

APPROVED MINUTES

**VILLAGE OF ANTIOCH
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Municipal Building: 874 Main Street, Antioch, IL
September 12, 2012**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hanson called the September 12, 2012 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 Board of Trustees led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL call

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

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Crosby moved, seconded by Trustee Jozwiak to approve the August 15, 2012 Committee of the Whole meeting minutes as presented. Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 6: Pierce, Sakas, Poulos, Crosby, Dominiak and Jozwiak.

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 0.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

V. REGULAR BUSINESS

Update on Transition of Dispatching Services – Chief Somerville provided an overview of the transition of the dispatching services from the Village to Cencom. He announced that the transition was seamless, and there have been no problems. He thanked Chief Nixon for his help with the project, and will continue to monitor the service. He provided a brief history of the costs associated with having a dispatch center in house and the decision to go to an outside source for dispatching. He commended Administrator Keim and staff for their work on the transition, and stated that all of the former dispatch staff has found employment.

Road Program – Mayor Hanson relayed the concerns of some residents regarding the quality of their roads. Administrator Keim reviewed the comprehensive road program, and announced that he will be asking for a bid award at the next Village Board meeting for the 2012 road program. Roads in the program consist of Hillside, Harden, McMillan, Ida, Sequoit and Bartlett. He discussed the road improvement priorities and how they are funded. Approximately 60 miles of roads were assessed and rated based on their improvement needs. Administrator Keim also reviewed previous grants that were awarded in order to improve certain roads. He indicated that the road program document is used in order to predict road improvements, and discussed the life expectancy of roads being approximately 15 years. In order to keep up with the roads, about 4 miles of roads need to be paved each year. The only dedicated source of income for road improvements at this time is Motor Fuel Tax revenues. He stated that the challenge staff faces is to find a funding source for road improvements. Many of the roads were constructed around the same time and may need repair around the same time. Mayor Hanson discussed bonds that may be issued for road improvements, and the costs associated with paying back those bonds.

Residents of Eagle Ridge subdivision were present in the audience. Trustee Crosby discussed the absence of water and sewer infrastructure in Eagle Ridge Subdivision, and stated that residents there are requesting that the absence of that maintenance is supplemented with roadway improvements. Administrator

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Keim stated that the water and sewer fund is separate from the general fund, and is paid for by users of that fund. The two funds should be segregated and cannot be comingled.

Trustee Crosby discussed certain drainage issues in the Eagle Ridge subdivision, and asked if that repair is a priority, and potential costs associated with the repair. Administrator Keim said it could be a safety hazard, and discussed possible remedies for the drainage. Trustee Crosby asked staff to pay attention to those areas that may need more salt in the winter due to freezing water. Administrator Keim said they do see more salt than typical areas.

Trustees further discussed different types of road repair, from mill and fill to complete reconstruction, as well as possible need for curb replacement. They also discussed alternative methods of road improvements and costs associated with those methods. Trustee Crosby asked that reserves be made in order to look at road improvements in the future. Mayor Hanson reviewed budget cuts over the past four years, and the balanced budget that puts the Village in the position to consider future road program improvements. Trustee Sakas discussed the limited revenue opportunities available. Administrator Keim explained the lack of certain taxing districts in the Village of Antioch, and the use of general funds to pay for the services provided for fire and parks programs. Trustee Pierce asked staff to come back with a budget proposal prepared with a plan for a road program and use of funds. Trustee Crosby urged the importance of reserve funding, and the need to keep those reserves in order to help protect the Village. Trustee Poulos discussed the strategic plan that will be discussed later in the meeting, which includes prioritization of projects. Trustee Sakas discussed the disrepair of Highview Drive, and the high traffic volume and school children that travel on that road.

Mr. Pete Strohmeier, President of Eagle Ridge homeowners association, thanked the board for their consideration of the matter. He discussed the unique characteristics of their subdivision, including lack of sewer, street maintenance of sub-streets, high insurance costs due to lack of fire hydrants, lack of sidewalks, and high property taxes. He asked for some consideration, while using fiscal responsibility. Mayor Hanson asked the township highway supervisor to independently assess the roads in that subdivision, who said that they are in the 3-4 range, which is fair. Residents further discussed the history of the subdivision and repairs that have been made over the years. Trustees provided suggestions for road improvements to the subdivision private drives and the possibility of plowing those areas once they are up to village standards. Trustee Poulos recommended that other HOA presidents attend meetings and let the Village know any issues that they may have.

Watershed Development Ordinance Amendment - Administrator Keim reviewed the most recent amendment to the Lake County Stormwater Management Watershed Development ordinance. He discussed the need to adopt the amendments, and the potential to have stricter regulations if the board so desires. He indicated that he and Director Heimbrodt are representatives for the Village of Antioch. He stated that the ordinance amendment needs to be approved prior to October 10, 2012.

Trustees discussed language within the ordinance and certification benefits. Administrator Keim explained the detailed definitions in the ordinance and said that HR Green has a certified wetland specialist on staff, and the Village of Antioch is a wetland certified community.

Those present agreed to place this item on the next Village Board agenda for consideration.

Sewer and Water Valuation – Mayor Hanson asked for an update on finances since the rate increase last year, and discussed the resident concerns with the increased cost of their water and sewer bills when using a water meter to measure quantity. He asked for the board to consider some kind of relief for residents. Administrator Keim discussed costs on the east side of town and the need to pay Lake County for sewer service regardless of how the water was used. He discussed the problems with low flow and its effects on the treatment plant. He explained that it is difficult to know if water use was for sprinkling on each account, and residents have an option to purchase a separate water meter for sprinkling systems. He further discussed the condition of the enterprise fund, stating that the receipts and costs are eventually converging. There is

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currently no money being raised to build infrastructure, little money for reserves, no capital funds, large debt service and staff recommends no sewer refunds on accounts.

Trustee Crosby discussed the current sewer credit available for new homes that install sod. He indicated that he didn't water his lawn this summer because of the drought, and his lawn still survived. He said he is not in favor of a credit. Mayor Hanson suggested a program to assist homeowners with the purchase of a separate meter. Trustees responded that there is no money available for such a program. Trustees discussed the impact they personally experienced with increased water usage and larger bills as a result. Administrator Keim indicated that the fund should be self sustaining in August 2014. Administrator Keim commended the utility Clerk Rachel Birmingham on her customer service with concerned residents.

Strategic Plan Update – Administrator Keim reviewed the strategic plan initiatives, and gave the board the opportunity to comment on any of the action items. Mayor Hanson asked for timeline changes to some of the items that have passed. Trustee Dominiak asked to place the data into a GANT chart. Trustee Pierce asked to press the representatives to keep the stoplights on I-94 which have helped greatly with traffic. Trustees discussed the implementation of the strategic plan and steps to be taken moving forward.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

Trustee Pierce thanked staff and the Chamber of Commerce for their work on Fall Fest and the Craft Faire. Mayor Hanson and Trustees commended Director Roby on his hard work and dedication to the Village.

Administrator Keim provided a status update on the permit for the pool, and said it is currently in review.

Trustee Jozwiak thanked Administrator Keim for his recent update on Antioch Rescue Squad.

Mayor Hanson expressed his sympathy for the recent losses of Director Heimbrodt's grandmother, Director Howard's father, and Village of Antioch Dispatcher Wuorenma.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, the Village Board of Trustees Committee of the Whole meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori K. Folbrick, RMC/CMC
Village Clerk