

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

Minutes of Monday, January 26, 2009

Village President Kris 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 President Wasowicz, Trustees: Michael Murray, Jim Gabrys, Ed Jurgel, Mary McGee, Rich Berkowicz and Jeff Kranig. 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 January 12, 2009 Regular Board Meeting as submitted.

MOTION: Trustee McGee so Moves:

SECOND: Trustee Berkowicz

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

VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Wasowicz introduced honored guest, Lyons Township Supervisor Russ Hartigan.

Supervisor Hartigan spoke about his recent appointment to the position of Supervisor of Lyons Township. Russ was a Trustee who worked closely with the previous Supervisor, Pat Rogers who was recently elected as a Circuit Court Judge. Supervisor Hartigan has eight years experience on the Lyons Township Board where he worked closely with the Lyons Township Mental Health Commission.

Lyons Township Board is presently working on the award of some \$10,000,000.00 that will be distributed among the 22 Lyons Township communities for parks and recreation projects. Whether the final criteria are one of population, degree of need, land mass or some other criterion, decisions will be as fair as possible.

Lyons Township has acquired property for affordable senior housing. The office building that occupied the site is being demolished and groundbreaking is right around the corner. Supervisor Hartigan hopes that the 65 unit designated for seniors will be underway soon.

The Emergency Preparedness Program for Lyons Township was started about two years ago. A uniquely qualified man, Mr. Roy Dames is heading the program as Disaster Coordinator.

Supervisor Hartigan introduced Roy Dames who spoke briefly about a township-wide Pharmaceutical Distribution Plan. Here are currently some volunteers from Justice but he would be glad to recruit more.

Mr. Dames presented to President Wasowicz a copy of the renowned book, "When Disaster Strikes Home".

President Wasowicz thanked both Supervisor Hartigan and Disaster Coordinator Roy Dames for their attendance and reports.

VILLAGE CLERK'S REPORT:

Village Clerk Kathy Svoboda presented correspondence from the Progress Center for Independent Living that highlights the opportunity for a PACE Card for any handicapped individuals that qualify for the Circuit Breaker Program.

This is an extension of the Seniors Ride Free initiative and the prerequisite Circuit Breaker reinforces the income limit for a handicapped individual to be qualified for the PACE card.

If any resident of Justice needs assistance with the Circuit Break, contact Clerk Svoboda to make an appointment and to find out what they would need to bring. She would be happy to help with the preparation of the forms.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE AND INSURANCE: - Trustee Mary McGee

MOTION: Trustee McGee Moves: To approve payables numbers 1-35, in the amount of \$34,021.69, posted for the period of 01/08/2009 – 01/22/2009, plus re-occurring expenses of \$72,633.03, TIF #1 expenses of \$180,946.34, and MFT expenses of \$23,689.44 for a total of \$311,290.50.

SECOND: Trustee Murray

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

Trustee McGee stated that the Village's finances are in decent shape. Although money is tight we are holding down expenses and do not anticipate a cash crunch before the first installment of the property taxes begin being distributed to the village early in March. Since the first installment taxes are seldom delayed, we should have ample funds for operating expenses well into the summer months.

PUBLIC UTILITIES – Trustee Gabrys

MOTION: Trustee Gabrys Moves: To approve Resolution 2008-02, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FINAL PAYMENT OF EXPENDITURES CONCERNING THE 2008 ARBORS OF JUSTICE RESURFACING PROJECT.

SECOND: Trustee Murray

Trustee Gabrys explained that this action authorizes the final payment to Fiala Paving Co. for the street reconstruction at the Arbors of Justice. Hoefflerle/Butler Engineering has approved the work for final payment.

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

PUBLIC SAFETY – Trustee Mike Murray

Trustee Murray quoted a report from Chief Bob Gedville who stated that the Justice Police Department command staff consisting of Deputy Chiefs, Kraig McDermott and Mike Kurschner and himself attended the National Incident Management Class ICS-400 at the Lemont Village Hall this past week. This federally funded course, mandated by FEMA, is a prerequisite to qualify for many funding grants.

Congratulations to Sergeant Fred Shuerg who completed an 80 hour course in Supervision of Police Personnel offered by Northwestern University of Public Safety. This comprehensive course in first-line supervision provides the cornerstone for managerial and supervisory instruction. Sergeant Shuerg is the third Justice Sergeant to complete this course. Then other two sergeants will attend at a later date.

Two, Ford Crown Victoria squad cars were purchased from Landmark Ford in Springfield, IL. Landmark holds the state purchase contract and we were able to save \$1,000.00 per car over last year's prices. The cars are being decaled in readiness for deployment and we hope to have them in service within a month.

Earlier this month, the second campaign of the IMAGE Grant was conducted. This campaign focuses on speed compliance. Approximately 65 man hours were expended and those hours are fully reimbursable by the grant. During the campaign 49 speeding citations, 40 seat belt citations, 6 arrests and four towed vehicles resulted.

Chief Bob Gedville will be presenting departmental awards at the next, regular board meeting of February 9th, 2009.

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING & RECREATION – Trustee Ed Jurgel

Trustee Ed Jurgel stated that he has been putting out calls to bands for possible entertainment for the Fest and is waiting for return calls. He is looking to Aura or Infinity to provide prices and availability.

ORDINANCES, LICENSES & PUBLIC PRINTING – Trustee Rich Berkowicz

MOTION: Trustee Berkowicz Moves: To approve the Home Occupation License of Climate Change, Inc., doing business at 7244 Skyline Drive, having passed all inspections and being in compliance with all codes and ordinances.

SECOND: Trustee Gabrys

VOTE: Trustees McGee, Berkowicz, Kranig, Gabrys and Jurgel aye. Trustee Murray abstained. Motion passed.

MOTION: Trustee Berkowicz Moves: To approve the Business License of Obama Tax, doing business at 8424 S. 88th Ave., in Justice, having passed all inspections and being in compliance with all codes and ordinances.

SECOND: Trustee Gabrys

VOTE: Trustees Berkowicz, Gabrys, and McGee, aye. Trustee Kranig and Trustee Jurgel abstained. Trustee Murray voted no. Motion passed.

BUILDING, PLATS AND ZONING – Trustee Jeff Kranig

MOTION: Trustee Kranig Moves: To approve Ordinance 2009-1A, AN ORDINANCE PROPOSING APPROVAL OF A REDEVELOPMENT PLAN AND PROJECT FOR TIF NO. 3 (79TH STREET/CORK AVE.), AND THE DESIGNATION OF THE REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA AND ADOPTION OF TAX INCREMENT ALLOCATION FINANCING FOR THAT AREA, AND CONVENING A JOINT REVIEW BOARD AND CALLING A PUBLIC HEARING IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

SECOND: Trustee McGee

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

VILLAGE ATTORNEY:

Attorney Gadola had no report.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS:

SCHEDULE OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Committee Meetings will begin at 7:00 pm. and follow consecutively
Wednesday, February 4, 2009

FINANCE & INSURANCE: Posted payables, proposal from an energy reseller for natural gas, and other matters before the committee.

ORDINANCES, LICENSES & PUBLIC PRINTING: Any new business licenses or ordinances available for review and review of the vehicle sticker design contest winners.

PUBLIC SAFETY: Ordinance amending legislation regarding underage drinking and any other matters before the committee.

BUILDING, PLATS & ZONING: Review of proposed legislation regarding grease traps and any matters before the committee.

PUBLIC UTILITIES: Review of the findings and discussion regarding the potential annexation of Sterling Estates, snow-plowing and public works issues.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. John Small asked if a developer was already designated for TIF 3. Mayor Wasowicz replied that he did have a potential developer but a confidentiality agreement is in place in order to allow the developer to negotiate with a box store. Generally, there would be 300,000 square feet of business/commercial space. There would be absolutely no residential use.

Mr. Ray Hodson thanked Jim Lurquin on behalf of the homeowners association for his attention and diligence during a recent fire alarm problem at Asbury Woods. Jim's actions were above and beyond his scope and he is to be commended.

Mrs. Cookie Gaskin questioned Trustee McGee's contention that the second installment taxes for the 2008 tax-year would be due and payable in March. Trustee McGee corrected that statement because in fact, it will be the first installment of the 2008 increment that is paid in March. Trustee McGee's assertion that the March distribution is usually on time is correct.

Mrs. Gaskin stated that she recently participated in hosting an event at the Lipinski Center, and although she was made aware that the stove was not available for public use, the electricity on the back wall of the kitchen did not work. She was told that this condition had existed for some time. Mayor Wasowicz stated that there are plenty of kinks to be addressed at the Lipinski Center and the contractor who constructed the center was indeed being pursued by both Bridgeview and Justice for faulty work. We will address the electric problem as soon as possible.

Ms. Pauline Schrock reported that one of her neighbors is feeding feral cats. She has approached the neighbor, who has no intention of stopping the practice. Mayor Wasowicz stated that we will have a letter sent to the property owner cautioning him that feeding wild animals is ill-advised and illegal. We are looking into tightening legislation on this very subject.

Mr. Ed Rusch asked if Clerk Svoboda would announce the Tax Appeal Seminar being conducted by Township Assessor Barb Weyrick, tomorrow, here in the Village Hall at 7:00 pm. Clerk Svoboda replied that she has contacted all of those who conducted an appeal at the first seminar hosted by the Village, but anyone who appealed and was denied is welcome. Bring either the denial letter or copy of the original appeal that was submitted. An appeal to the Cook County Board of Review will be prepared and submitted when you leave.

Mr. Jim Rinkus complained that the rocks he has placed beside the roadway in the front of his house were struck by a snow plow. The rocks were catapulted some six or eight feet into the front yard toward the house.

Jim Lurquin stated that he would put the address on the schedule to replace the rocks for Mr. Rinkus but at a safe distance from the right-of-way.

A resident of 86th Ave. asked why we are spending money on streets in the Arbors when 86th Ave. is falling apart.

President Wasowicz explained that money accrued in a TIF District cannot be used outside of the TIF boundaries. It was decided that to put the Arbors in optimum shape before the TIF retires would protect the village's general fund from any repairs in that area for many years after the TIF closes, thereby freeing up much needed funds for repairs to streets in other areas of the village.

In 2008, we reconstructed two streets and incurred no debt to the Village. We will do at least another two streets this year. Should we receive funding from the Capital Bill out of Springfield, or the Obama Infrastructure Stimulus Plan, we will certainly do more.

The priority map for the village's streets is underway and should be available for review in the next three to four weeks. The map, when completed, will also be posted on the web.

Currently, we have CDBG Projects proposed to construct sidewalks on the south-side of 79th Street, and on the west side of Roberts Road from 79th to 87th Street.

Frontage Road is part of the proposed TIF 3 and we would hope to completely reconstruct that road as part of the TIF 3 development.

Mrs. Shirley Smith asked when the Lipinski Pond path should be cleared when a snowfall occurs.

Mayor Wasowicz stated that the streets are the first priority, then senior driveways of which we have 120 or so. The walking path around the Lipinski Pond is a lower priority and will be cleared as time allows.

Ms. Brenda Egas asked if we have new plow drivers. She stated that at 86th Ave. and Archer there is a mound of snow that creates a problem when turning onto Archer.

President Wasowicz stated that we have only one new driver and he promised that public works would be cautioned about the problem.

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 was adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathleen M. Svoboda
Village Clerk/Collector