

VILLAGE OF JUSTICE  
7800 ARCHER ROAD, JUSTICE, IL  
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SECOND REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
OF AUGUST  
Minutes of Monday, August 24, 2009

Mayor Kris Wasowicz called the Meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

**ROLL CALL:**

Village Clerk Kathy Svoboda called the roll. Present are Village President Kris Wasowicz, Trustees: George Pastorino, John Fairman, Mary McGee, Kinga Bartoszek and Phil DePaola. Trustee Mike Murray is absent this evening. Attorney Tom Garrette is present.

**PLEDGE:**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

The Chair will entertain a Motion: To approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of 08/10/09 as submitted.

MOTION: Trustee DePaola so Moves:

SECOND: Trustee McGee

VOTE: Trustees Pastorino, Fairman, McGee, Bartoszek and DePaola, aye. All ayes.  
Motion passed.

**VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

President Wasowicz had no formal report this evening.

**VILLAGE CLERK'S REPORT:**

Clerk Kathy Svoboda reminded the Board that she has again been contacted by the agency conducting the 2010 Census encouraging the Village of Justice to get onboard by appointing a Complete Count Committee and adopting a Proclamation in support of an accurate Decennial Census. Please discuss this in committee.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**FINANCE AND INSURANCE: - Trustee Kinga Bartoszek**

MOTION: Trustee Bartoszek Moves: To approve payables numbers 1-28 in the amount of \$21,641.37 posted for the period of 08/05/2009 – 08/19/2009, plus re-occurring expenses of \$138,952.32, TIF #1 expenses of \$1,956.22, and TIF #2 expenses of \$1,734.75 for a total of \$164,284.66

SECOND: Trustee McGee

VOTE: Trustees Fairman, McGee, Bartoszek, DePaola and Pastorino, aye. All ayes.  
Motion passed.

MOTION: Trustee Bartoszek Moves: To approve the final agreement with DisposAll Waste Services to provide collection of municipal solid waste, landscape waste and recyclables for the Village of Justice.

SECOND: Trustee DePaola

VOTE: Trustees McGee, Bartoszek, DePaola, Pastorino and Fairman, aye. All ayes.  
Motion passed.

Trustee Bartoszek stated that we are making progress in our efforts to reflect a true picture of our recurring expenses and the current payables are typical and not unusual in the total amount.

#### **PUBLIC UTILITIES – Trustee John Fairman**

Trustee Fairman sincerely thanked those employees who worked during the Ethnic Fest.

The summer help has been busy cutting grass.

We are trying to be more efficient about chipping. Should you have branches to chip, please call Public Works with your address so we can schedule an opportunity to be in your area. We will also respond to e-mail requests to schedule chipping.

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY – Trustee Mary McGee**

Trustee McGee read a report from Chief Bob Gedville:

As many of you are aware of, the Justice Police Department has teamed up with the Children’s Hospital of Illinois and their program “**Be a Buckle Buddy**”. This program features a website and a statewide toll-free hotline that allow concerned individuals to anonymously report unrestrained or improperly restrained child passengers in motor vehicles. This evening, we have disseminated Buckle Buddy pamphlets to each of you, in an effort to promote the program to the entire community. Please utilize this effort to better protect the children traveling in the community.

In an effort to improve radio communications for first responders throughout Cook County, the Cook County Homeland Security Urban Area Working Group (UAWG), is providing a voice radio communications system that will enable immediate communications between all first responders in Cook County, should there be a man made or natural disaster. The Justice Police Department will soon be receiving two (2) portable interoperable radio units and base station. The portable radios will be deployed in the field and tuned to the interoperability call channel at all times, to be used in the event of a mass disaster. The goal of this project is to establish an affordable, easy-to-use radio system that will ensure every municipality in Cook County can establish and maintain voice communication with other jurisdictions during an emergency situation.

The next Neighborhood Watch meeting is Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm in the Village Board Room. This month’s meeting will feature members from our Communications Center.

#### **ADMINISTRATION BUILDING & RECREATION**

Trustee Pastorino stated that Goosby Electric has been retained to maintain the lighting at the Lipinski Center Pond. Maintenance and repair of the lights will commence shortly, and they will be serviced regularly in future.

Work continues on the Lipinski Center Floor Stabilization Project and everything seems to be going well.

**BUILDING, PLATS AND ZONING – Trustee Mike Murray**

Trustee Murray is not in attendance. He is out of town.

**ORDINANCES, LICENSES & PUBLIC PRINTING –Trustee DePaola**

- MOTION: Trustee DePaola Moves: To approve the Home Occupation License of Ablution Solutions Cleaning Inc. doing business at 8652 S. 86<sup>th</sup> Ave. in the Village of Justice, being in compliance with all codes and ordinances.
- SECOND: Trustee Bartoszek
- VOTE: Trustees Bartoszek, DePaola, Pastorino, Fairman and McGee, aye. All ayes. Motion passed.

Trustee DePaola asked Attorney Garrette to research a potential change in zoning for a proposed use by Cardinal Signs.

Trustee DePaola stated that it has come to his attention that there are statements being circulated on the internet accusing the village of not being friendly to our businesses. The propaganda implies that T&A Auto was treated poorly by the village. In fact, we did not renew the license of T&A Auto because they were not in possession of a State of Illinois license, so were not eligible to renew their license to sell cars.

**VILLAGE ATTORNEY:**

Attorney Tom Garrette reported on the situation regarding the denial by Sunset Lakes to allow school busses on the property. Although we support the schools in their plight regarding this matter, we are not principals with regard to this issue. The school districts have filed for a permanent injunction requiring the owner of the complex to allow access to the property by school busses. While the injunction is being considered, the districts have requested a temporary restraining order to allow access to the busses, temporarily. A decision on the temporary restraining order should be announced by Wednesday. If the order is granted, bus service could resume as usual on Thursday. Questions regarding the outcome should be directed to the schools, their respective boards or their attorneys.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Representative Mary Flowers sent her regrets for being unable to attend the Ethnic Fest. She had a conflict with her schedule.

An interactive workshop is being held at Moraine Valley Community College on Wednesday, August 26, 2009, from 6:00 until 8:00 pm. The workshop, sponsored by the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning and the Southwest Conference of Mayors will be a unique experience in municipal planning. More informational is available for those interested.

Mayor Wasowicz elaborated on the situation at Sunset Lakes. On August 16<sup>th</sup> a permit application for a 20' X 20' concrete pad was submitted to the village. Until

that time, we were unaware of any problems regarding the busses being allowed on private property. Mr. Getto stated that he was experiencing damage to the property by children waiting for busses, and he was unwilling to allow the students to wait for and board the buses within the complex any longer. He implied that the schools were aware of the change in procedure and did not object. The schools were indeed not aware and were not consulted regarding the proposed changes.

Mayor Wasowicz and a number of board members met last Wednesday at the Sunset Lakes entrance on the first full day of school to view the new procedure. It was utter chaos, unacceptable from a safety perspective. People were late for work due to the delays in and out of Sunset Lakes and on 83<sup>rd</sup> Street. Kids were running all over and the few security personnel provided by the complex were inefficient.

The village revoked the permit to construct the 20'X20' concrete pad that was requested to be built on an easement, and is awaiting the decision of the Court.

The Attorney General's Office has expressed interest in the dispute.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

There was none.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**SCHEDULE OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS:**

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**Committee Meetings will begin at 7:00 pm. and follow consecutively  
Wednesday, September 9, 2009**

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

**PUBLIC UTILITIES:** Any matters before the committee.

**ORDINANCES, LICENSES & PUBLIC PRINTING:** Any new business licenses, code amendments or ordinances available for review, in particular, Sammy's Ice Cream Shop, Rockin S Quarter Horses, and Las Marias Restaurant.

**PUBLIC SAFETY:** Any matters before the committee including the appointment of a Fire Pension Board.

**ADMINISTRATION BUILDING & RECREATION:** Any matters before the committee including a Resolution to pay Atlas Restoration LLC for work performed on the floor, during the Lipinski Center Stabilization Project and a Proclamation in support of the 2010 Census.

**BUILDING PLATS & ZONING:** Any matters before the committee.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE SESSION:** To discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees. (5ILCS 120/2(c) (1). Any other matters before the committee.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Trustee Fairman asked if we would be notified of the result of the request for the injunction.

Attorney Garrette stated that the school districts would have attorneys present at the decision regarding the temporary restraining order and would let us know of the outcome.

Reverend Jimmy Daniels of Sunset Lakes asked how the residents would know if the order was successful.

President Wasowicz stated that we have contact information for several of the residents that have volunteered to be the spokespersons for their neighbors and when we hear, we will let them know to spread the word. The school districts will probably send home a notice.

There are three ladies that received 10-day notices of eviction and Reverend Daniels asked if the village can be counted on to stop an eviction being performed by the security staff of the complex.

Should any contact occur between these tenants and the staff at Sunset Lakes involving an eviction call the police and the private attorney that was retained by the tenants at issue.

Mr. Rich Czerniak asked if the new garbage contract would result in a reduction in rates to the residents.

Mayor Wasowicz replied that neither a reduction nor an increase will occur at this time. The rates will remain the same.

Reverend Jimmy Daniels asked if it is legal for a complex to fence the perimeter the way that Sunset Lakes has. Children are constantly climbing the fence to avoid the long walk and injuries have occurred.

The village has asked the owner to provide another entrance and exit but he replied that he will provide it only if the village will pay for it. We have no ability or intention to expend taxpayer dollars for such an improvement on private property.

Trustee Fairman stated that if the fence is deemed unsafe and unreasonable by a court, the law might intercede.

Safaa Zarzour, one of the attorneys for the village, commented that with regard to the potential evictions, only a judge can issue an order to evict and the Sheriff must enforce evictions. Security staff has no legal ability to evict.

A resident of Sunset commented that there are still many safety and maintenance issues present at the complex. Does the Village have the power to force the owner to make repairs?

Mayor Wasowicz stated that we are systematically conducting inspections of the various buildings, one at a time, and are requiring compliance with regard to violations to code that we find. We need to proceed in a reasonable manner but will respond to individual complaints regarding specific issues, and we will issue notices requiring corrections with strict deadlines.

If Sunset Lakes accepts government funding (Section 8) is the property subject to government enforcement of health and safety codes? Is the property still considered private property?

Attorney Garrette stated that it is indeed private property but government agencies might become involved due to the government funding. Contact should be made with the school districts since they are requesting legal relief from the owner's policies.

Trustee Fairman stated that if there are any building code or safety issues that are not being promptly addressed by the village, please contact Trustee Murray or himself, Trustee Fairman for assistance.

One of the residents sincerely thanked the village for our help with the issues at Sunset Lakes.

Steve and Barb Wegerson of 7245 Oak Grove complained that after contacting the village numerous times and speaking with representatives of Public Works and Hoeffler/Butler Engineering, they were still waiting for relief from the 5" or more of erosion caused by the village's drainage project performed behind their property.

The Wegerson's were told that they would have to provide a topo and a grading plan in order to raise the level of the property to stop the flooding and erosion.

Mayor Wasowicz replied that Hoeffler/Butler needed to determine how, and to what degree, the property might be graded to help with the Wegerson's problem but not adversely affect the neighbors.

The Wegerson's feel that the village created this problem and should take responsibility for fixing it.

Mayor Wasowicz replied that the village will not pay for the engineering for private property. We will provide fill once the project has been engineered to insure no adverse affect on the adjacent properties.

Trustee DePaola will take a look at the problem and will contact the Wegerson's by the end of the week. He suggested a fresh perspective on the whole issue.

Mrs. Cookie Gaskin stated that if the lights at the Lipinski Center are to be repaired can the street lights that are out be addressed as well?  
If the lights in question are on a wooden pole they belong to Com Ed. We are experiencing delays in Com Ed repairing lights. We will check on the status of the repairs.

Mrs. Gaskin asked if there is a limit on the number of garbage cans that can be put out for pick-up.  
If the standard can is not enough, additional cans may be used and will be emptied. We are offering additional cans for the customary \$1.00 per month per extra can.

Why are we asking for re-application for the senior discount?  
The senior discounts are being verified by request of the waste hauler. A determination of the ownership and verification of the age of the owner needs to be made. At the same time, we are completing a database of Property Index Numbers.

The map on the literature for the new garbage service and collection schedules is very small and information regarding pick-up days is confusing.  
Trustee Bartoszek replied that there are very few changes to schedules for pick-up. Literally, 90- 95% remain the same. If anyone needs clarification on their day, please let us know and we will confirm the appropriate day of pick-up.

Mr. Jim Rinkus commented that he has made the board meetings available on U-Tube as a service to the residents. He continued that he has not put any political rhetoric on the site.

Mr. Ed Rusch commented that he pays his taxes through his escrow. Will he receive a tax bill to show for his discount and PIN number?  
When taxes are paid in escrow, a duplicate bill is sent to the homeowner.

MOTION: The Chair will entertain a Motion: To Adjourn  
Trustee McGee so MOVES:  
SECOND: Trustee Bartoszek  
VOICE VOTE: All ayes.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Kathleen M. Svoboda*  
Village Clerk