

VILLAGE OF SLEEPY HOLLOW
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 17, 2011

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, Joseph Nemec, Jeff Seiler, and Donald Ziemba. Trustee Dennis Fudala was absent. Also in attendance were Police Chief Jim Montalbano and Finance Director Ellen Volkening.

MINUTES

1. Ziemba moved with a second from Seiler to approve the Village Board Meeting Minutes of October 3, 2011. On page 2, second paragraph of public comments, "Wickes" should be changed to "Homelife", and under paragraph 1 of Water, change "road" to "project". Motion passed unanimously.

PRESIDENT

1. President Pickett explained the Economic Development Area ("EDA") created for Sears over 20 years ago which diverted taxes paid by Sears that would have gone to School District 300, but instead are given to Hoffman Estates for their use. District 300 would receive approximately \$14,000,000 annually were it not for the EDA. There is an amendment to a current Senate Bill that will extend this EDA for another 15 years (it is set to expire soon). President Pickett met with area municipalities and District 300 officials on this matter and a joint resolution has been prepared opposing the amendment to extend the EDA. Nemec moved with a second from Ziemba to approve Resolution No. 429 entitled "Joint Resolution of the Community Unit School District 300 Communities' Opposition of Amendment 3 of Senate Bill 540." Motion passed unanimously.

2. President Pickett informed the Board that there is a proposed House Bill that would divert the municipalities' portion of the Corporate Personal Property Replacement Tax to fund salaries and benefits for 44 regional school superintendents in the state. These funds would normally come to the municipalities. President Pickett has sent letters to several area representatives asking them to oppose this bill.

Finney moved with a second from Nemec to amend the agenda to move the hiring of police officers to now. Motion passed unanimously.

Two candidates were presented for part time police officer positions. Finney moved with a second from Seiler to approve the hiring of Dwayne Wheeler and Michael Gnuechtel as part time police officers, effective immediately. Motion passed unanimously. The officers were given the oath of office by the clerk.

CLERK

1. Nemec moved with a second from Getz to approve the sale of Christmas trees by Hafeman's Evergreens at Randy's Vegetables from November 22 - December 22, 2011. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Comments on the draft newsletter were requested as soon as possible.

PLAN COMMISSION

No report.

ZONING BOARD

No report.

ZBA

No report.

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ATTORNEY

No report.

ENGINEER

No report.

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

1. Ziemba moved with a second from Nemec to approve the accounts payable of October 17, 2011 in the amount of \$88,324.78. Aye: Ziemba, Nemec, Getz, Finney, Seiler. Motion passed.
2. Ziemba moved with a second from Getz to approve Resolution No. 430 authorizing the opening of a certificate of deposit at PNC Bank. Aye: Ziemba, Getz, Finney, Nemec, Seiler. Motion passed.
3. A memo was reviewed regarding holiday office closings, which will be November 25 and 26, and December 26 and January 3. Ziemba moved with a second from Seiler to approve the office closings per the memo of October 14, 2011. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

1. Walt Heffron of Van Tassel Road read a statement asking the Board to continue the prohibition against brick mailboxes for safety reasons. He has seen no evidence presented why the restrictions should be removed and does not believe the postal regulations on this issue have been researched.

PARKS, ROADS AND STREETS

No report.

FINANCE

1. The review of financial statements was deferred to the next meeting.

WATER AND SEWER

1. Upon digging the pit in the area of 106 Thorobred, it was discovered that a 24" sewer drain was going into a 6" drain and had collapsed. It will be reconfigured to flow as smoothly as possible. The line was traced to across the street but it will not be connected to the creek.
2. There were no contractors interested in doing the Jamestowne Court swale project and it may have to wait until next spring for completion.
3. The residents at 757 Sycamore re-graded their swales on their own with no village assistance in order to alleviate the problems caused by another resident who is discharging his sump pump into the swales. In regrading, the residents incurred substantial water/sewer bills during the work and subsequent watering and have requested help from the village. Seiler moved with a second from Ziemba to give a one-time credit of \$140 to the residents at 757 Sycamore on their October 7, 2011 bill. Motion passed unanimously.

POLICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

1. Trustee Finney gave a report on the police vehicles. There are five squad cars in use (plus the "Kid Kar") with mileage ranging from about 33,000 to 111,000 miles. A total of approximately 9-10,000 miles are added in total to the cars each month. Cars are replaced at 100-120,000 miles, and we have been purchasing a new vehicle every year. If the village were to eliminate one vehicle, the only

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effect financially might be insurance costs, which are combined with other village liability insurance, so it is unknown what the vehicle cost is separately. If we eliminate a vehicle, we would also put more miles on the remaining vehicles, which would shorten their life span. Mr. Finney does not feel there is a savings benefit to eliminating a vehicle and we should keep them as long as possible. He also noted that Ford will not be producing the squad car (Crown Victoria) much longer and the village will incur additional costs when a new manufacturer is chosen. He also suggested we may want to consider purchasing an SUV which could also be used by public works also.

2. Finney moved with a second from Seiler to accept the resignation of Officer Steven Rodeback. Motion passed with Nemec abstaining.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND ENVIRONMENTAL

1. There was not a quorum for last week's Environmental Committee meeting. There is another meeting on November 14 when Dr. Ludwig will make a presentation and update the Committee on deer sampling.
2. The grant funded walking path is proceeding. However, a bridge must be built over a dry ravine and the Service Club will be asked to help with that project.

BUILDING AND ZONING ENFORCEMENT

1. Trustee Finney commented on the numerous ordinance violations and deteriorating look of the village. He related a recent incident where a disabled child was found in a pool of a home in foreclosure that had 3' of standing water and suggested the village review foreclosed homes to see if any have pools or other dangerous situations (the child was fine). We may be able to put liens on foreclosed homes for grass cutting and collect when the foreclosure is completed. Paying for enforcement of the ordinances would be quite costly to the village and is probably not an option at this time.

OLD BUSINESS


1. Trustee Ziembra feels we are doing too much work on the mailbox issue.
2. On asking, Trustee Seiler was advised that the State sets the prevailing wage hourly amounts.
3. Trustee Seiler asked about the community garden and was informed that it was successful; this should be included in the newsletter.
4. There is no new meeting set on the part time police union.

NEW BUSINESS

1. No report.

Finney moved with a second from Seiler to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Norine Olson
Village Clerk