another in Summit, we would waste \$10,000.00 on a METRA Station that is not needed by METRA or Village residents.

President VanAllen replied that we were spending \$10,000.00 on a study, not a Station.

6. Mrs. Lisa Allen asked when Mayor VanAllen has ever asked any of the residents on Blackstone about a METRA Station in their back yards.

The Mayor reviewed a list of dates that have included frank and open discussion regarding a plan to pursue a METRA Station. Each and every annual Breakfast Meeting since 1998 including the printed proposed projects sections as did the 1999 State of the Village Booklet, mailed to all homes in Justice. President VanAllen also reviewed press releases in 1998, 1999, 2002, two in 2003, 2004 and again in January 2005, and replies to letters from a few specific residents, Mr. Labno in June 2003, Mr. Ed Rusch in September 2004 and a reply to Ms. Karlow in November of 2004.

Trustee Mike Maruszak added that when he purchased his home in the Arbors one of the incentives was the potential for a METRA Station in Justice.

President VanAllen reminded the public that the only way in and out of a station would be down Cork Ave., an FAU route, to 71st St., and 71st Street would have to be improved for that use.

Public Hearings conducted by METRA would need to occur before any train station could be approved.

President VanAllen provided an update to the Board on a number of other projects.

The engineering of 81st Street is nearing completion. The improvement will span 81st Ave. from 88th Ave. to Fawn Trail with full street improvements, including curbs but with no sidewalks. Instead of a sidewalk we are looking at a Bike Trail from 88th Ave to Buffalo Woods.

The State Legislature has approved two grants, one for \$50,000.00 sponsored by State Representative Mary Flowers and another for \$250,000.00 sponsored by State Representative Mike Madigan for the construction of the Advocacy Center.

We are currently seeking bids to regrind streets from Garden Lane, eastward, Cronin, Blazer etc. and lay new asphalt.

In tandem with the 88th Ave. project we will be jogging 83rd St. to line up east to west in hopes of getting a stoplight.

The 88th Ave. Sidewalk Project has been approved, but we are waiting on word regarding 88th Ave. Street Lighting.

We are looking at legislation to limit condo conversions to protect our affordable housing mandates.

CATS and NIPC have been combined and the MWRD is now the exclusive Flood Agency for the County. This will standardize flood control requirements and will provide for cooperative efforts across communities.

Bus Rapid Transit proposals to create a system to travel from Orland Park to O'Hare Airport, down LaGrange Rd. have been discussed.

PACE has been contacted to consider a park-n-ride from 83rd St. east of 88th Ave. to the Orange Line and to UPS to encourage jobs for our youth.

Also proposed for discussion is a park-n-ride from the old Anthony Oil property at 86th and Archer to the Orange Line. In cooperation with IDOT this would provide the resources to clean up the Anthony Oil property and to straighten out the 86th and Archer intersection.

The history of the property along the I&M Canal in Justice and the MWRD property beyond the railroad tracks was discussed.

The Chair will entertain a Motion: To Adjourn.

MOTION: Trustee Jurgel so MOVES:

SECOND: Trustee Kelly

VOICE VOTE: All ayes.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen M. Suoboda
Village Clerk/Collector