

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

Minutes of Monday, February 28, 2011

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

PLEDGE:

Mayor Wasowicz led the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Clerk Kathy Svoboda called the roll. Present are Mayor Kris Wasowicz, Trustees: John Koslowski, Ed Rusch, Mary McGee and Phil DePaola are present. Trustee Kinga Bartoszek is absent due to a family emergency. Attorney Michael Castellino of the Del Galdo Law Group is also present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The Chair will entertain a Motion: To approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of February 14, 2011, and the minutes of February 23, 2011 as submitted, or if necessary, as corrected.

MOTION: Trustee DePaola Moves: To approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of February 14, 2011, corrected on Page 4 to include the words “ at a prior meeting” with regard to a comment by Trustee Bartoszek that the Agreement with the Park District was never implemented, and to approve the minutes of February 23, 2011 as submitted.

SECOND: Trustee Koslowski

VOTE: Trustees Koslowski, Rusch, McGee and DePaola, aye. All ayes. Motion passed.

POLICE DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS:

Police Chief Robert Gedville announced the 2010 Police Department Awards.

The recipients are:

- **Officer of the Year** **Sergeant Mark Krummick**
- **Narcotics Enforcement Award** **Corporal Michael McNamara**
- **Traffic Enforcement Award** **Corporal Ronald Brenza**
- **DUI Enforcement Award** **Sergeant Mark Krummick**
- **K-9 Retirement** **Ike**
- **10 Year Service Award** **TCO Stephanie Krummick**

Chief Gedville, along with Deputy Chiefs, Kraig McDermott and Mike Kurschner, added heartfelt congratulations to the honored recipients; “Keep up

the great work! Your hard work and dedication makes us all proud to be members of the Justice Police Department”.

(A brief recess for cake and coffee to honor our award recipients was observed.)

VILLAGE PRESIDENT’S REPORT: Mayor Kris Wasowicz

Village President Kris Wasowicz read into the record a Veto of the Motion at the February 23, 2011 Special Board Meeting, :To establish that preapproval of the newsletter content be required by the Board of Trustees, and to consider newsletter content for the April/May 2011 issues”.

Mayor Wasowicz, in cooperation with the Emergency Management Agency, issued a Proclamation Naming the week of February 27, 2011 to March 5, 2011 as **National Severe Weather Awareness Week** in the Village of Justice.

On Tuesday, March 1, 2011 at 10:00 am a Tornado Drill will occur.

Mayor Wasowicz is in receipt of a letter from the Honorable Steve Landek announcing his appointment to the Senate seat vacated by Senator Louis Viverito. Senator Landek spoke of his commitment to address the issues and concerns important to the residents of both of our communities and throughout his district.

Mayor Wasowicz expressed his pleasure at the appointment of Mayor Landek to the Senate seat. He added that Senator Landek is probably the only candidate that has the executive experience and understanding of the challenges facing our municipalities. He will be an n outstanding Senator.

VILLAGE CLERK’S REPORT: Village Clerk Kathy Svoboda

On Thursday March 3, 2011, at 7:00 pm, Mayor Wasowicz and Clerk Svoboda will sponsor a Property Tax Appeal Seminar. The Honorable Lyons Township Assessor Barbara Weyrick, her staff and representatives of the Cook County Board of Review will be on hand to help with the appeal process. Bring a copy of your tax bill and be prepared to file your appeal that evening.

Clerk Kathy Svoboda issued her most sincere congratulations to Ms. Kasia Krzysiak for successful completion of a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Accounting.

Absentee Ballot Applications for the April 5, 2011 Election are available to pick up in the Finance Office or in the Clerk’s Office.

AREAS OF OVERSIGHT REPORTS:

FINANCE, INSURANCE & ADMINISTRATION – Trustee McGee for Trustee Bartoszek

MOTION: Trustee McGee Moves: To approve payables posted for the period of 02/10/11 – 02/23/11, numbers 1-43 in the amount of \$85,922.96 plus recurring expenses of

\$95,473.41, TIF #2 expenses of \$ 372.25, and MFT expenses of \$15,765.12 for a total of \$197,533.74

SECOND: Trustee DePaola

VOTE: Trustees Rusch, McGee, DePaola and Koslowski, aye. All ayes. Motion passed.

MOTION: Trustee McGee Moves: To table action on the reduction in staff.

SECOND: Trustee Koslowski

VOTE: Trustees McGee, DePaola, Koslowski, aye. Trustee Rusch voted present. Motion passed.

PUBLIC UTILITIES – Trustee Mary McGee

MOTION: Trustee McGee Moves: To table action on the Responsible Bidders Ordinance. She has not reviewed this legislation or discussed it in committee. She asked that Clerk Svoboda please refrain from adding items to her agenda that she has not requested nor approved.

SECOND: Trustee DePaola

VOTE: Trustees DePaola, Koslowski, Rusch and McGee, aye. All ayes. Motion passed.

Now that Public Works is done with the most recent snow removal and ice control, they are concentrating on sewer maintenance and cold-patching of numerous potholes. If you want to report a pothole in need of attention, please contact the Public Works Department so the location of the pothole can be noted for repair.

ORDINANCES, LICENSES & PUBLIC PRINTING –Trustee John Koslowski

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Trustee John Koslowski
There was no report.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Trustee DePaola sincerely congratulated the recipients of the 2010 Police Department Awards.

BUILDING, PLATS AND ZONING – Trustee Phil DePaola

MOTION: Trustee DePaola Moves: To table action on the RESOLUTION APPROVING A PLAT OF SUBDIVISION FOR 8955 84TH PLACE.

SECOND: Trustee McGee

The Zarecki Subdivision should be ready for action at the next regular meeting. We are waiting for the approved Findings and Recommendations from the Zoning and Planning Commission.

VOTE: Trustees Koslowski, Rusch, McGee and DePaola, aye. All ayes. Motion passed.

MOTION: Trustee DePaola Moves: To approve Resolution 2011-04, A RESOLUTION APPROVING A NON-BINDING TERM SHEET WITH UNISON SITE MANAGEMENT.

SECOND: Trustee McGee

Trustee DePaola explained that Unisom is a company that purchases cell tower leases for a lump sum payment to the municipality and yet shares with the municipality any increases in revenues that they might negotiate.

VOTE: Trustee Rusch voted nay. Trustees McGee, DePaola and Koslowski, aye. Mayor Wasowicz voted aye. Motion passed.

MOTION: Trustee DePaola Moves: Motion: To approve Resolution 2011-05, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ELIGIBLE COSTS CERTIFICATIONS FOR THE FIGURA GROVE PARK RELOCATION PROJECT.

SECOND: Trustee Koslowski

VOTE: Trustees McGee, DePaola, Koslowski and Rusch, aye. All ayes. Motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

There was none of note.

VILLAGE ATTORNEY:

Attorney Castellino had no report.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was none.

NEW BUSINESS:

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING:

Wednesday, March 9, 2011

7:00 p.m.

FINANCE, INSURANCE & ADMINISTRATION: Trustee Bartoszek
Posted payables and possible discussion with regard to the 2011 Budget.

PUBLIC UTILITIES: Trustee McGee - Any matters pertaining to Public Utilities.

BUILDING, PLATS & ZONING: Trustee DePaola
Any matters pertinent to Building, Plats & Zoning.

PUBLIC SAFETY: Any matters regarding the Police Department or the safety and welfare of the community.

ORDINANCES, LICENSES & PUBLIC PRINTING: Trustee Koslowski
Any new business licenses or ordinances, code amendments, and specifically discussion regarding finalizing the amending of village code regarding peddlers, solicitors and street corner solicitation within the Village.

Executive Session: If necessary, a possible executive session to discuss:
(1) Appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees or classes of employees of the Village,

- (2) Collective negotiating matters between the Village and its employees or their representatives,
- (3) Potential or Pending litigation
- (4) Acquisition of property

Trustee Rusch asked if the Ethics Board has the authority to subpoena witnesses in the course of a hearing.

Attorney Castellino stated that he would have to check.

Trustee Rusch further stated that he has been made aware that there are a number of village employees that would be willing to testify under subpoena that there are board members who have requested that invoices be back-dated for TIF related expenses.

Attorney Castellino further stated that this did not sound like an issue for the Ethics Board. Their purview is limited by the scope of the Ethics Ordinance.

Trustee Rusch suggested that John Hoeffler be contacted regarding possibly doing some preventative maintenance on some of our better streets in order to increase their useful life. Some streets might benefit from being seal-coated in order to delay the need for reconstruction. We need to see if MFT funds can be designated for the purpose.

Trustee DePaola said that there are logistic concerns with seal-coating due to the necessity of having to keep vehicles off for a 24 hour period. It would be difficult keeping people from their homes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mayor Wasowicz asked the public to please refrain from electioneering during the Public Comment period.

Ms. Melanie Kuban asked about the investigation into the use of the Lipinski Center on February 13th by the organization that did not fill out an application or pay a deposit before their event.

Mayor Wasowicz replied that he asked Jim Gabrys to prepare a chain of events memo that should be available for public review under FOIA rules.

Ms. Kuban continued, asking if it was confirmed that the Park District had indeed blocked out that date for their use.

Mayor Wasowicz suggested that Ms. Kuban direct her question to the Park District. Did they indeed block that date for a private event?

Mayor Wasowicz continued stating that the Village will no longer honor verbal requests by the Park District. Since we do not have an executed agreement, they will need to fill out an application for the use of the Lipinski Center, like anyone else.

Ms. Kuban then asked if it had been confirmed that a resident, with a duly filed application and deposit, has indeed been requested to cancel their date of use from the March 13th date by the Park District so another private event could be held. She has obtained under FOIA an application that was accepted in the Finance Office and then later refunded due to the date being blocked by the Park District,

again for a private event. An application for which event was filed after the refund was issued.

Mayor Wasowicz added that he had dealt with the Park District in good faith that the agreement would be executed and upheld. At this point there is no agreement and the Park District will have to proceed like any other agency asking to use the facility.

Mrs. Pamela Goffin of 8735 W. 73rd Street asked about the potholes in front of her house. At this point she has twenty-eight potholes to be filled. The street is literally crumbling in front of her driveway.

Mayor Wasowicz stated that he spoke to Ken White and the potholes should be patched by the end of this week.

Mrs. Goffin sincerely complimented Public Works on the excellent job they did keeping the streets passable in the recent snowstorm.

Is there to be a reduction in the staff in Public Works? It seems to Mrs. Goffin that we need all of the personnel that we have.

Mayor Wasowicz stated that yes it is the decision of the board to reduce the staff by two public works laborers.

Trustee DePaola stated that the board is currently exploring options with the bargaining unit to avoid the layoffs.

Attorney Mike Castellino cautioned that this is not the proper forum to discuss collective bargaining matters.

Mrs. Donna Smith stated that she lives across the street from Stecz Accounting and following a snowfall, the plow-truck hired by the accounting firm is pushing the snow from their parking-lot up against her mailbox.

Mrs. Smith should contact the Mayor immediately should the problem occur again and he will direct employees to take care of the issue with the plow company.

Mrs. Karen Warner talked about the new village sign project. She had an extensive discussion with Dan McGee back in late July or early August over her concerns for the whereabouts of the signs and was assured by Mr. McGee that they were safely stored in his garage.

Mrs. Warner was active in the Beautification Committee that originally raised the money, designed, purchased and then installed the original signs. She does not approve of the new design and wonders why the signs were removed before a design was proposed, reviewed and discussed.

Mayor Kris Wasowicz commented that these issues that carry emotional baggage with our residents, such as the Veterans' Memorial, the Village Seal and the Village Signs, need to be explored with the residents of the Village before decisions are made. What we have here is a failure to communicate, pure and simple.

Mrs. Pam Goffin stated that it is clear that the board needs to work together for the benefit of all of the residents, keeping the residents informed and making them a part of their decisions.

The Chair will entertain a Motion: To Adjourn.

MOTION: Trustee DePaola so MOVES.

SECOND: Trustee McGee

VOICE VOTE: All ayes.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Kathleen M. Svoboda
Village Clerk