

VILLAGE OF JUSTICE
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
7800 ARCHER ROAD, JUSTICE, IL
FIRST REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OF DECEMBER
Minutes of Monday, December 12, 2011
7:30 PM.

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: Rich Sparr, Rick Symonds, Ed Rusch, Melanie Kuban, Kinga Bartoszek and Sue Small. Attorney Eric Stach 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 November 28, 2011 as submitted, or if necessary as corrected.

MOTION: Trustee Sparr so Moves: To approve the minutes as submitted.

SECOND: Trustee Small

VOTE: Trustees Sparr, Symonds, Rusch, Kuban, Bartoszek and Small, aye. All ayes. Motion passed.

PRESENTATION:

Trustee Kinga Bartoszek began the Recognition of Service Presentation in honor of Christie Santiago, U.S. Army Reservist. Trustee Bartoszek welcomed Specialist Santiago who has served in both Iraq and Afghanistan. A resident of Justice, she is an alumni of Argo Community High School. Specialist Santiago wanted to join the military since the age of fifteen. She wanted to earn the honor of serving her country.

Currently Christine is attending college at Moraine Valley and in fact, is anticipating a final exam tomorrow. We wish her luck on her exam and more importantly we sincerely thank her for her service to our country. We welcome her home to Justice and are pleased to honor her.

A number of local dignitaries wanted to add their own appreciation to our presentation tonight but one is in Springfield, one is in Washington DC and Commissioner Joan Murphy is attending another function.

Mayor Wasowicz represented Congressman Dan Lipinski who sent a flag that was flown over our Nation's Capital.

Mr. Jeff Kranig, the Veteran's Celebration Committee Chairman, represented State Senator Steve Landek who sent a Proclamation passed in the 97th Session of the Illinois House honoring Specialist Santiago and a flag that flew over the State Capitol.

Commissioner Murphy sent a representative from her office with a lovely plaque. Interestingly, Christy Santiago came to the attention of the village when Mr. Jeff Kranig heard a band playing in her parent's driveway to celebrate her sisters birthday. Upon investigating the source of the music, Jeff found not only the birthday girl, but her sister, US Army Reserves Specialist Santiago.

(A brief recess for cake and coffee was observed.)

The Meeting resumed at 8:00 pm.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Mayor Wasowicz had no formal report.

VILLAGE CLERK'S REPORT:

Clerk Svoboda reminded all that a Tax Appeal Seminar to appeal the assessed valuation of your property to the Cook County Board of Review is scheduled on Tuesday, December 13 at 7:00 pm. Lyons Township Assessor Barbara Weyrick, her staff and representatives from Cook County will be in attendance to assist with the process.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE & INSURANCE –Trustee Kinga Bartoszek

MOTION: Trustee Bartoszek Moves: To approve payables numbers 1-17 and 19-24, in the amount of \$33,904.23, posted for the period of 11/23/2011 – 12/08/2011, plus re-occurring expenses of \$87,368.97, MFT expenses of \$ 98.00, TIF #3 expenses of \$4,000.00, for a grand total of \$125,371.20. Item #18 was removed from the payables by Trustee Bartoszek. It is a \$60.00 invoice for the printing of the nameplates for the veterans plaque, she pays for those herself.

SECOND: Trustee Kuban

VOTE: Trustee Symonds, Rusch, Kuban, Bartoszek, Small and Sparr, aye. All ayes. Motion passed.

MOTION: Trustee Bartoszek Moves: To approve Ordinance 2011-18, AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE LEVYING, ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION OF TAXES FOR THE 2011 TAX YEAR OF THE VILLAGE OF JUSTICE, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS.

SECOND: Trustee Small

Treasurer/Financial Advisor Kelly Zabinski briefly explained the purpose of the Levy and how the Levy amount was determined. The levy of \$1,318,162.00 is 4.9% over the amount of last year's levy. We added a line for Fire Pension of \$5,000.00 and put the balance of the increase in the corporate line. We will be doing some bond abatements later, specifically for the Working Cash Bonds. Our agency tax rate last year was .588. This year, it can only increase by .05 of the .588 for a maximum rate of .06.

VOTE: Trustee Rusch, Kuban, Bartoszek, Small, Sparr and Symonds, aye. All ayes.
Motion passed.

Trustee Bartoszek acknowledged the service to the community of Mr. Ed Figura who passed away recently. He certainly will be missed.

PUBLIC UTILITIES – Trustee Rick Symonds

Trustee Symonds mentioned that Deputy Director Ken White has been off sick for a few days and hopefully, is scheduled to return to work tomorrow.

Public Works has been working on repairing street signs, fencing and clean up around the Lipinski Community Center. Clean up and mulching of the village welcome signs, clearing trees and grading on the 76th and Blazer property. Cold patching of potholes continues. Maintenance of equipment for the winter continues. Last Friday we had the first call-out for salting so far this winter season. Trustee Symonds wished all a safe and happy Holiday Season.

PUBLIC SAFETY – Trustee Melanie Kuban

Trustee Kuban read a letter from the Bedford Park Police Department to Chief Robert Gedville. The letter thanked the Justice Police Department and specifically Deputy Chief McDermott and Officer DeBella for their assistance with the active shooting that took place at the Fed Ex Facility on November 17, 2011. Mention was made of the outstanding level of cooperation provided by Net 10 and the confidence it provides that mutual aid is always available. The letter was signed by Chief Daniel Godfrey of the Bedford Park Police.

Trustee Kuban added her own holiday wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year to all.

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING & RECREATION – Trustee Sue Small

MOTION: Trustee Small Moves: To authorize the termination of our relationship with Mesirow Financial Insurance Services with regard to our Worker’s Compensation Liability, Property and Casualty Insurance for the Village of Justice and to execute Broker of Record Letters with the Assurance Agency, effective immediately.

SECOND: Trustee Rusch

VOTE: Trustees Rusch, Small and Symonds, aye. Trustees Kuban, Bartoszek and Sparr, nay. Mayor Wasowicz voted nay. Motion failed.

MOTION: Trustee Small Moves: To approve the changes as proposed to the Lipinski Center Rental Agreement, to authorize Ms. Shirley Shilka as the designated signatory for rental agreements for the Village, and to enact the fees changes for rental of the center by the public.

SECOND: Trustee Kuban

VOTE: Trustees Bartoszek, Small, Sparr, Symonds, Rusch and Kuban, aye. All ayes.
Motion passed.

Trustee Small explained that the changes were: to serve liquor for the four-hours will now be \$75.00 rather than an additional \$200.00 or \$50.00 per hour. Also, there is no non-resident rate. The rate is now \$225.00 for both residents and non-residents.

Trustee Sue Small informed all that the village offices will be closed in honor of the Christmas and New Year's Holidays on Friday and Monday of both Christmas and New Year's weeks.

The annual Christmas Basket drive is will be on December 17th. We are still collecting new, unopened and unwrapped toys to be distributed on that day. Classes from Wilkin's Jr. High will be gathering donated toys and will be wrapping and tagging those toys on Friday, December 16th. Monetary donations are still welcomed.

- MOTION:** Trustee Small Moves: To cancel the regularly scheduled Board meeting of December 26th and the Committee Meeting of December 21st due to the Christmas holiday.
- SECOND:** Trustee Kuban
- VOTE:** Trustees Bartoszek, Small, Sparr, Symonds, Rusch and Kuban aye. All ayes. Motion passed.

Please have all proposed changes to the draft of the Employee Handbook available for the next committee meeting to be held on January 4th.

ORDINANCES, LICENSES & PUBLIC PRINTING – Trustee Ed Rusch Jr.

Trustee Rusch continues to work on a final draft of the "Cash for Gold" legislation and he is also working on preparing revisions to the village code to update an outdated code. He will be working with Clerk Svoboda and all department heads early in the New Year to complete this project for passage and codification, hopefully by the end of the first quarter. All department heads please provide any revisions you recommend.

We are looking into a possible 1 cent tax per gallon of gasoline sold, if it is available to non-home rule communities.. We will be looking at increasing vehicle tag rates. Trustee Rusch wants to go on record stating that he will not support doubling the cost of the \$25.00 and up tags under any circumstances. He will not support balancing the budget on the backs of the taxpayers.

Trustee Rusch commented that it warms his heart to see the enthusiasm of the Wilkin's elementary and Jr. high kids who are doing the toys and food collections.

BUILDING, PLATS AND ZONING – Trustee Rich Sparr

Trustee Sparr thanked the Justice Police and especially Officer DeBella for his attention to overweight vehicles. He has noticed a lot of activity with overweight trucks lately.

Jim Lurquin will be on vacation between Christmas and New Year's day. The time off is well deserved.

Happy Holidays to all.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Attorney Eric Stach

Attorney Stach had no report.

CORRESPONDENCE:

There was none of note.

OLD BUSINESS:

Trustee Ed Rusch asked if we could arrange an update on the 2030 Vision plan from the Lakota Group. Mayor Wasowicz replied that he will arrange that.

Trustee Rusch added that the fence at 8750 W. 82nd Place was badly in need of repair. Please ask our property maintenance inspector to address the issue of the fence.

We have received many favorable comments on the sidewalks. It is nice to see them being used so regularly.

NEW BUSINESS:

SCHEDULE OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Wed. January 4, 2012, 7:00 p.m.

FINANCE & INSURANCE: Trustee Bartoszek

Review of posted payables, and an update regarding plans for continuing the budget process and any other matters before the committee.

ORDINANCES, LICENSES & PUBLIC PRINTING: Trustee Rusch

Final review of a draft ordinance re: cash for gold business regulations, and any other licenses, ordinances or code amendments available for review.

PUBLIC SAFETY: Trustee Kuban

Any matters before the committee.

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING & RECREATION: Trustee Small

Continued review of the proposed handbook and other matters before the committee.

PUBLIC UTILITIES: Trustee Symonds

Matters before the committee.

BUILDING, PLATS & ZONING: Trustee Sparr

Any matters pertinent to Building, Plats & Zoning.

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) Sale or acquisition of property

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. John Small asked when the Report from the Lakota Group on the progress of the Economic Development Plan will occur.

Mayor Kris Wasowicz replied that the date of that report will be announced.

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION:

The Chair will entertain a Motion: To Adjourn to Closed Session for the purpose of discussion of 1) Collective Bargaining Matters and 2) Potential or Pending Litigation. .

MOTION: Trustee Sparr so Moves.

SECOND: Trustee Small

VOICE VOTE: All ayes.

Meeting Adjourned to Closed Session at 8:23 pm.

RECONVENE: Meeting reconvened at 9:05 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Clerk Kathy Svoboda called the roll. Present are Mayor Kris Wasowicz, Trustees: Rich Sparr, Rick Symonds, Ed Rusch, Melanie Kuban Kinga Bartoszek and Sue Small. Attorney Eric Stach of the Del Galdo Law Group is also present.

The Chair will entertain a Motion: To Adjourn

MOTION: Trustee Sparr so Moves.

SECOND: Trustee Symonds

VOICE VOTE: All ayes

Meeting Adjourned at 9:06 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathleen M. Svoboda
Village Clerk