

# APPROVED MINUTES

**VILLAGE OF ANTIOCH  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
Municipal Building: 874 Main Street, Antioch, IL  
July 11, 2012**

## **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Hanson called the July 11, 2012 Committee of the Whole meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:02 pm in the Municipal Building: 874 Main Street, Antioch, IL.

## **II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Board of Trustees led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **III. ROLL call**

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

## **IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Trustee Poulos moved, seconded by Trustee Jozwiak to approve the April 11, 2012 Public Hearing and Committee of the Whole meeting minutes as presented. Upon roll call, the vote was:

**YES: 4:** Poulos, Crosby, Dominiak and Jozwiak.

**NO: 0.**

**ABSENT: 2:** Pierce and Sakas.

**THE MOTION CARRIED.**

## **V. REGULAR BUSINESS**

**Utility Billing Cycles** – Director McCarthy reviewed the proposed change to the utility billing cycles with the intention of billing business and residential accounts at the same time in order to help improve efficiency. She discussed the proposed implementation schedule. Utility Billing Clerk Rachel Birmingham said that she will create a general letter for the customers that will be affected to let them know in advance of the change. Trustees discussed the increased efficiency and current staff workloads.

**Remote Meeting Attendance Ordinance Amendment** – Attorney Long reviewed the ordinance amendments and requirements for remote meeting attendance. He explained the process involved in remote attendance, and the purpose behind the ordinance. He further discussed closed session attendance and the need to vote in open session in order to allow remote attendance in closed session. Trustee Crosby stated that dropped calls can be avoided with [www.freeconferencecall.com](http://www.freeconferencecall.com), which is a free service. Those present agreed to place this item on the next Village Board Agenda for consideration.

**Video Gaming** – Mayor Hanson asked for the board's input on where they stand regarding video gaming in order to give proper direction to the Village Attorney. Trustee Jozwiak had no objections to allowing video gaming in the Village, stating the close proximity of other gambling opportunities to our community. Trustee Crosby expressed concern with the state regulations that will be imposed, and discussed the impact on business owners and the potential demographic video gaming may produce. He further discussed increased revenue to the Village and State of Illinois as well as those involved in the business.

Attorney Long reviewed the current ordinances in the Village Code and action the board will need to take to either allow or ban gaming. He discussed Village Code Section 4-3-2 regarding coin operated amusement devices and the right to suspend or revoke the operator's license used for gambling, and said that would need to be amended in order to take a stance on the subject.

## APPROVED MINUTES

Trustee Poulos stated that the general consensus of the board at a previous meeting was that they were not interested in allowing video gaming. Trustees further discussed the stance of neighboring communities on the issue. Trustee Dominiak spoke about the calculations needed for revenues, and said she spoke with residents regarding their view on the issue. She discussed potential hazards, including addiction, bankruptcy and crime. Trustees discussed a referendum or survey in order to collect public opinion on the issue. Trustee Dominiak related that she asked 100 residents, and approximately 63% were against video gaming. Administrator Keim discussed the potential revenues that can be used for capital projects. He said an affirmative action will be needed either way, and staff or the attorney can prepare the item for a future Village Board agenda. Attorney Long advised board members that they can amend the ordinance if desired. Staff will collect data of neighboring communities and what action they have taken on the issue. An ordinance will be prepared for the first meeting in August banning video gaming for the board's consideration.

**Discussion regarding an ordinance amendment changing the hours for public parks** – Director Roby discussed the need for specific hours in the parks in order to help curb vandalism. The proposed hours are 8am-10pm from April 1-October 31, and 8am-6pm from November 1 through May 31. Additionally, no parking will be allowed at the parks when they are closed. This item was reviewed by Chief Somerville and Attorney Long.

Trustee Jozwiak asked if events could occur past the hours indicated. Director Roby said events aren't typically run that late at those times of the year, but could be allowed with Village permission. Trustee Poulos suggested changing the opening summer time to 7am from 8am.

This item will be placed on the next Village Board Agenda for consideration.

### **VI. OTHER BUSINESS**

Administrator Keim announced Raymond Chevrolet's Grand Re-Opening tomorrow at 10 am.

Administrator Keim announced that the Village of Wauconda recently had a committee of the whole meeting where they stated their intention to place the Lake Michigan Water issue on a referendum.

Administrator Keim discussed the bids received for the Antioch Aqua Center and Sprenger Park which will be placed on Monday's agenda for consideration.

Mr. Stuart Malsch asked about conference calls into executive sessions and potential security risks involved. He also asked staff to reach out to the owner of the property at Longview and Depot in order to trim the bush to help improve visibility. Trustee Crosby addressed the issue of closed session remote attendance, and indicated that there is low risk involved in the conference call program he discussed.

Trustee Crosby thanked Administrator Keim for the barricades on Neuway and Savage in the interest of public safety. He also asked what is being done about the vacant lots with high grass. Administrator Keim responded that the process has begun in mowing the lots and the properties have been placed on lien.

Trustee Crosby asked if there has been any progress on a policy to allow private fire pits. Administrator Keim said that he plans to have an item at the next village board meeting. He stated that he has been asked by residents to consider an ordinance that doesn't allow open burning, but an enclosed style fire pit or patio burner that would allow those devices. Chief Nixon discussed the difference between a controlled burning pit and an open campfire burn, including fire height and potential hazard to neighbors.

Trustee Poulos discussed the feedback he heard about the parade being overly long and not relevant to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. He asked to have staff make an effort in avoiding company advertising and cars with no decorations in the parade. Director Roby discussed the size of the parade, and proposes limiting the size of the parade in the future, and the amount of decorations required to participate. Exceptions could be made for queens riding in cars and elected officials. Trustees discussed rules and regulations that need to be

## APPROVED MINUTES

implemented, including throwing candy, exiting vehicles participating in the parade, and the invitation of local high school marching bands.

### **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further discussion, the Village Board of Trustees Committee of the Whole meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Lori K. Folbrick, RMC/CMC  
Village Clerk