

VILLAGE OF SLEEPY HOLLOW
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

JULY 19, 2010

The public hearing was called to order at 7:15 p.m. In attendance were President Stephen Pickett and Trustees Scott Finney, Russell Getz, Jeff Seiler, and Steve Wind. Also in attendance was Finance Director Ellen Volkening.

President Pickett stated that the purpose of the public hearing was to discuss the proposed 2010-2011 Appropriations Ordinance. He stated that notice of the hearing was published in the Daily Herald on July 8, 2010 and also posted on the same day.

William and Janet Paarlberg of Crane Drive were present and read a statement concerning support of the police department at its current staffing levels, and stated that they were not in favor of a possible consolidation with the East and West Dundee Police Departments.

There were no other members of the public present.

The public hearing closed at 7:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Norine Olson
Village Clerk

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VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

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The regular meeting of the Sleepy Hollow Corporate Authorities was called to order at 7:35 p.m. at the Sleepy Hollow Village Hall. Board members in attendance were President Stephen Pickett, Trustees Scott Finney, Russell Getz, Jeff Seiler, Steve Wind, and Donald Ziemba. Trustee Dennis Fudala was absent. Also in attendance were Police Sgt. Susan Wilson and Finance Director Ellen Volkening.

MINUTES

1. Ziemba moved with a second from Wind to approve the Village Board Meeting Minutes of July 6, 2010. Motion passed unanimously.

PRESIDENT

1. We should receive a status report on the police study of the Sleepy Hollow, West Dundee, and East Dundee Police Departments.

CLERK

1. No report.

PLAN COMMISSION

1. Chairman Carol Schoengart reported on their recent meeting. She said the Plan Commission no longer wishes to have the responsibility of sign approval. They will be working on a zoning appearance code in the future. The Commission also unanimously approved the new sign for 3 Vines Cafe. Wind moved with a second from Getz to approve the sign for 3 Vines Cafe. Motion unanimously approved.

ZONING COMMISSION

No report.

ZBA

No report.

ATTORNEY

1. The Village Attorney has advised that the deadline to approve an ordinance for a November referendum has been changed to August 16th. The filing date with the county remains the same. The Board must decide if the Village wishes to go to referendum, and for what amount. The Board needs clarification from Mr. Schuster as to whether any increase in the "limiting rate" will revert back to the previous rate and another referendum will be required. Trustee Finney feels we should make every attempt to increase Village revenue in order to minimize the amount to request in a referendum. He distributed a multi-page document and again reviewed all sources of revenue and the possibility of increasing these sources. He asked that the finance department confirm that we have reached the cap on all utility taxes. Trustee Finney also reviewed various scenarios for different referendum amounts and also prepared a referendum rate increase analysis for both the general and police funds based on different increase percentages. He then showed the potential tax increase for one home based on increases of \$100, 200 and 300,000, along with a graph showing potential increases based on various home values. Trustee Finney feels the Village should request more than is necessary for just the police department in order to cover capital improvements for the Village. If a referendum fails, he suggested we do not fill the positions in Public Works and the front office and increase vehicle stickers.

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Trustee Ziemba questioned if the increase in vehicle stickers could be put as a referendum question. It could probably be listed as non-binding question. There was discussion on using the funds received from increased vehicle stickers, where the law requires that the funds are to be used for roads, but up to 35% may be allocated for police services.

Finney moved with a second from Wind that we direct the Village Attorney to prepare the necessary referendum documents for the next election in the target amount of \$200,000. Aye: Finney, Wind. Nay: Getz, Seiler, Ziemba. Motion did not pass.

Trustee Ziemba stated that he has previously recommended cuts to the budget, which have not been done, and he does not believe taxes should be raised when expense cuts have not been made.

ENGINEER

1. The projects update report was reviewed.
2. The engineer's cost estimate for 2010 street program was reviewed with an estimated total cost of \$99,263, which includes engineer's fees of \$10,635. This amount is in the budget. This program is for patching on several streets. Seiler moved with a second from Getz to authorize the engineer to proceed to prepare the bid documents for the proposed patching list. Aye: Seiler, Getz, Finney, Wind, Ziemba. Motion passed.
3. The engineer reviewed the detention pond west of Randall Road. The water is lower and there does not seem to be a problem on the west side. There is a 12" plugged underground drain on Jamestowne that will require use of the jetter to open it up, and should help the flow. Because there are two ponds that flow into the third detention pond which then releases the water to Sleepy Hollow, the water continues to flow for some time after any rains. The engineer should have a further report as he is waiting for information from the engineers for the property.

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

1. Ziemba moved with a second from Seiler to approve the accounts payable of July 19, 2010 in the amount of \$113,271.41. Aye: Ziemba, Seiler, Finney, Getz, Wind. Motion passed.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

1. Janet Paarlberg of Crane Drive asked the Board if they knew the vehicle sticker rates charged by other towns in the area. She asked that the Board put aside differences and look at what is best for the community and its future. William Paarlberg spoke in favor of keeping the police force but felt it would be difficult to pass a referendum at this time.
2. Carol Grom of Hilltop Lane spoke on the budget deficit and said residents are asking questions concerning the current Village financials, including the budget and reserve fund, and asked that this information be available on the Village website. She said residents also want to know what will happen if the police force is reduced and what they can expect for police protection. Residents are also asking why a referendum has not been proposed sooner if the Village is experiencing such serious financial problems.
3. Ben Schnell of Carpentersville complained about a Village employee's actions toward him while driving a Village vehicle.
4. Jim Hendricks of Surrey Lane is opposed to reducing the police force and to residents making donations to support the department. He feels the reserve fund should be used if the budget shortfall is temporary. If it is not temporary he wants to know why. He also questioned if we can continue as a

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village if we cannot support a police force. He also noted several criminal activities that have occurred in his neighborhood since the possibility of a police reduction became public.

5. Carol Schoengart of Willow Lane asked why certain board members voted against the referendum. She also asked about the Board's option to abate taxes even if a referendum passes.

6. Tom Hrinowich of Acorn Drive objected to a referendum or an increase in vehicle stickers when the Village has not made the finance statements or other information available to residents for review.

7. Sue Harney of Timber Drive asked the Board to hold a public meeting to advise residents of the entire situation and answer questions. She is against a reduction of the police force and feels it will be catastrophic to the Village and increase crime and reduce property values. She feels residents should be made aware of the entire financial situation including the possible reductions in police.

PARKS, ROADS AND STREETS

No report.

FINANCE

1. Trustee Ziemba briefly compared the current monthly financials to last year's.

2. Ziemba moved with a second from Finney to approve Ordinance No. 2010-10 entitled "Appropriation Ordinance". Total appropriations for the fiscal year are \$2,950,340, which includes a deficit of \$178,000 at the end of the year. The line items in this ordinance are the maximum amount the Village can, but does not have to, spend. Aye: Finney, Wind. Nay: Getz, Seiler, Ziemba. Motion did not pass. President Pickett stated that we must pass the appropriation ordinance by the end of this month per Illinois statute. It was noted that appropriations are increased 10% from the budget. Trustee Ziemba stated that he would agree to the appropriation ordinance with the reduction of one full time police officer. Trustee Wind argued that there should be two officers on duty at all times so that all officers have back up. Trustee Finney noted we have the lowest paid officers and among the highest residential income in the area. There was discussion on the police budget and reduction issue. Trustee Ziemba suggested the police budget be lowered by 10% which will take it down to the actual budget amount. Ziemba moved with a second from Finney to approve Ordinance No. 2010-10 entitled "Appropriation Ordinance" in the total amount of \$2,852,570. Aye: Ziemba, Finney, Getz, Wind. Nay: Seiler. Motion passed.

3. Copies of the current balance sheets for the Village were distributed to members of the audience.

WATER AND SEWER

No report.

POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

1. Sgt. Wilson reported that there were 11 incidents of property damage very early in the morning on June 26 on the east side of the Village. There were several similar incidents the same night in West Dundee. There have been no arrests.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND ENVIRONMENTAL

No report.

BUILDING AND ZONING ENFORCEMENT

No report.

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OLD BUSINESS


1. The open office position was reviewed and possible part time options were presented. Use of a temporary staffing agency would be more expensive than hiring someone. Ziemba moved with a second from Getz to authorize the Finance Director to look for a part time office person for 25 hours per week at \$10.50 per hour. Motion passed.
2. Last meeting's motion on benefits to non-union full time employees was clarified. Non-union employees will receive an additional floating holiday, bringing the total floating holidays to four. All other information on holidays will remain the same in the personnel manual for non-union employees.
3. Twin Oaks Church responded to our agreement and invoice by saying they do not wish the police traffic services if they have to pay. Seiler moved with a second from Wind to immediately stop all police services to the church until further notice. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Universal Adcom is offering 200 free magnets to the Village, paid for by the advertisers on the magnet. Wind moved with a second from Ziemba to accept the free magnets offer from Universal Adcom. Motion passed unanimously.
2. The Board said the balance sheet and budget can be posted on the Village website. The posted budget will have the \$100,00 back in as revenue from the State.

Seiler moved with a second from Getz to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Norine Olson
Village Clerk