

APPROVED MINUTES
VILLAGE OF ANTIOCH
BOARD OF TRUSTEES, REGULAR MEETING
Municipal Building: 874 Main Street, Antioch, IL
December 1, 2014

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hanson called the December 1, 2014 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:32 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: Pierce, Jozwiak, Poulos, Dominiak, Crosby and Johnson. Also present were Mayor Hanson, Attorney Long and Clerk Folbrick.

IV. Absent Trustees Wishing to Attend Remotely

There were no trustees wishing to attend remotely.

V. MAYORAL REPORT

1. Mayoral Proclamation Honoring Former Mayor Marilyn Shineflug – Clerk Folbrick read aloud the proclamation recognizing the accomplishments of former Mayor Marilyn Shineflug. Mayor Hanson extended his condolences to the family for their loss.

2. Mayoral Proclamation – National Drunk & Drugged Driving Month – Clerk Folbrick read aloud the proclamation declaring December, 2014 as National Drunk & Drugged Driving Month and asked the citizens of the Village of Antioch to promote awareness and safer and healthier behaviors.

Citizens Wishing to Address the Board

There were no citizens wishing to address the board.

Non-Action Items for Discussion

Request from Northbridge Church to connect to the Village of Antioch Water in unincorporated Antioch. – Pastor Mark Albrecht and Steve Schultz from Northbridge Church and Jim Rogers with Church Building Consultants reviewed their request for a water service connection. Mr. Albrecht reviewed the history of the request, and their work with village staff regarding options for annexation and connection to water. The request to connect to water comes from requirements in Lake County for water access, and they will need approval moving forward. Trustee Pierce asked if they would be connected to sewer, and commented that they should be allowed access with the same Village rates granted to the Wisconsin residents in Oakwood Knolls.

Administrator Keim stated that the board may allow access and could make a decision to charge the same as village rates. Staff is not prepared to make a recommendation, and said it is the board's prerogative. Mayor Hanson asked that this item be brought back before the Committee of the Whole to look at all options. Trustee Crosby asked why annexation isn't considered for a building that may be built in the same location anyway without the Village of Antioch tax base. He asked to add an agenda item regarding the annexation process. Trustee Dominiak asked Mr. Albrecht to explain why they are not pursuing annexation at this time. Mr. Rogers replied that the guidelines put in place by the Village of Antioch are too difficult to comply with from the church's point of view. Approvals, materials to be provided, appearance issues, and required elements are not as strict in the County. Administrator Keim advised that both parties should work on an agreement that wouldn't inhibit property beyond that location. Staff will need more information from the church in order to move forward. Mayor Hanson opined that the solid planning principles were put into place in order to help make the community more aesthetically pleasing, and staff and the board should not disregard those guidelines. He said he's not against granting water, but need more definite direction moving forward. Staff asked the church to provide a proposal for staff to review. Administrator Keim asked that the request indicates any intention to front the property with the water line, and includes aesthetics, water volume, and sprinkling requirements. Trustee Poulos asked for a Lake County vs. Antioch comparison as far as what steps need to be taken. Mr. Rogers said that there aren't any public meetings required at the County level, and they hope to break ground in the spring so they can save costs on winter expenses. Mayor Hanson asked for information so that they may negotiate on the look of the building.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

Trustee Jozwiak moved, seconded by Trustee Crosby, to approve the following consent agenda items as presented:

1. Approval of the November 17, 2014 regular meeting minutes as presented.
2. Approval of a Resolution Authorizing a raffle license for "Fundraiser for Leukemia" with the drawing to be held on December 13, 2014, waiving all fees – *Resolution No. 14-71*
3. Approval of a Resolution Approving the 2015 Village Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule – *Resolution No. 14-72*

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Upon roll call, the vote was:

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

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 0.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

REGULAR BUSINESS

4. Consideration of payment of accounts payable as prepared by staff in the amount of \$801,125.65 – Trustee Poulos moved, seconded by Trustee Jozwiak, to approve payment of accounts payable as prepared by staff in the amount of \$801,125.65. Upon roll call, the vote was:

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

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 0.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

5. Consideration of a Resolution Accepting the Municipal Compliance Report for the Fiscal year Ending April 30, 2014 as prepared by Wayne Hummer Trust Company – Director McCarthy introduced Mr. Roger Manderscheid from the Police Pension Fund Board who prepared the report. Mr. Manderscheid reviewed the interest and dividend amounts for each fiscal year. The increase cannot go up dramatically because the state has requirements that must be met. He explained that interest rates have been poor, and distributed the transaction summaries for the board to review. Mr. Manderscheid further stated that the Illinois Department of Insurance makes the assumed investment return rate of 6.5-7%, which is an unrealistic requirement by the state. Mr. Manderscheid reviewed the funding of the pensions, contributions, inflation, and wages.

Trustee Crosby moved, seconded by Trustee Jozwiak, to approve **Resolution No. 14-73** Accepting the Municipal Compliance Report for the Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2014 as prepared by Wayne Hummer Trust Company. Upon roll call, the vote was:

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

NO: 0.

ABSENT: 0.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

6. Discussion regarding budget and service reductions – Administrator Keim presented the annualized cost reductions that were summarized in the packet. He explained that the report is to give elected officials a better idea of what goes into the numbers previously presented.

Mayor Hanson stated that the numbers have already been reduced from previous years, and some of the numbers represent increased tourism and revenues to the Village businesses, which in turn is distributed through sales tax. Administrator Keim stated that some of the cuts will result in large impacts to the community.

Trustee Crosby said that the town is running exponentially more efficiently than in previous years, and through good management has gotten more work out of staff and runs more efficiently. Trustee Crosby asked Administrator Keim to recommend cuts that the Village could live without, and then review any remaining options at the next budget cycle. Administrator Keim replied that the current budget does not rely on referendum money, and can still survive this budget year. He asked for an indication from the Board on what they can stomach and to provide input they may have on items they would like to see remain or cut.

Trustee Jozwiak said the people have spoken, and they need to remove programs, and is ready to make the decision today. Trustee Poulos opined that each department should recommend cuts and revenue enhancements, such as raising fees for certain programs, donation/contribution boxes, vending sales, etc, and agrees that it's the board's responsibility for the larger items. He stated that certain reductions may go against the strategic plan, and discussed safety vs. programs. Trustee Johnson suggested that each trustee work with their department head to prioritize items and present their recommendations back to the board.

Trustee Pierce thanked staff for the report, and discussed the closing of Fire Station #3, which was \$300,000+. He agrees with Trustee Crosby that it's staff's job to present cuts that the Village could survive on.

Mayor Hanson asked those present to consider whether the voters were educated on the issue when they spoke on the referendum. Trustee Dominiak said that people did not vote for the referendum because they thought there was money to be spent. If there is not funding for EMS, there cannot be other services. Trustee Pierce suggested that the cuts be done in a well reasoned manner otherwise the board will appear punitive, which may hurt in the long run. Trustee Poulos said that no matter how well thought-out the cuts, people will still say it's punitive. He stated that the board was elected to do a job and shouldn't throw that job back on to staff.

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Those present discussed the election and reasons for the referendum failure. Trustee Crosby said the Village Board made mistakes in the last election, and has learned lessons on how to improve in the next election.

Administrator Keim discussed the target that was previously presented, and asked what amount the board would like to see cut. He stated that he can make the recommendations, but wants the full support of the board in doing so. Mayor Hanson thanked the board and commended them on their work passing a balanced budget for the past 5 years, and agreed that working with reduced revenues and funding increased services is a difficult task. Trustee Crosby asked to see 2 levels of cuts; \$200,000 & \$500,000. Those present agreed to have a plan "A" for immediate cuts, and plan "B" if the referendum doesn't pass.

Trustee Jozwiak asked Chief Nixon about ambulance billing, and asked if reports are provided for non-payment of ambulance bills. Chief Nixon explained the billing process and the 'payer mix' which includes payments from insurance companies, and Medicare/Medicaid. He explained that an average ambulance bill is \$1,600. In that instance, the Village will receive \$1,200 from insurance company, or \$450 from Medicare. Increased ambulance fees could produce a 5-10% increase, potentially increasing revenues \$50,000 a year. Trustee Pierce asked if the mileage fee could remain, with an increase in other areas. Trustee Dominiak asked to see incremental data and get a bigger picture.

Administrator Keim will come back with plan "A" and Plan "B", and a proposed increase in ambulance rates to be presented at the next village board meeting.

7. Consideration of a Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Supplement to the Existing Intergovernmental Agreement with the First Fire District – Administrator Keim reviewed the general request from the First Fire District so that they may realize the full benefit of the cut at station #3. The request essentially asks the Village fund more of station #2, allowing the district to get the benefit of the 3 lost positions at station #3. Trustee Crosby asked if there is a number that shows the share of the costs. Administrator Keim approximated \$35,000/month to make up the difference, which is the 50% share of station #3. He explained that the First Fire District is asking the Village to fund at a higher percentage for the remainder of the year. Trustees discussed the segregation of responses between the village and township and the different stations. Chief Nixon said they cannot limit responses to certain stations. Trustee Crosby asked the impact of closing station #2.

Mr .Dan Venturi stated that they are saving 3 positions by closing station #3. If the Village wanted to stay at a 50/50 split, it would require closing stations #2 & #3. He explained that the district only has one function and one fund, and their total levy is \$750,000 per year. They cannot take from other places and have already approved to have the referendum question placed on the next election ballot. He discussed funding reserves and expenses, and response time increases. Trustee Crosby asked if there was an impact of station #1 being open with equipment at station #2. Chief Nixon replied that the call volume increased greatly once the fire department took on EMS and he cannot compare to how it used to be because responses were not needed for EMS. He stated that the Fire District has increased their ISO rating, reducing the cost of homeowners insurance for residents. Chief Nixon said there is no efficiency in closing station #2, and may in fact be worse. Those present discussed the impact of reduced ISO ratings.

Trustee Dominiak asked how many people are working out of station #2. Chief Nixon replied that there are 4 staff on duty, which is equivalent to a 2 person fire engine and 2 person ambulance. Those present discussed staff and operation options and potential cost savings associated with each.

Trustee Dominiak asked what the budget impact is for the current year. Administrator Keim said the impact is budget neutral, however the village would no longer realize the savings of \$199,000 for the closing of station #3. Trustee Pierce expressed concern in giving village taxpayer money to the township. Trustee Dominiak asked if some of the revenues could be captured if we are paying 100% of the expenses. Chief Nixon stated that there were 21 calls in the township and 69 in the village during the month of November. Trustee Johnson asked if we are opened to litigation because the station is closed and no sign is present. Chief Nixon replied that they will make it apparent that it's closed.

Trustee Crosby related Deputy Chief Cokefair's concern that in the past people had to die before the referendum passed to get it enough attention. Attorney Venturi suggested that there could be a modification in the agreement that the revenues would be shared based on personnel costs, and asked for a consensus from the Village Board to bring the option back to the Fire District. Attorney Long explained that the fire district is putting in everything they have and asking the village to help make up the difference. Chief Nixon stated that the current agreement with the district is to pay 50% of costs. If they don't continue with ambulance service, the Village is still responsible for full payment of ambulance costs through the end of April 28. Chief Nixon explained that they could terminate the contract early or change the conditions of the contract, however most calls are in the village. The cost of EMS would go up if village doesn't share expenses. Those present discussed the history of revenue and expense sharing. It was the consensus of those present to take on the payments requested by the

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Fire District, but request a portion of the revenues. Attorney Long and Venturi will work on a revised draft agreement.

8. Consideration of a Resolution Revising the Structure of the Joint Public Safety

Committee - Trustee Crosby moved, seconded by Trustee Poulos, to approve **Resolution 14-75** revising the structure of the Joint Public Safety Committee.

Trustee Dominiak asked if there was value in their removal, and expressed concern that it may appear vindictive. Trustee Jozwiak said the township made it clear that the issue is between the Village and First Fire District. Trustee Crosby said he does not want to give access to the township when they aren't willing to help and commended Chief Nixon on his hard work throughout the project.

Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 5: Pierce, Jozwiak, Poulos, Crosby and Johnson.

NO: 1: Dominiak.

ABSENT: 0.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

9. Consideration of an Ordinance Initiating the Submission of a Public Question to

Authorize the Village to Impose a Special Property Tax to Provide Ambulance Service - Trustee Poulos moved, seconded by Trustee Jozwiak, to approve **Ordinance No. 14-12-27** initiating the submission of a public question to authorize the Village to impose a special property tax to provide ambulance service, waiving second reading and adopt as presented.

Mayor Hanson discussed a presentation made to the Joint Public Safety Committee on another option for funding with a sales tax. Administrator Keim said some of the statements made at that meeting were not accurate. He explained that the sales tax is not applicable to vehicles, pharmaceuticals or food (groceries). According to the data reported from the state, it may produce between \$750,000-800,000, not \$1.6 million. He has collected data from other communities, and the allowed use of the money has changed over time. It will currently allow revenues to be used for services until 2020. Attorney Long stated that it also defines tax relief, a relief from the need to impose additional property taxes. Administrator Keim said he foresees the sales tax being used largely for infrastructure. Other communities use it for infrastructure and fund ambulance services through property tax. Administrator Keim thinks it's wise for the referendum purposes to match comparatively with other communities, and said that asking for sales tax to fund EMS would make it very difficult to come back to the voters and ask for another referendum to fund ambulance service in the future. Trustee Dominiak expressed concern with the wording of the sales tax referendum question. Attorney Long explained that the service tax would be applied to parts for labor related services, and is taken from allowed language according to statute. Trustee Dominiak expressed concern with the impact on retailers and the wording of property tax relief within the question. Trustee Crosby likes that non-residents will be charged the tax. Trustee Pierce said some people chose their property based on the property taxes, and he feels an obligation to fund the services. He said that homeowners have a responsibility to pay more through increased property taxes, and board members must deal with that. Trustee Johnson said he likes the sales tax, but there is momentum and solidarity with the property tax question. He said the Board needs to get a better message out and go back out for the same referendum. Trustee Dominiak agreed that there is more consistency with a property tax referendum question. Trustee Poulos added that the board shouldn't expect other people to pay for a service through sales tax that will benefit the residents of the community.

Upon roll call to approve **Ordinance No. 14-12-27** initiating the submission of a public question to authorize the Village to impose a special property tax to provide ambulance service, waiving second reading and adopt as presented, the vote was:

YES: 4: Pierce, Poulos, Dominiak and Johnson.

NO: 2: Jozwiak and Crosby.

ABSENT: 0.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

10. Consideration of a Resolution Initiating the Submission of a Public Question to Establish a Non-Home Rule Sales Tax - Trustee Jozwiak moved, seconded by Trustee Poulos, to approve **Resolution 14-76** initiating the submission of a public question to establish a non-home rule sales tax.

Upon roll call, the vote was:

YES: 2: Jozwiak and Crosby.

NO: 4: Pierce, Poulos, Dominiak and Johnson.

ABSENT: 0.

THE MOTION FAILED.

VII. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Keim reported that the next meeting will contain the tax levy, and remote attendance will not be accepted at the public hearing.

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VIII. VILLAGE CLERK'S REPORT

Clerk Folbrick added that the public hearing is scheduled for 7pm.

IX. TRUSTEE REPORTS

Trustee Johnson announced that wine walk and daddy daughter tickets go on sale next week and that there will be additions to the website for each of the parks.

Trustee Crosby commended resident Bobby Pollack for calling in thefts in his area.

Trustee Poulos commented that Trustee Pierce did an excellent job at the Christmas Parade, and he was impressed by the high attendance of the event.

Trustee Jozwiak said public works is cutting up the road by the theater and continues to prepare for snow and ice removal during the winter. He reminded those present that the VFW soldier dinner is scheduled for December 6 at the VFW.

Trustee Pierce said the Environmental Commission has not met for the last 2 months due to lack of quorum. He plans on sitting down with the Chairman, Mayor and Village Administrator to review the duties of the commission.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Personnel, Pending/Probable Litigation, Sale or Lease of Village Property, Executive Session Minutes, Collective Bargaining - Personnel

The mayor and board of trustees did not go into executive session.

XI. Action of Executive Session Items

No action taken.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Trustee Dominiak moved, seconded by Trustee Jozwiak to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees at 10:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori K. Folbrick
Village Clerk