

VILLAGE OF JUSTICE  
7800 ARCHER ROAD, JUSTICE, IL  
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SECOND REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
OF NOVEMBER

Minutes of Monday, November 24, 2008

Mayor Pro Tem Mary McGee called the Meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

**PLEDGE:**

President Pro Tem McGee led the Village Board in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:**

Village Clerk Kathy Svoboda called the roll. Present are Trustee Mary McGee who is acting Mayor Pro Tem this evening and Trustees: Michael Murray, Jim Gabrys, Ed Jurgel, Rich Berkowicz and Jeff Kranig. President Kris Wasowicz is absent this evening. Attorney Sara Gadola of Robbins, Schwartz, Nicholas, Lifton and Taylor, Ltd. is present.

**REVIEW OF MINUTES:**

The Chair will entertain a Motion: To approve the Minutes of the November 10, 2008 Regular Board Meeting as submitted.

MOTION: Trustee Murray so Moves:

SECOND: Trustee Berkowicz

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

**VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

President Pro Tem McGee presented a plaque to our attorney, Sara Gadola expressing our appreciation for the generous donation for the Ethnic Fest from Robbins, Schwartz, Nicholas, Lifton and Taylor. Attorney Gadola accepted this honor on behalf of her firm.

**VILLAGE CLERK'S REPORT:**

The Fall Senior Luncheon is scheduled for tomorrow, November 25, 2008 at 11:30 am, and we expect to have a full house. The bi-annual event is being held at the Sterling Estates Clubhouse this time in order to encourage good relationships between the Justice seniors and the Sterling Estates seniors. The event promises to be a good time for all.

Special Events is gearing up for the annual Christmas Basket Program. Each year we accept donations from local businesses and friends of the Village and we provide a basket of foodstuff and toys for the children for those families who are experiencing severe financial difficulties. Should you know of anyone from Justice who is in need of assistance this Christmas Season please provide their names so we may contact them.

If you would like to help with the distribution of the baskets on Saturday, December 20th, stop in the Clerk's office or contact one of the Special Events ladies to let us know.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**FINANCE AND INSURANCE: - Trustee Mary McGee**

The Chair will entertain a Motion: To approve payables numbers 1-25, in the amount of \$35,300.92, the corrected total of the bills posted for the period of 11/04/08 – 11/19/08 not including reoccurring expenses.

MOTION: Trustee Gabrys so Moves

SECOND: Trustee Berkowicz

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

The Chair will entertain a Motion: To authorize the execution of an agreement with Call One to provide telephone service for all village landlines for a period of three years.

MOTION: Trustee Murray so Moves:

SECOND: Trustee Jurgel

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

Mayor Pro Tem McGee reported that a Budget Workshop was held last Saturday to tighten the numbers on the 2009 Village Budget. Department heads, village trustees, the Treasurer and our Financial Consultant Kelly Zabinski spent the morning exploring the cost of proposed, capital projects, equipment purchases and salary requirements for 2009.

At the last Finance and Insurance Committee Meeting a proposal to outsource the sewer and refuse billing was presented. We will consider exploring that idea in the upcoming year.

**PUBLIC UTILITIES – Trustee Gabrys**

MOTION: Trustee Gabrys Moves: To approve Resolution 2008-25, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF EXPENDITURES CONCERNING THE 2008 STREET IMPROVEMENTS RESURFACING PROJECT.

SECOND: Trustee Jurgel

Trustee Gabrys explained that Crowley Sheppard Asphalt has performed the resurfacing work on Oak Grove and 84<sup>th</sup> Court to the engineer's specifications and is due the sum of \$156,566.88 in payment of the final invoice.

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

Public Works is now in winter-mode. The plows have been installed and any necessary repairs are complete. We have an ample supply of salt that was acquired at a favorable price thanks to the foresight of former Public Works Director, Phil DePaola. Phil secured our salt at the earliest opportunity and avoided the substantial increases that are being paid now. We will be taking steps to secure the yard to avoid any loss of this valuable and necessary commodity.

A resident has expressed concern regarding the plowing of snow into his yard in a cul-de-sac. Trustee Gabrys stated that he and Trustee Kranig would look for an alternate solution for storing the snow plowed in the cul-de-sac.

**PUBLIC SAFETY – Trustee Mike Murray**

Trustee Murray has no report this evening.

**ADMINISTRATION BUILDING & RECREATION – Trustee Ed Jurgel**

Trustee Jurgel has no report this evening.

**ORDINANCES, LICENSES & PUBLIC PRINTING – Trustee Rich Berkowicz**

**MOTION:** Trustee Berkowicz Moves: To approve the home occupation license of American Dream Taxi, upon providing proof of a \$2,000,000.00 liability insurance policy, having passed all inspections and being in compliance with all codes and ordinances.

**SECOND:** Trustee Jurgel

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

**BUILDING, PLATS AND ZONING – Trustee Jeff Kranig**

Trustee Kranig thanked all those involved in the planning and execution of the Veteran's Dinner.

Ed Rusch's idea to honor our veterans in a substantial way was an excellent one. Treasurer Rusch, Clerk Svoboda and her staff collaborated to organize an outstanding function. The Special Events ladies, Anna Sako and Barb Stimatz, did a wonderful job with the dinner, desserts and appetizers and the decorating of the room for the event. Trustee Kranig encouraged the participation of some local businesses and agencies to help fund the evening's festivities. Technicraft Auto-Body donated generously to the event as did JJ Fish, State Farm, Bridgeview Bank, Lyons Township and the Village Voice Party.

The digital sign on Frontage Road is operational. The Village's message expressing Happy Thanksgiving to the community looks great thanks to the hard work and expertise of our Webmaster, Gerry Mendralla. This Friday, the message will change to Happy Holidays.

Please view our website to see the changes that have occurred there. Gerry has used the graphic designs for the digital sign to update the look of the site.

Trustee Kranig expects that we may be approached with another digital sign that will be visible from the south on northbound I294.

**MOTION:** Trustee Kranig Moves: To approve Resolution 2008-26, A Resolution creating the position of full-time clerical assistant in the Building/'Public Works departments, effective December 1, 2008.

**SECOND:** Trustee Jurgel  
Trustee Kranig added that this action would necessitate the elimination of two, part-time clerical positions. The newly created full-time position will be assigned to Ms. Shirley Shilka. Salary will be addressed in the new budget.

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

**VILLAGE ATTORNEY:**

Attorney Gadola had no report but requested a Closed Session Meeting at the end of the Board Meeting to discuss Pending or Imminent Litigation. She wished all a Happy Thanksgiving Holiday.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Treasurer Rusch reminded all that we are collecting can goods, perishables and toys in collection barrels that have been installed for that purpose. There are barrels at the elementary and junior high schools as well.

Treasurer Rusch mentioned that it should be noted that the messages on the new digital sign are at no cost to the Village. We are promised 25,000, 10 second spots per year.

Ed Rusch complimented the Board on the fast action in securing our salt at such a favorable price.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**SCHEDULE OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS:**

Wednesday, December 3, 2008

7:00 pm

**FINANCE & INSURANCE:** Review of an alternate proposal for work comp and liability insurance for the village, posted payables and other matters before the committee.

**ADMINISTRATION & RECREATION:** Discussion regarding potential cell phone carriers for Village cell phones.

**ORDINANCES, LICENSES & PUBLIC PRINTING:** Any new business licenses or ordinances available for review and review of the business license fees.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** Any matters pertaining to the police department.

**PUBLIC UTILITIES:** Notice of CDBG Public hearing to be held December 8, 2008 at 7:00 pm.

**BUILDING, PLATS & ZONING:** Final payment on Archer Avenue Sidewalks and other matters before the committee.

**BUILDING, PLATS & ZONING, PUBLIC UTILITIES, PUBLIC SAFETY and FINANCE & INSURANCE:** Closed Session regarding appointment, employment, compensation, discipline or performance of one or more classes of employees.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Resident and former trustee, Mike Maruszak informed us that the 831 bus on Archer Ave. no longer exists. It was pulled from the PACE schedule. He went on to state that our Village was not represented at the hearings that precluded this action by PACE. They are now proposing cuts to the 379 bus on 79<sup>th</sup> Street. Mayor pro Tem McGee suggested that Mr. Maruszak volunteer to serve on a committee to monitor those transportation issues.

Mike said he would be interested in serving.

Mr. Ray Hodson questioned the cost of benefits the Village would incur for the newly created full-time clerical position.

Trustee Kranig stated that he was very tired of the residual animosity for Mr. Shilka clouding some people's judgment about Mrs. Shirley Shilka, who is an outstanding employee.

Family insurance costs about \$1089.00 with the employee picking up 15% of that cost.

Mr. Jim Rinkus asked how he could obtain a list of all of the appointed positions in the Village and the salaries that are paid to each.

Clerk Kathy Svoboda told him to stop in and fill out a Freedom of Information request and she would compile a list for him. There is a nominal charge per page for the information but no cost to compile the list.

Mrs. Valerie Lyons spoke about her dissatisfaction with the way she was treated in the front office over a late, utility bill. She was especially critical of Ms. Judy Field stating that she should be fired.

Ms. Lyons insists that she is not receiving her bill timely to her PO Box and that it is obviously the fault of village staff for mailing the bill so late.

She also stated that she had been treated badly in the past when she refused to pay a bill that reflected an increase. She had asked for written proof of that increased rate and was told that she would have to fill our Freedom of Information request..

Mrs. Lyons accused Judy of being rude at that time as well.

Clerk Svoboda asked if she had satisfied Ms. Lyons concerns when she took over serving her at the front counter. Ms. Lyons late fees were waived and the bill was adjusted to the originally billed amount. Ms. Lyons still felt Judy should be fired for her rudeness.

Ms. Lyons complained that snow is being plowed into her front yard from the whole cul-de-sac at Indian Lane and the height of the snow creates a very dangerous situation. She stated that her home is not a dumping ground and she wants the practice to stop.

Trustee Gabrys assured Ms. Lyons that he would speak to public works in order to work out a different approach for storing the plowed snow.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

There was none.

A reminder was issued by Jim Lurquin to be careful this Christmas with the use of extension cords with outdoor and indoor decorations.

The Chair will entertain a Motion: To Adjourn to Closed Session at 8:05 pm.

MOTION: Trustee Jurgel so MOVES:

SECOND: Trustee Murray

VOICE VOTE: All ayes.

The Chair will entertain a Motion: To Reconvene the regular Board Meeting at 8:25 pm.

MOTION: Trustee Murray so MOVES:

SECOND: Trustee Jurgel

VOICE VOTE: All ayes.

The Meeting was reconvened at 8:25 pm.

**ROLL CALL:**

Village Clerk Kathy Svoboda called the roll. Present are: Mayor Pro Tem McGee, Trustees: Michael Murray, Jim Gabrys, Ed Jurgel, Rich Berkowicz and

Jeff Kranig. Attorney Sara Gadola of Robins, Schwartz, Nicholas, Lifton and Taylor, Ltd. Is still in attendance.

The Chair will entertain a Motion: To Adjourn

MOTION: Trustee Gabrys so MOVES:

SECOND: Trustee Kranig

VOICE VOTE: All ayes.

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Kathleen M. Svoboda*  
Village Clerk/Collector