

VILLAGE OF JUSTICE
7800 ARCHER ROAD, JUSTICE, IL
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FIRST REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OF AUGUST

Minutes of Monday, August 11, 2008

Village President Krzysztof Wasowicz called the Meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

PLEDGE:

President Wasowicz led the Village Board in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Village Clerk Kathy Svoboda called the roll. Present are: Village President Kris Wasowicz, Trustees: Michael Murray, Jim Gabrys, Ed Jurgel, Mary McGee, Rich Berkowicz and Jeff Kranig. Attorney Sara Gadola of Robins, Schwartz, Nicholas, Lifton and Taylor, Ltd. is present.

REVIEW OF MINUTES:

The Chair will entertain a Motion: To approve the Minutes of the July 28, 2008 Regular Board Meeting as submitted.

MOTION: Trustee Murray so Moves:

SECOND: Trustee Jurgel

VOTE: Trustees Murray, Gabrys, Jurgel, McGee, Berkowicz and Kranig, aye. All ayes. Motion passed.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: President Kris Wasowicz

President Wasowicz had no report.

VILLAGE CLERK'S REPORT:

Clerk Svoboda had no report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE AND INSURANCE: - Trustee Mary McGee

MOTION: Trustee McGee Moves: To approve payables numbers 1 – 28, posted for the period of 07/24/08 to 08/06/2008, in the amount of \$23,114.18 plus a \$612.50 invoice from RSNLT that was removed from the previously approved list of payables for further review by the committee.

SECOND: Trustee Berkowicz

VOTE: Trustees Gabrys, Jurgel, McGee, Berkowicz, Kranig and Murray, aye. All ayes. Motion passed.

PUBLIC UTILITIES – Trustee Gabrys

Trustee Gabrys stated that Steve Leiber of Hoeffler/Butler Engineering presented a report at the last committee meeting prioritizing the worst of the streets for repair in the Village. We looked at the condition of the streets and the necessity of using MFT funds where the cost of repair would be greater than we can afford

this year. Although 85th Court is probably the most in need of repair, we can overlay two streets this year and schedule 85th Court for reconstruction with MFT funds in the spring.

MOTION: Trustee Gabrys Moves: Motion: To authorize the Public Utilities Committee to direct the Village Engineer to prepare bid specifications and advertise for bids to perform the Asphalt Patch and Overlay Projects at Oak Grove from 76th Place to 75th Street, and 84th Ct. from 82nd Street to 79th Street, once our financial consultant and treasurer have confirmed the necessary funding is in place to proceed.

SECOND: Trustee Murray

VOTE: Trustees Jurgel, McGee, Berkowicz, Kranig, Murray and Gabrys, aye. All ayes. Motion passed.

The use of Complaint Forms originating in the clerk's office and sometimes the building department has been very effective tools for dealing with resident complaints. We also receive complaints generated from the internet. Communication from the residents to the various departments, officials and staff are improving in leaps and bounds. Please use the process so that we may better serve your needs.

Trustee Gabrys has attended several meetings of the Ethnic Fest Committee and is coordinating public works participation to allow for adequate coverage during the Fest. This past Saturday, last minute details were addressed.

Mr. Jim Lurquin is working with Clerk Svoboda and Treasurer Rusch to streamline MFT transfers and payment of MFT appropriate bills. Thank you to Mr. Lurquin, Treasurer Rusch and Clerk Svoboda for their efforts.

Some equipment was recently purchase by the authority of the Public Utilities Committee at a great price from a local business that was closing. The process in place for purchases requiring approval of the purchase order first was maintained, and we were able to save considerable dollars for much needed equipment.

Public Services Administrator, Jim Lurquin is currently working with Warren Oil to obtain competitive pricing on our fuel and fuel dispensing equipment. We will have a presentation scheduled for the Board for August 20th.

Fuel cards have been collected and a new procedure for the use of fuel by employees in various departments is in place for better accountability for the dispensing and use of fuel

T-shirts were purchased for the use of public works employees for the warm weather. They are dark blue and identify the public works department in white letters.

President Wasowicz asked Trustee Gabrys to elaborate on the choices of streets for repair this year.

Trustee Gabrys stated that 85th Court really needs a full reconstruction from 79th St. to 600 ft. south at 81st Street at a cost of about \$250,000.00. For that we would need MFT funding.

Blackstone Ave. from Banks to 150' south of Indian Lane needs a 2" overlay at a cost of about \$130,000.00. Banks from 75th to Blackstone would cost \$64,500. Oak Grove can be overlaid this year for about \$43,000.00 for a 2" overlay and 84th Court for another \$80,500.00.

PUBLIC SAFETY – Trustee Mike Murray

MOTION: Trustee Murray Moves: To approve the appointment of Lt. Kraig McDermott by Chief Bob Gedville to the positions of Deputy Chief of the Justice Police Department, at the salary approved for the position of deputy chief.

SECOND: Trustee Jurgel

VOTE: Trustees Gabrys, McGee and Berkowicz, nay. Trustees Jurgel, Kranig and Murray, aye. President Wasowicz voted aye. Motion passed.

MOTION: Trustee Murray Moves: To approve the appointment of Lt. Michael Kurschner by Chief Bob Gedville to the positions of Deputy Chief of the Justice Police Department, at the salary approved for the position of deputy chief.

SECOND: Trustee Jurgel

VOTE: Trustees Gabrys, McGee and Berkowicz, nay. Trustees Jurgel, Kranig and Murray, aye. President Wasowicz voted aye. Motion passed.

As a result of the May 2008, IDOT Ticket or Click-it Campaign, we have been awarded \$1,000.00 for being 43rd of 600 participating agencies. We have also received an \$800.00 hand-held Radar Gun for our participation in the IDOT IMAGE Grant program and a Mobile Data Terminal and Laptop Modem from the ILEAS Grant valued at \$8,500.00.

Officer Tony DeBella participated in the Police and Children Together Camp, sponsored by the Illinois State Police. The camp, held at Camp Sullivan in Oak Forest puts high risk children together with law enforcement personnel. Three children from Justice attended with Officer DeBella.

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING & RECREATION – Trustee Ed Jurgel

Trustee Jurgel reported that a Fest meeting held last Saturday to address any last minute details and concerns went well. The 2008 Ethnic Fest promises to be an

outstanding event. There will be one more meeting of the committee on Wednesday evening.

ORDINANCES, LICENSES & PUBLIC PRINTING – Trustee Berkowicz

Trustee Berkowicz explained that we have several new businesses in process but none are ready for formal approval this evening.

Trustee Berkowicz reiterated that a process is in place to handle new businesses starting with the initial Business License Application submitted in the Clerk's office where \$155.00 is collected for business inspections performed by Russ Abrams and Fire Inspector Ernie Spatola. Often permits for trade fixtures to be installed or building modifications are required. A business cannot open until final inspections are completed, the business license fees are paid and the Board approves the business for licensing.

BUILDING, PLATS AND ZONING – Trustee Jeff Kranig

MOTION: Trustee Kranig Moves: To approve Ordinance 2008-28, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 8 ARTICLE IX SECTION 8-341 THROUGH 8-399 OF THE SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF JUSTICE WITH REGARD TO FLOODPLAINS AND CHAPTER 13, ARTICLE I, SECTION 13-1 OF THE RATES AND FEES CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF JUSTICE.

SECOND: Trustee Murray
Trustee Kranig explained that action must be expedited in order to meet deadlines required by FEMA that would affect our ability for our residents to obtain Flood Insurance. Thanks to Jim Lurquin for his hard work on this project. There were 80 plus pages of revisions to compile.

VOTE: Trustees Kranig, Murray, Gabrys, Jurgel, McGee and Berkowicz, aye. All ayes. Motion passed.

There were thirty-eight applications for building permits in the first three months of 2008. In April, May June and July there have been thirty-four each month. So far this year we have collected \$174,584.78 in permit fees.

Trustee Kranig sincerely thanked Mr. Gerry Mendralla for all his help with both the Fest and the fund-raising efforts of Trustee Kranig who together with Gerry Mendralla raised more than \$14,000.00 and obtained up to \$4,000.00 worth of promotions and giveaways.

Trustee Kranig is in receipt of the structural report for the Lipinski Center. He will be scheduling a committee meeting to discuss the report as soon as the other trustees have had an opportunity to read through it.

VILLAGE ATTORNEY: Attorney Sara Gadola

Attorney Gadola announced that her firm would also be donating to our Fest.

Attorney Gadola provided a memo regarding the performing of maintenance on vacant, foreclosed or abandoned properties.

The outstanding bills are making their way to the Governor. The Veto Session is scheduled for November but Attorney Gadola expects some legislation to trickle in, in the meantime. She will keep us informed.

OLD BUSINESS:

There is none.

NEW BUSINESS:

The second round of Town Hall Meetings will begin with a meeting on Thursday, August 28, at 7:00 pm. at the Village Hall for those residents that reside north of Archer Road and west of Cork Ave.

A Petition to appeal to our State, County and Township officials for relief from or reconsideration of the tri-annual reassessment of our property taxes is available to sign in the Clerk's office. Please stop in to add your name to the protest of our reassessments.

Clerk Svoboda has arranged for Township Assessor Barbara Weyrick to provide a Tax Appeal Workshop on August 18, at 7:00 pm. here, at the Village Hall. Assessor Weyrick will host Appeal Workshops at the Lyons Township Hall, 6404 Joliet Rd. in Countryside, on Wednesday, August 20th at 10:00 am and again at 7:00 pm.

SCHEDULE OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

The following meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m. and follow consecutively with topics of discussion listed in each committee:

Wednesday, August 20, 2008

OPEN SESSION

FINANCE & INSURANCE: Posted Payables and other financial matters.

ORDINANCES, LICENSES & PUBLIC PRINTING: Review of any new or pending business licenses and ordinances.

PUBLIC SAFETY: Review of a RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE COOK COUNTY INTEROPERABLE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. George Gaskin suggested that navy blue shirts for public works employees are rather dark in color and perhaps they should wear vests, also.

Mrs. Cookie Gaskin asked if we could expand on the revisions to the flood ordinance.

Jim Lurquin explained that there were eight chapters added and fourteen others changed and the deadline for passage is August 19th.

If the deadline were to be missed we would be ineligible for Federal Flood Insurance and would not be eligible for Federal Grants. The changes are those mandated by FEMA.

The last Flood Map revision resulted in about 65 to 100 properties being removed from the Flood Plain but another 45 to 50 being added.

Hoefflerle/Butler Engineering is looking into some relief to the regulations for those homes built before 1970 (before the maps were enacted). It could result in a reduction in the cost of Flood Insurance for those homeowners.

Mrs. Gaskin asked why there were no streets from Oak Grove, east to Maplewood Drive on the list for street improvements.

President Wasowicz replied that the streets mentioned were the very worst as identified by the village engineer, but indeed we know that repairs and reconstruction is needed all over town. We are hoping for grant funding from the Capital Bill to provide major relief for our streets.

We are also planning to join with JWSWC to reconstruct 85th Street and 85th Place is a joint endeavor to replace water mains and reconstruct the streets. The Water Commission would absorb half of the cost of the reconstruction.

TIF 3 as proposed would allow for improvements to Frontage Road.

With the savings from our budget, the sale of the fire equipment and Motor Fuel Tax we have a start toward much-needed infrastructure improvements.

Mrs. Gaskin informed the board that the grass-cutting job at Lipinski Community Center leaves much to be desired. No one is trimming along the path or around the benches or trees. It looks terrible.

Reminder, George Heslop is running "Cruise Nights" at Craigors II on Saturday evenings from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. We are averaging around 30 to 40 cars and it is an enjoyable, weekly event. Come on out and bring the family. Pictures of the Cruise Nights are featured on our website.

CORRESPONDENCE:

There was none.

The Chair will entertain a Motion: To Adjourn

MOTION: Trustee Jurgel so MOVES:

SECOND: Trustee Murray

VOICE VOTE: All ayes.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathleen M. Svoboda
Village Clerk/Collector