

APPROVED MINUTES

VILLAGE OF ANTIOCH BOARD OF TRUSTEES, REGULAR MEETING Municipal Building: 874 Main Street, Antioch, IL January 3, 2006

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Larson called the January 3, 2006 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:30 PM in the Municipal Building: 874 Main Street, Antioch, IL.

ROLL CALL

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, roll call indicated the following Trustees were present: Hanson, McCarty, Caulfield, and Porch. Also present were Mayor Larson, Administrator Haley, Attorney DeMartini and Clerk Rowe. Absent: Trustee Pierce, Trustee Turner and Attorney Magna.

APPROVE BALANCE OF AGENDA FORM

Trustee McCarty moved seconded by Trustee Caulfield to approve the balance of the January 3, 2006 meeting agenda as presented. Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 4: Hanson, McCarty, Caulfield and Porch.

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 2: Pierce and Turner.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

DECEMBER 19, 2005 PUBLIC HEARING MEETING MINUTES

Trustee McCarty moved, seconded by Trustee Porch to approve the minutes from the December 19, 2005 public hearing meeting as presented. Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 3: McCarty, Caulfield and Porch.

NO: 0.

PASS: 1: Hanson.

ABSENT: 2: Pierce and Turner.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

DECEMBER 19, 2005 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Trustee Porch moved, seconded by Trustee McCarty to approve the minutes from the December 19, 2005 regular meeting as presented. Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 4: Hanson, McCarty, Caulfield and Porch.

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 2: Pierce and Turner.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

PETITIONS/BIDS

No report.

MAYOR

Other Business – Bitner Property – Mayor Larson announced that we have closed on the Bitner property on December 22, 2005. She said this winter we will spend time getting focus groups together to determine a development plan. Mayor Larson said the 12 acre property adjoins village property resulting in 18 – 20 acres of buildable land for the much needed aquatic center. The property is located on North Avenue east of the Arbors of Windmill Creek subdivision. Mayor Larson thanked staff and park board members who worked toward this goal.

CLERK

No report.

ADMINISTRATOR

Metra Commuter Station Development Agreement – Following Administrator Haley's review of the agreement, Trustee Porch moved, seconded by Trustee McCarty to approve Amendment No. 3 to the Commuter Station Development Agreement with minor correction on page one (replacing the word Wheeling with Antioch and correct the year to 2006) and authorize the Mayor to sign and the Clerk to attest her signature on the agreement. Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 4: Hanson, McCarty, Caulfield and Porch.

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 2: Pierce and Turner.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

COMMUNICATIONS

No report.

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CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Jim Cook – Hillside Avenue resident addressed the Board and commended them on their action at their December 5, 2005 Board meeting regarding village employee incentive holiday bonuses. Mr. Cook, vice president of the Antioch Firefighter's Association, along with the Association's president John Lucas said on behalf of the 80 men and women of this organization they felt the village did not recognize their organization when recognizing village employees when they approved the holiday bonus. Mr. Cook discussed the fire men and women's duties, meetings, training, continued education and events they attend without pay. He went on to explain that they are only paid for calls they respond to. Mr. Lucas said they are looking for clarification of their employment status and classification with the village. He expressed concerns regarding workmen compensation should they get injured when answering a fire call.

Mayor Larson

Mayor Larson said that she hoped the fire men and women realize that everyone on the Village Board absolutely values the volunteer fire department. She explained the decision made regarding the regular village employee incentive holiday bonus and the advice given by the Village Attorney. She said that some of the things that were done in the past may have been done incorrectly and we wanted to make certain that we are in compliance with what the state rules and how we spend public funds. Mayor Larson also explained that none of the volunteer organizations, such as the park, planning and zoning boards received bonuses. She said the rescue squad also didn't receive a bonus. She said this was not done because we don't value the fire association, it was done because of the legal advice that we were given. She said we could not function without the many hours the fire men and women give to this community and they are truly appreciated. She apologized if they felt this was something that was personal or political. Mayor Larson discussed the holiday parties in past years and the last two years where staff received steaks. However upon the advice of the Attorney, public funds should not be used for private use and giving a gift to a staff member would be for their private use. Mayor Larson also discussed that in the past the fire department received Christmas gifts and those invoices came through this board and we have paid our share of those invoices. She said the Village Board doesn't get asked prior the District's purchase of these gifts, the bill is sent to the Village and we pay our portion. She thought the same has happened this year, as what has happened in previous years. Mayor Larson said that she wanted to make sure they understood that they are appreciated as a group and individually and she hoped they understood that we were trying to be in compliance with our legal obligations. Mr. Cook said the Association was led to believe that the village wouldn't be paying 50% of this year's invoice. Mr. Lucas said this goes further than the holiday bonus and he is more concerned with employment classification. He asked if they are considered part time village employees, paid on call staff or volunteers. Mayor Larson said that this is the first time that she is hearing these concerns and that she, Administrator Haley and the Village Attorney would be happy to meet with them and their organization anytime to define the status.

Trustee Caulfield expressed his concerns about the decision made to not include the members of the volunteer fire association in the employee incentive holiday bonus. Trustee Caulfield said "it could have changed the vote or could have led to more discussion if this Trustee was made aware that when we were discussing the cost of the program, in its relation to cost of the program last year, we were told it was about the same. Actually there was no reference to the fact that it would be for about half of the employees."

There was a discussion regarding the volunteer fire department's employee status, salaries paid by both the Village and District and also firefighters who are also full time Village employees. Mayor Larson would like to meet the Village Attorney and the Association for clarification. Mr. Lucas said that is exactly what they are looking for and he would be happy to attend a meeting to discuss this further. Mayor Larson said that she is in the office every day and asked them that in the future if they have concerns to please feel free to contact her anytime. She said if there are issues she would like to address them sooner rather than later.

Trustee McCarty said he believed the volunteer fire men and women are paid on call and would like to schedule a committee meeting. Village Clerk Rowe will schedule a meeting in the next couple of weeks.

Trustee Hanson indicated that we should have researched and discussed this at a meeting earlier in the year instead of making this decision in December. He said that he expressed this same concern at the meeting when the incentive bonuses were approved.

Mr. Lucas reiterated that they didn't address the Board because of the holiday bonus, they appreciate the thought, and they want to be recognized. He would like to get clarification regarding their employment classification. He said several members of his family have been involved in the fire department for many years and they have a long history giving to the community. He again expressed his concern for the men and women in the Association that are

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volunteering their time and he wants to make sure that if they get injured when answering a fire call, they are taken care of.

Mayor Larson said she would have the Attorney to look into this further and a public safety committee meeting scheduled.

Trustee Porch asked Mr. Lucas and Mr. Cook if they brought these concerns to the First Fire District Board. Mr. Lucas said they have not done that at this time. Mr. Cook discussed the Fire District insurance and said they haven't had any injuries on a District call to test that new system. Trustee Porch asked if they could discuss their concerns with the District and to bring this information to the committee meeting.

Scott Frillman – Meridian Way resident approached the Board and expressed his concern with Planning and Zoning and articles that he read about new subdivisions. He said that he knows the Board is trying their best with Wal-Mart and Menards to help take care of and pay for things. He said that he is concerned about the residential growth and what it means as far as student population in the school districts. Mr. Frillman spoke of his conversations with Lake County Board members and School Board members when he expressed his concerns to them. He suggested the Board is looking at new and different ways to slow the growth down, with possibly senior housing, commercial or forest preserve areas. He also discussed education and how important it is to keep the programs in our schools.

LEGISLATIVE AND HUMAN RESOURCES

No report.

PLANNING, ZONING AND BUILDING, SENIOR SERVICES

Senior Center Addition Open House and Dedication – Trustee Porch said the Antioch Senior Center is hosting an open house on January 7, 2006 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. with the dedication at 2:30 p.m.

ENGINEERING, PUBLIC WORKS AND UTILITIES

No report.

FINANCE, ECONOMIC AND REDEVELOPMENT

Invoices over \$10,000 – Trustee Porch reviewed the informational report dated January 3, 2006 prepared by village staff showing invoices over \$10,000 and totaling \$90,701.18. Invoices listed were: Blue Cross and Blue Shield in the amount of \$62,079.77 for medical insurance; ComEd in the amount of \$15,375.87 for pumping stations and Thelen Sand and Gravel in the amount of \$13,245.54 for street repairs.

Summary of Escrow Report – Trustee Porch reviewed the informational report dated January 3, 2006 prepared by village staff showing escrow payments in the amount of \$11,656.01.

Accounts Payable – Trustee Porch moved, seconded by Trustee McCarty to approve as presented and authorize payment of accounts payable as prepared by village staff and dated January 3, 2006 in the amount of \$192,978.17. Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 4: Hanson, McCarty, Caulfield and Porch.

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 2: Pierce and Turner.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

Manual Checks – Trustee Porch said the manual checks include a payment for the closing on the Bitner property as discussed by Mayor Larson earlier in the meeting. Trustee Porch moved, seconded by Trustee McCarty to approve the manual checks report dated December 29, 2005 as prepared by village staff in the amount of \$417,315.63. Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 4: Hanson, McCarty, Caulfield and Porch.

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 2: Pierce and Turner.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

Payroll Expense Report dated December 16, 2005 – Trustee Porch moved, seconded by Trustee McCarty to approve the Payroll Expense Report dated December 30, 2005 in the amount \$231,184.39 as presented. Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 4: Hanson, McCarty, Caulfield and Porch.

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 2: Pierce and Turner.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

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PUBLIC SAFETY, PARKS AND LICENSE

Issue a permit to infini-tea pursuant to Ordinance No. 05-12-29 – Trustee McCarthy moved, seconded by Trustee Porch to approve and issue a permit to infini-tea pursuant to Ordinance No. 05-12-29, entitled, “*AN ORDINANCE CREATING A NEW SECTION OF THE ANTIOCH VILLAGE CODE TO CREATE A PERMIT TO ALLOW WINE TO BE BROUGHT ONTO THE PREMISES OF A RESTAURANT*”. Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 4: Hanson, McCarty, Caulfield and Porch.

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 2: Pierce and Turner.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor Larson

Mayor Larson said this would be the first permit that we would be issuing regarding our new ordinance and we're very pleased that infini-tea would be getting this permit.

Letter dated December 17, 2005 from Sandy Coachman, FEMA Federal Coordinating Officer – Trustee McCarty read aloud the letter received from Sandy Coachman, FEMA Federal Coordinating Officer who thanked the Village of Antioch for allowing Lee Shannon to work for FEMA in Austin Texas during the response to hurricanes Rita and Katrina. She said that Lee was assigned to work as the Special Assistant to the Federal Coordinating Officer and he was instrumental in developing and managing our Housing, Employment, Location and Placement (H.E.L.P.) program. She also said that she could not emphasize enough the impact of his professional leadership abilities and the willingness to work the multitude of issues affecting the many disaster victims. FEMA has been very fortunate to have Lee and other volunteers like him to complete the mission.

Lee Shannon thanked the Mayor, Village Board and staff who have stepped in during his absence. He said it was 10 weeks of hard work and that he and a couple of others from the Antioch area are putting together a program that they would like to open to the public in the near future. He said that he learned a lot during this process and discussed the importance of having a good disaster plan in our own communities.

Mayor Larson

Mayor Larson thanked Lee Shannon and said to get a letter such as this commending one of our employees is very gratifying to know that we have someone of his caliber working for us.

Tag Day requests – Trustee McCarty moved, seconded by Trustee Hanson to approve the tag day requests to authorize Camp Fire USA to sell candy in the Village from February 3-28, 2006 and Girl Scouts – Illinois Crossroads to sell cookies in the Village from January 6 – March 25, 006. Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 4: Hanson, McCarty, Caulfield and Porch.

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 2: Pierce and Turner.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

DELINQUENT ESCROW ACCOUNTS

No report.

ATTORNEY

No report.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Trustee McCarty moved seconded by Trustee Porch to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Candi L. Rowe RMC, CMC
Village Clerk