

VILLAGE OF SLEEPY HOLLOW
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 7, 2011

The regular meeting of the Sleepy Hollow Corporate Authorities was called to order at 7:30 p.m. at the Sleepy Hollow Village Hall. Board members in attendance were President Stephen Pickett, Trustees Scott Finney, Dennis Fudala, Russell Getz, Jeff Seiler, Steve Wind, and Donald Ziemba. Also in attendance were Police Chief Jim Montalbano, Finance Director Ellen Volkening, Village Attorney Mark Schuster, and Village Engineer Mark Reimers.

MINUTES

1. Ziemba moved with a second from Fudala to approve the Village Board Meeting Minutes of February 21, 2011. Motion passed unanimously.

PRESIDENT

No report.

CLERK

1. Articles for the next newsletter were requested.

PLAN COMMISSION

No report.

ZONING BOARD

No report.

ZBA

No report.

ATTORNEY

1. Mr. Schuster noted our letter sent to Advance Auto and their response regarding services offered. It was the consensus of the Board that no further concessions should be made and Attorney Schuster will reply to Advance Auto.

ENGINEER

1. The 2011 street program has been approved by IDOT. Wind moved with a second from Seiler to appropriate \$200,000 from the MFT account as funding for the purpose of maintenance of village streets, approve the Municipal Estimate of Maintenance Costs in the amount of \$188,036.28 which includes engineering of \$19,535.13 which the Village intends to pay with other than MFT funds, authorize the village president and clerk to execute all necessary IDOT MFT forms, and authorize the clerk to advertise for bids. Aye: Wind, Seiler, Finney, Fudala, Getz, Ziemba. Motion passed. The bid opening is April 5.
2. It was the Engineer's recommendation that we institute the road weight restrictions. Ziemba moved with a second from Fudala to approve Ordinance No. 2011-1, An Ordinance Establishing Temporary 60-Day Vehicle Weight Limits for all Vehicles Traveling on or using any Streets or Roads Within the Village of Sleepy Hollow, Kane County, Illinois. Aye: Ziemba, Fudala, Finney, Getz, Seiler, Wind. Motion passed.
3. Mr. Reimers noted that ICCI has not issued the final occupancy permit to Advance Auto as they have not yet completed several items required by the engineer.

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DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

1. Ziamba moved with a second from Wind to approve the accounts payable of March 7, 2011 in the amount of \$71,625.23. Aye: Ziamba, Wind, Finney, Fudala, Getz, and Seiler. Motion passed.

Dr. Ludwig of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) was present to answer questions concerning the deer and chronic wasting disease.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

1. Walter Heffron of Van Tassel read a statement objecting to the deer killing, and referred to the wildlife sanctuary designation in the Village which prohibits the killing of wildlife, noting that the killing of deer would destroy the peaceful character of the Village and negate the efforts to create a peaceful refuge for residents and wildlife.
2. Mona Auer of Sleepy Hollow Road read a statement also objecting, noting the wildlife sanctuary designation and referred to the specific ordinances of the Village prohibiting wildlife killing, and use of firearms. She does not feel the killing to test deer is justified.
3. William Ahlman of West Dundee discussed the chronic wasting disease and does not feel the killing of deer to test for the disease is helpful to prevent the spread of the disease. He disputed the statements of the DNR regarding the disease and their procedures for killing the deer.
4. Sally Fohrman of Sharon Drive asked the Board to save the deer.
5. Mary Piper of Sharon Drive asked how many deer are in the Village. She objects to hunting in the Village for the deer.
6. Linda Fagan of Anne Court objects to any deer killing and enjoys the deer in her yard.
7. Terry Morris of Anne Court enjoys the deer and asked about the symptoms of chronic wasting disease.
8. Bill Paarlberg of Crane Drive enjoys the deer. He also stated that we need and cannot lose our police department.
9. Tom Merkel of Thorobred Lane objects to the deer killing and to hunting. He and his son walk the open areas south and north of the Village Hall and have noted signs of possible hunting. He also noted that Village entryways are in need of maintenance and suggested the new garden committee get volunteers to maintain those areas.
10. Ken Haas of Timber Drive wished everyone present could have heard the IDNR presentation at the Environmental Committee meeting and said Dr. Ludwig wants to protect the population of the deer.
11. Joe Golot of Walnut Drive noted that signs of later stage chronic wasting disease are pretty obvious. He said he has seen evidence of coyotes killing the deer and that it may not be hunters killing deer. He feels the deer population in the Village is much too high and not healthy. He questioned if the disease could mutate to humans.
12. Lee Brotche of Hilltop Lane distributed a CDC report on chronic wasting disease and its potential transmission to humans. He said studies show it is communicable to humans but there are no documented cases of the disease in humans.
13. Evelyn (Carol) Grom of Hilltop Lane noted she is an animal lover and environmentalist and supports the wildlife sanctuary ordinance. She said there is substantial research on the disease and feels we must support this research of the biologists. She noted that an aerial survey showed 110 deer in the open area south of the Village Hall which is too high and CWD is more prevalent in high deer populations. She feels the testing is the right thing to do.

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PARKS, ROADS AND STREETS

1. Getz moved with a second from Ziemba to approve the purchase of 800 tons of salt through the Illinois State Joint Purchase Requisition. Aye: Getz, Ziemba, Finney, Fudala, Seiler, Wind. Motion passed. This is for next year's salt purchases.
2. Village stickers are due April 30, which is a Saturday. Getz moved with a second from Ziemba to authorize Village staff overtime on Saturday, April 30th from 8 am to 1 pm. Aye: Getz, Ziemba, Finney, Fudala, Seiler, Wind. Motion passed.
3. Trustee Finney suggested the Village increase vehicle sticker fees by \$5-7, which would add over \$11,000 in revenue that could be used to help restore the eliminated police shift. Trustee Getz suggested this issue be raised for next year's stickers. President Pickett suggested this be discussed in the current budgeting process.

FINANCE

1. Trustee Ziemba noted that he has not received trustee requests for capital improvement projects. He said the Finance Committee will review this at their meeting and make recommendations.
2. Trustee Ziemba reviewed the monthly statements, noting the water fund is currently at a surplus and has paid back the general fund. The sewer fund also has a surplus at this time.
3. Employee performance evaluations will be discussed at the next meeting.

WATER AND SEWER

1. Water efficiency is currently at 74%. There was recently another water main break which was apparently leaking for some time. The Board briefly discussed the history of leaks and tracking the efficiency of the water usage. Trustee Ziemba suggested the Village may wish to build up cash reserves to fund projects.

POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

1. The Board discussed instituting regulations to impose a fee for towing of vehicles in the Village. Surrounding villages already charge towing fees. A \$500 fee was suggested, which would be paid to the Village. Mr. Schuster noted that a process must be established for hearings if the towing charge is contested and training and use of a hearing officer would be necessary. The Village currently tows about 7 cars per month, which could substantial increase revenue to the Village. Wind moved with a second from Getz to authorize the Village Attorney to prepare an ordinance instituting the new towing fees. Mr. Schuster briefly noted the additional offenses that could be part of the towing process. Motion passed unanimously.

BUILDING AND ZONING ENFORCEMENT

No report.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND ENVIRONMENTAL

1. Trustee Finney thanked Dr. Ludwig for attending the Environmental Committee and for his information on chronic wasting disease. He noted the large number of deer counted in the open space survey and explained that the testing is necessary as the disease is more prevalent in higher deer populations. In addition, this disease was not a factor when the Village established the wildlife sanctuary ordinance 50 years ago. Mr. Finney feels the testing is necessary based on the data and evidence they have received for the health and safety of the deer and environment. He noted that

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Illinois has an extensive program on chronic wasting disease. Finney moved with a second from Ziemba to approve Ordinance No. 2011-2 entitled "An Ordinance Amending Title 2: Police Regulations Section 4-3-7 Re Hunting of Animals in the Village." President Pickett read the entire ordinance for the members of the public in attendance. Trustee Wind asked Dr. Ludwig about the deer population and he responded that there are about 482 deer in the 25 square mile area around Binnie Woods, which is quite high. He said they need to sample the deer to help prevent the spread of the disease in Northern Illinois. Trustee Finney requested that the language in the ordinance be strengthened to ensure that general hunting is not permitted. Changes were suggested to one sentence. Finney moved with a second from Ziemba to amend the previous motion to modify the language of Section 4-3-7. Trustee Wind acknowledged that this is a very emotional issue for the residents. He noted that this area has the second largest population of chronic wasting in the nation and feels this testing is necessary to protect the herd. On amendment: Motion passed.

On main motion: Aye: Finney, Ziemba, Getz, Seiler, Wind. Nay: Fudala. Motion passed.

2. Finney moved with a second from Seiler to permit the IDNR to sample the deer population in the Village for chronic wasting disease. Motion passed with Fudala voting nay.
3. The community garden is making progress and a summary will be available in a few weeks.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Trustee Ziemba noted that with the 7% population reduction in the census, there should be an equal reduction in state income tax and MFT funds. State income tax could be \$ 20-25,000 less and MFT down about \$7,000. There were brief Board comments on this issue.

NEW BUSINESS

1. President Pickett said a resident has requested a notice on the water bill concerning an action group forming for a sound barrier along Randall Road. There was concern about setting a precedent in allowing residents to have free advertising on the water bill and Mr. Schuster suggested we set guidelines for what can be placed on the water bill. Guidelines should also be established on what is permitted in the newsletter or placed on the website when using public funds.

Wind moved with a second from Getz to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Norine Olson
Village Clerk