

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
VILLAGE OF PHILO, ILLINOIS
November 9, 2011

The meeting was called to order by President Craig Eckert at 7.00 p.m. at the R.E. Franks Meeting Center in the Eileen Painter room.

ROLL CALL: Present-Trustees Mumma, Franks, Sappenfield, Pioletti, Garrett and Brady.

GUESTS: Jim Holz, Christine Walsh, Dave Laker, Sue Laker, Herschel Hammerschmidt, Rod Schweighart, Paul Hendren, David Phillippe, Susan Helmink and Dave Traxler.

MINUTES: Trustee Pat Pioletti made a motion, seconded by Trustee Larry Franks, to approve the minutes of October 12, 2011. Voice vote; all "aye's," motion carried unanimously.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Trustee Pioletti made a motion, seconded by Trustee Franks to approve the accounts payable as presented. Roll call vote; "aye's", Trustees Mumma, Franks, Sappenfield, Pioletti, Garrett and Brady. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESIDENT ECKERT: Craig apologized to the Board again stating he was embarrassed about the no bid for the CASE tractor. He noted that he spoke with Jeff Wheeler at CASE, who explained that CASE dealers cannot bid against one another. Dave Traxler also indicated to President Eckert that we needed the CASE brand to fit other equipment we already had. Craig said he respected Trustee Franks' vote, understood about Trustee Pioletti being unsure of which way to vote and respected the discussion.

President Eckert then introduced and gave the floor to Jim Holz from MSA.

JIM HOLZ: In regard to the survey, there was a lot of support for a sanitary sewer system. Residents also wanted a grocery store, another restaurant, park improvements, sidewalks and a pool. The issue is how to fund resident's needs, since we usually aren't eligible for seed grant programs based on income. About 75% responded to the income survey. Another need was for a safe route to school, a plan for sidewalks, trail or cross walks to make safer streets. A street improvement plan, based on conditions, also storm water issues is funding for street water problems and parks depend on amenities.

President Eckert commented that a 72-73% is an excellent response rate with respect to the Philo community survey. While many funding agencies require a response rate of 80%, Philo has such a low percentage of residents in the low- to moderate-income category that falling short of 80% is really kind of a moot point. When he ran again for President the last time, he wanted to leave some kind of comprehensive plan, a roadmap and an action plan (for the Village) to have in place to meet its goals in the near and long term. This entailed spending money, time and effort on the village survey and will culminate with focus groups' weighing in on the community's future.

Mr. Holz stated funding agencies look at a Comp Plan. Say a new grant program comes out and villages scramble to get information. When President Obama introduced stimulus funding, agencies were looking for “shovel ready plans.” If prepared, those communities that have such plans in place are usually rewarded. Trustee Mumma asked if they (comprehensive plans) are required. Jim responded that funding agencies like to see them. Trustee Brady asked if they could take a portion of the 20 year plan. Mr. Holz responded they can take a chapter out of the plan. The survey was somewhat of a vision, a comprehensive plan figures out how to get there. Trustee Brady said he “got lost a bit” but feels a plan would be beyond the board’s ability and that they should hire a firm. Jim Holz indicated they are a facilitator; they identify the needs or wants and the action items.

Trustee Mumma commented that Craig Eckert’s work was excellent, nobody will argue about sanitary sewer system, drainage and good streets, but the fact is we don’t have money for the plan and other studies. We would have a wish list, but no money to do the projects. John understands that you usually have to spend money to make money and maybe that is what it takes. President Eckert said Eastern is going through the same process. They are skeptical, but know it is helpful to share ideas. Trustee Mumma said a good example was the water system. Trustee Franks spoke up and said we have committees, like the Streets and Alleys Committee. He feels we should do it “the poor man’s way.” Jim Holz said someone still needs to coordinate the information. We don’t know when grants are coming. Mr. Holz said it is in our hands, but the information needs to be on paper. He’s found this brings communities together. Trustee Franks suggested partnering with them, but felt committees would be able to do ground work. Trustee Pioletti thought the Village could use pieces of the comprehensive plan. There was no action at the meeting tonight, but it was suggested Mr. Holz prepare a scope of services for a comprehensive plan for the Board to review. Dave Laker stated there is a lot of event funding available, politicians at all levels and that a lot of funding doesn’t get spent. President Eckert stated 1) he wished he could get his “hourly rate” for the amount of time he has spend with local, state and federal representatives trying to obtain funding for village projects and the sale of the water system. President Eckert hoped that the survey would be put to use, hoping that it would provide needed input towards a comprehensive plan, so 10 to 20 years out the Village has a road map in place. As he noted, small to large business needs to have a long range plan; it seems logical that local government’s do as well. Still he conceded that \$30,000 is a lot of money. It would be unfortunate, however, not to use the data collected from Village residents in a worthwhile manner. Trustee Sappenfield indicated we can’t make a decision tonight, but agreed Jim should prepare an outline with a time frame and suggested we take action at the next regular meeting, which would be January, since December is an abbreviated meeting. Steve agreed we need something on paper.

VILLAGE ENGINEER: The only item Dave P. had was to clarify the July minutes of the Plan Commission. The water line in question is owned by Aqua not by the Village and no action is required by the Village Board. The Plan Commission will be asked to correct their minutes.

VILLAGE ATTORNEY: Paul stated that at the last meeting the Board asked his office to prepare a specific draft of a parking ordinance. This was prepared by Mr. Hendren and sent to

the Trustees for review. After a brief discussion, Trustee Mumma made a motion, seconded by Trustee Franks to approve Ordinance #570, An Ordinance Regulating the Parking of Motor Vehicles on Public Streets in Excess of 72 Continuous Hours. Roll call vote; "ayes," Trustees Mumma, Franks, Sappenfield, Garrett and Brady. "Nay," Trustee Pioletti. Motion passed 5 to 1.

Paul updated the Board in regard to the Comcast franchise agreement. He said the most recent changes are provisions to clarify more clearly whatever ordinance we have now or future construction would apply. He stated Sidney is planning to approve the franchise agreement at its next meeting. No action is required of the Board tonight and Paul indicated he will keep the Board apprised of any addition information.

In regard to the question on zoning prohibiting chickens, President Eckert stated he sent a letter to the residents, but hasn't received any response. Trustee Mumma made a motion, seconded by Trustee Franks, to direct attorney Hendren write a letter to same resident. Voice vote; all "aye's," motion carried unanimously.

A letter was sent to Burgess' and the Highsmith issue was passed on to Mr. Green.

DAVE TRAXLER: The last brush pick-up will be December 1st, weather permitting. All of the brush has been burned. Dave reported all equipment is ready to go. For the Clean-Up Day five dumpsters were filled. He had ordered four with two on reserve. The street sign at Roosevelt and Cleveland has been taken care of.

OLD BUSINESS:

President Eckert indicated he will keep everyone posted on the Robert B. Rice post office issue.

Trustee Brady through Susan Helmink's article in the November *Newsletter* informed residents that distressed trees will be taken down as money allows.

Friends of Santa: Trustee Franks made a motion, seconded by Trustee Mumma to donate \$250.00 to the Friends of Santa. Roll call vote; "aye's," Trustees Mumma, Franks, Sappenfield, Pioletti, Garrett and Brady. Motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Pioletti will answer a follow-up survey in regard to the lighting grant.

Trustee Pioletti presented information regarding the bids for painting the Hugs & Bugs rooms. The criteria are a single coat of paint with the exception of two coats of paint on the green areas with work to be completed between Christmas and New Years. Trustee Mumma made a motion, seconded by Trustee Sappenfield, to approve the bid from Cutting Edge in the amount of \$588.00. Roll call vote; "aye's," Trustees Mumma, Franks, Sappenfield, Pioletti, Garrett and Brady. Motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Brady does not feel there is a fire hazard in the storage room.

NEW BUSINESS:

Attorney Hendren reminded the Board that the Tax Levy must be passed at our December meeting. The levy can be up to \$84,350. He asked the Board where they wanted the 1.5% increase (over the 2011 levy) to be designated. The Board directed Mr. Hendren to allocate the increase to the General Fund.

Susan Helmink presented her monthly REFMC report. She also presented the Board with a request for two new carts. Trustee Franks made a motion, seconded by Trustee Pioletti, to purchase two carts at a cost of \$410.00 plus shipping. Roll call vote; “aye’s,” Trustees Mumma, Franks, Sappenfield, Pioletti, Garrett and Brady. Motion passed unanimously.

Attorney Hendren discussed the process of accepting the gift from Bob Rice’s estate. Trustee Pioletti made a motion, seconded by Trustee Brady, to pass Resolution 2011-1, a Resolution of Acceptance of Deed to Post Office Property at 126 W. Washington Street, Philo, Illinois, from the Robert B. Rice Estate, pursuant to the Last Will and Testament of Robert B. Rice, Deceased. Roll call vote; “aye’s,” Trustees Mumma, Franks, Sappenfield, Pioletti, Garrett and Brady. Motion passed unanimously.

President Eckert reminded the Board of the Holiday Dinner immediately following the 6:30 p.m. meeting December 14, 2011. Clerk Kirby will mail out invitations.

MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION:

Trustee Brady – Asked if the Village can name the post office building even if naming the post office must be approved by Congress

Trustee Garrett – Nothing

Trustee Pioletti – Nothing

Clerk Kirby – Nothing

Trustee Sappenfield – Nothing

Trustee Franks – Nothing

Trustee Mumma – Nothing

TREASURER SCHWEIGHART: Rod informed the Board that he let two Certificates of Deposit “roll” since funds weren’t needed. He also indicated he located all the original Certificates of Deposit discussed at the last meeting.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: Trustee Franks made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Mumma.

VILLAGE CLERK

VILLAGE PRESIDENT