

APPROVED MINUTES
VILLAGE OF ANTIOCH
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Municipal Building: 874 Main Street, Antioch, IL
October 28, 2009

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hanson called the October 28, 2009 Committee of the Whole meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:00 pm in the Municipal Building: 874 Main Street, Antioch, IL.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Mayor and Board of Trustees led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated the following Trustees were present: Poulos, Sakas, Crosby, Wolczyk and Jozwiak. Also present were Mayor Hanson, Administrator Keim, Attorney Long and Deputy Clerk Folbrick. Absent: Trustee Pierce

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Jozwiak moved, seconded by Trustee Sakas, to approve the minutes from the September 14, 2009 Special Committee of the Whole meeting as presented. Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 5: Poulos, Sakas, Crosby, Wolczyk and Jozwiak.

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 1: Pierce.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

V. REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Downtown Wine Tasting Event – Special Events Supervisor Shawn Roby discussed the proposed Winter Wine Walk to be held January 23, 2010. He explained that the event will help bring people into the downtown area, and listed potential business participants for the walk. The event would be limited to the first 150 registrants.

Trustees discussed the potential to host this event multiple times a year if successful. They further discussed licensing and age compliance. Supervisor Roby explained that the participants would meet at one location to have their ids checked and will be given a wristband. This event will have a minimal cost to the Village, and any proceeds will be spent on advertising and commemorative glasses. Trustees advised that the sidewalks be cleared of any snow or ice for the event, and agreed that this will be a good event for the Village.

2. Video Poker Machine Policy – Management Analyst Parks reviewed the questions and answers prepared by the Illinois Municipal League addressing the new video gaming act. He explained that the process has just begun, and he started discussions with local businesses that may have an interest in the machines. According to Analyst Parks, 9 of the 15 qualified license holders in the Village have expressed interest in having the machines. He stated that the rules are still being written, and the finalization of this project is not anticipated in the near future.

Trustee Poulos suggested that the Board wait until the rules are finalized and continue discussions at that time. Trustee Sakas expressed concern that this solution is seen as economic development, when he believes it is a temporary solution. Trustee Wolczyk agreed that it is a band-aid approach for funding, and thinks there are too many open details at this time to make any kind of informed decision. Mayor Hanson asked the board to consider the county-wide ban for unincorporated Antioch and the effect this may have on Chain-O-Lakes tourism.

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3. Tag Day Request Policy Discussion – Mayor Hanson explained that this item is being discussed because of resident concerns and complaints of outside agencies soliciting charitable donations in Antioch. Trustee Wolczyk asked how much revenue is generated for local charities by tag day solicitations. Analyst Parks explained that the Lions Club generated over \$5,000 in 1½ days.

Attorney Long researched the regulations, and no case law deals with this issue directly. He explained that it is a right of free speech, and if restrictions are made they must be reasonable, and everyone interested should have a fair and equal process for their requests. He distributed a map that shows a 20 mile radius around Antioch. The Board could consider a requirement that applicants be within that radius.

Trustee Crosby expressed concern with a complete ban on tag day solicitation, and said that regulations should be considered. Trustee Sakas added that a consideration for national organizations that may not fall within the 20 mile radius should be included. Trustee Poulos asked if the map could be narrowed to less than 20 miles, and suggested that identification requirements are made done so that solicitors look official, and a background check be done. Trustees further discussed a ban on major intersections within the Village and where construction is present.

Staff will review this item and report back at a future Committee of the Whole Meeting.

4. Diamond Development – Director Nilsen reviewed the request for annexation from the petitioners Diamond Development and Emmons School District, and the favorable recommendation received from the Planning and Zoning Board at their September meeting.

Mr. Kim Meier of KLM Builders explained that Thelen is no longer involved with this project, and discussed similar projects the builder is currently engaged in. Mr. Tom Miles reviewed the engineering and site plan for the project.

Trustee Poulos asked if the Waste Water Treatment Plant could accommodate this development once it is completed. Administrator Keim explained that the new treatment plant could accommodate 15,000 additional people in the facility planning area.

Trustee Crosby asked where the runoff to the east will go. Mr. Tom Miles, engineer for the project, explained that runoff will be directed to the school property. Administrator Keim stated that the runoff will be reduced, and flow at a slower rate.

Trustee Jozwiak remarked that if the project is approved, he would like the residents to get the amenities they were promised, and to set aside funds if necessary.

Trustee Poulos requested that a larger park for the development be considered.

Trustees Crosby commented that he will not vote yes on this project until KLM shows their non-involvement for the streets in the Woods of Antioch. Mr. Meier replied that KLM was not responsible for the roads in that subdivision. Trustee Crosby asked for documentation and proof that they were not involved with those roads.

Trustee Sakas stated that he sees the Trevor Creek subdivision as a comparable development, and that developer provided a playground, paved Trevor road, and provided stubs. He requested a redesign of the site plan, an increased buffer, and impact fee agreements to make sure the schools don't receive less. He added that he does not want to see more un-built lots in the Village.

Mr. Nick Patera of Teska Associates said that he will take the comments provided and refine the plan. He further reviewed the variety of homes, and reviewed the site plan and landscaping.

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Mr. Tom Poulos, Heron Harbor resident, related that KLM did a good job of building homes in the Heron Harbor subdivision.

Ms. Laurie Christophersen, township resident, indicated her concerns with traffic and safety, the environmental impact, and drainage on the site. She further stated that she would like to support Emmons school, but doesn't see the benefit of this development to the school.

Mr. Robert Machak, Emmons School District 33 Superintendent, discussed the various benefits of this development to the school, including water and sewer service and police protection. He requested a traffic and transportation study from the Illinois Department of Transportation, and they have agreed to conduct a study of the area. Mr. Machak further added that he would be willing to put the request before the school board to assist in the payment of the additional ½ officer that will be needed to serve the area. Mayor Hanson replied that he should discuss that proposal with Chief Foerster and Director Nilsen in order to provide an accurate proposal.

Mr. Dan Bellack, township resident, expressed his concern with flooding in the area and the density of the proposed development.

Mr. Daryl Haider, Woods of Antioch resident, stated his concern with issues in his subdivision that may reoccur in this development.

The board took a brief break at 9:17 pm and reconvened at 9:26 pm.

5. Utility Tax Presentation – Administrator Keim provided a financial history of the Village, and explained the continuation of the budget process. He discussed the financial problems facing the Village, the impact of those issues, and presented possible solutions. Administrator Keim requested that the board consider passing a utility tax.

Mayor Hanson agreed that it is appropriate to pass a utility tax if it is the only alternative revenue source available. He asked that the revenues received from the utility tax are open to the public and transparent.

Trustee Poulos agreed that it must be a separate account, and added that a resolution should be passed designating a percentage of the revenues be placed into a fund reserve account.

Following a brief discussion, it was the consensus of those present to place an ordinance regarding utility tax on the next village board agenda for consideration.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

Trustee Crosby commended Director Liveris for his follow-up with a street light issue.

Trustee Poulos asked that information regarding the Utility Tax be placed on the website for resident reference.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, the Village Board of Trustees Committee of the Whole meeting adjourned at 10:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori K. Folbrick
Deputy Clerk