

## **April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012 Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

Meeting called to order at the Village of Hainesville Council Chambers by Mayor Linda Soto at 7:01 p.m.

Mayor Linda Soto led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Deputy Clerk Roseann Stark took roll call. The following Officials were present: Mayor Linda Soto, Trustees Derenoski, Kriese, Duberstein, Barrett and Daley

Absent: Trustee Gary Walkington, Village Clerk Kathy Metzler, Treasurer Kelly Hensley, Public Works Superintendent Jeff Gately, Village Attorney Jim Rock and Village Engineer Greg Gruen

### **Establishment of quorum**

Mayor Soto announced that Trustee Walkington would not be present due to work.

### **Agenda Approval:**

Trustee Derenoski motioned to approve the agenda as presented; seconded by Trustee Barrett.

### **Roll Call:**

**Ayes:** Trustees Derenoski, Kriese, Duberstein, Barrett and Daley

**Absent:** Trustee Walkington

Motion carried.

### **Public comments:**

There was no public comment.

### **Omnibus Vote Agenda**

1. A Motion to Approve the April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
2. A Motion to Approve the April 2012 Bills Payable for \$54,117.25

Trustee Derenoski motioned to approve the Omnibus Vote Agenda as presented; seconded by Trustee Kriese.

### **Roll Call:**

**Ayes:** Trustees Derenoski, Kriese, Duberstein, Barrett and Daley

**Absent:** Trustee Walkington

Motion carried.

### **Mayors Announcements**

Mayor Linda Soto stated that Village Clerk Kathy Metzler had minor surgery on Friday on her knee and work done on her shoulder. It went well but she ended up spending the night at the hospital because of concerns with her breathing. The Mayor was happy to report that she went home with a clean bill of health on Saturday and started physical therapy on Monday. The Mayor spoke with Kathy's husband. The Village bought her dinner at Tang's Chinese

Food. Kathy will try to come in on Wednesday for a couple of hours. The Village is closed to the public so it will be a good day for her to come back.

The Mayor mentioned the article in the Daily Herald regarding the recent Route 53/120 Blue Ribbon Planning Council. Mayor Soto attended. The Mayor stated that they are still committed to sticking to a tight timeline in getting a concept plan that the Illinois Tollway Authority can work with by May 10<sup>th</sup>. It will be interesting to accomplish. There is a strong stance being taken by the environmentalists. The article quoted Mayor Soto because she spoke at the March 12<sup>th</sup> meeting and reiterated that Hainesville takes pride in being conscientious of the environment but the purpose of government is the common good. All things have to be taken into consideration. It was hard to hear the council spend most of their time talking about endangered species and sensitive land areas because the Mayor never once heard a concern or statement expressed about other endangered species such as middle income families, employers and jobs. The Mayor stated at the meeting that Lake County is quickly becoming a land of the wealthy and very poor. This project is pivotal and the Mayor hopes it can move forward. The Mayor added that it is encouraging that the Illinois Tollroad Authority is present and they want to do the project and believe they can do it. Mayor Soto stated that the meetings are open to the public. This second one was not at a convenient time and she hopes they find more convenient times for the meetings.

Mayor Soto stated that another item brought up at the meeting is to get the Central Lake County communities such as Hainesville, Grayslake, the Round Lake communities and Volo together and take their comprehensive plans and look at them collectively from a regional aspect. She feels it is quite a task to take on with a May 10<sup>th</sup> deadline but she awaits that announcement and invitation.

Mayor Soto noted that the Village of Antioch is disbanding their dispatch center, which they had on their own, due to cost and effectiveness. They will be going with CenCom. The Mayor had some concerns because at the last JETS Board meeting there were a lot of unanswered questions. The JETS Board approved the budget for CenCom. The Mayor was sent a draft of a budget if Antioch came on board and one if they did not. Mayor Soto spoke with Lisa Berger and it turns out that the draft that included Antioch is null and void and the figures are wrong because the budget was written assuming that Antioch would be a participant immediately May 1<sup>st</sup>. However the earliest Antioch would be coming on board would be August 15<sup>th</sup> or end of September. Both the Police and Fire Chief of Antioch were present at the meeting. The Mayor stated that some good news is that the equipment in Antioch's dispatch center is the same equipment, furniture, stations that CenCom has now. When CenCom remodeled they had 2 stations that were not equipped but they do exist so Antioch can bring over the equipment to complete those stations and they would be immediately operable. This would be a significant part of their buy-in to joining CenCom.

Mayor Soto added that something not addressed or voted on at this JETS Board meeting is that Lake Villa Fire Rescue is tied into Antioch's 911 system. They have not made a decision to come to CenCom. If they do go elsewhere, it will be more involved for them because they will have to remove their phone lines. The Mayor will keep everyone posted. She feels that

Antioch coming to CenCom will be fine for the budget year but the real key to making it work will be the following year's budget. The buy-in is more than adequate.

The Mayor also suggested to the Trustees that the Board consider going to a once a month Board Meeting for June, July and August. She has spoken to several Mayors of smaller towns like Hainesville that have already done this due to a decrease in action items. Village business isn't as extensive right now because there is no development in the area. Years ago the Village had once a month Board meetings they went to twice a month because of development and numerous projects to accommodate the growth. The Mayor stated if this seems appropriate we would place this item on the May meeting agenda and the board would vote to authorize the Clerk to cancel three meetings over June, July and August. She stated that logic dictates is it really worth it for the Village to have the staff and herself go through preparing for a second packet for the amount of action items on the agenda at this time. Employees' time can be better utilized elsewhere and Trustees could pursue committee work. The Mayor spoke with Treasurer Kelly Hensley regarding approving Bills Payable. Kelly suggested having the one meeting on the fourth Tuesday of the month because every bill will be in and the Board will have a complete Bills Payable. The Mayor thought this was a valid point. Another suggestion would be to email the Bills Payable and get a consensus. The Mayor is concerned that not everyone is able to read their emails in a timely manner. The Mayor asked that the Trustees let her know their thoughts on this matter prior to the May Board meeting.

Trustee Daley asked if the ordinance would have to be changed. The Mayor stated that this is not permanent change. She is proposing that given what is up ahead and what they will need to work on does the Board want to vote at the May meeting to meet only once for June, July and August and authorize the clerk to cancel one of the meetings and then determine later if in September the Board will meet twice a month. The second meeting in May will be an EMA exercise otherwise that meeting would not be necessary. The Mayor is not proposing to change the ordinance at this time whatsoever.

### **Standing Committee Announcements**

Trustee Daley stated that the Trustees were given the new report that Kelly developed. It is a detailed budget. Dollar amounts do not need to be looked at because they have been approved already. He asked that the Trustees look at the layout of the report. If the Trustees have any changes, let Kelly know by the end of the month.

Trustees Duberstein reported that the Village hosted a citizen workshop last Saturday. It was busy and well organized. The organizers were appreciative of the layout and they put everything back the way it was originally and cleaned up. Trustee Duberstein stated that she told them the Village would be willing to work with them in the future. She guessed that 50 people were processed. It was a successful Saturday.

Mayor Soto added that she received a lot of thank yous that Hainesville took part in the workshop and she thanked Trustee Duberstein. The Mayor also stated that the Walgreen's photo manager let her know that many of the participants went to Walgreen's for passport

photos as part of the process. The Manager stated that if Hainesville does this again in the future to let them know so they can work something out so it flows better.

Trustee Duberstein added that next time the Village does the workshop she will contact the Daily Herald so Lake County community knows what Hainesville is doing. The Mayor stated that if Trustee Duberstein has photos of the event she could write a press release to the paper.

Trustee Derenoski stated that the Village has received \$8600 in sponsorships for Hainesville Fest. The sponsors have either maintained or raised the amount they have sponsored. They are putting together their second round of letters to all the hopefully new sponsors. Hainesville Fest is closer to paying for itself

## **Business**

### **A Motion to Approve Village Staff Compensation Increases Effective May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012**

Mayor Soto stated that this was accommodated for in the approved budget.

Trustee Daley motioned to approve Village Staff Compensation Increases Effective May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012; seconded by Trustee Barrett.

Trustee Duberstein stated that she appreciates the hard work, effort and attitude of the staff. This is no reflection on them; however, she doesn't feel that the economy has improved enough to justify the increase. She knows that dollar-wise it is not that much and it is in the budget but she doesn't think it looks good when there are people with homes in foreclosure that are unemployed and the Village is giving a 3% raise. Trustee Duberstein stated that she recommended at the most a 1 ½% raise but the Finance Committee wanted to do the 3%. She does not think this is the time to give that kind of a raise.

Trustee Derenoski stated that last year a 1 ½% raise was given and the year before there were no raises. He is of the opinion that this year a 3% is adequate and does not come out to be that much money. Also given what the staff does for the Village and we don't pay for a Village Manager which would be a significant cost to the Village. He believes what amounts to be \$7,000 for the year it is a bargain.

Mayor Soto noted that she understands where Trustee Duberstein is coming from and she thinks 3% sounds high when you say percentage and think of the business world but when you go down the list of employees, some which are seasonal help, if they all work the same amount of hours as last year and it shouldn't be more; possibly less, the total cost to the Village is \$7,002.28. She is proud to say that as challenging as the economy is the Village has done an excellent job of being conservative and continues to be conservative. Mayor Soto stated that she is pleased with the staff but the biggest comparison that she has between now and the last time she was mayor are the issues that the staff tries to help residents is nothing you can write into a job description. People are losing their homes, working more creatively with payment plans on utility bills. The staff is very patient and they take their fair share of abuse. People are angry and hurt and take it out on the staff. The Village is the first level of government they can kick so if they can blame the Village that they

are unemployed, they do. The Mayor understands and wishes she could do more for their employment but it isn't fully the Mayor's role. It is her role to speak up to higher government. When it is explained what amount of money is being talked about and past raises, she is comfortable with this raise.

Trustee Daley reminded everyone that other than a small portion of the employees' salary that goes to IMRF they have no benefits. They get a very small monthly stipend for health but that doesn't come near paying for health insurance. He thinks the 3% is well deserved and at \$7,000 for everyone's raise it is an expense the Village can easily afford.

Trustee Barrett stated that medical insurance for the employees cannot be touched. He looked into health insurance with the former Mayor through the top broker in Chicago and it would cost an average of \$20,000 - \$22,000 which would be the Village's contribution. He does not have a problem with 3% and the Village needs to be competitive with other communities otherwise there is employee poaching. He is not happy about giving raises but have to do it now as long as the cash is available to take care of the employees because they have been good to the Village.

Mayor Soto noted that for the record Trustee Walkington is in support of the 3% raise for the employees.

**Roll Call:**

**Ayes:** Trustees Derenoski, Kriese, Barrett and Daley

**Nays:** Trustee Duberstein

**Absent:** Trustee Walkington

**Motion carried.**

**Additional Discussion of Final Paint Color Options for the Water Tower**

Mayor Soto stated that she would like to narrow down the paint color options for the water tower and then Manhard will get more information on the paint cost and if there are any further recommendations from the paint companies.

Mayor Soto stated that #8 was the most popular choice. Trustee Duberstein liked #8 but she talked to a few people and wanted to see the design where all the accents were in white. Manhard sent a large picture with the white.

Mayor Soto discussed the different options. The reason for the collar being white or tan is so the cell antennas aren't as noticeable. White collar will show the algae, dust and crud and make it noticeable that is why the collar was in tan. Mayor Soto asked if the Trustees had any comments or suggestions.

Trustee Kriese asked if #8 could have a green collar. Mayor Soto stated that the antennas are white and would show.

Trustee Daley stated that he like #8 in tan.

Trustee Derenoski asked if the Village could get a quote on both.

Mayor Soto stated that Terry Grom and Rick Lever said there would not be a big price difference between painting in 2 colors or 3 colors. The cost is in the stenciling not in the white and tan paint.

Trustee Derenoski stated that he likes #8 in tan.

Trustee Barrett originally like #8 then he looked at #1 for the simplicity of it. It would be easier to paint the whole thing green and put the Hainesville logo which is consistent with the signs, letterhead, etc. It depends on what the painters come up with regarding price.

Mayor Soto stated that the Village can ask the painters to quote on both logo styles. Terry Grom guessed that the square logo would be more expensive because it is more detailed and smaller. From a distance the marsh grass is visible but the square logo will not be able to be seen.

Trustee Kriese asked if 1847 can be put on with the square design because none of the square designs have the date. Mayor Soto stated that the logo does not have the year but it can be put on below. She feels the year should be on the logo.

Trustee Daley stated that the Village should price #1 and #8.

Trustee Derenoski motioned to adjourn the April 24, 2012 Regular Board Meeting; seconded by Trustee Barrett.  
All in favor say aye, motion carried.

**The April 24, 2012 Regular Board Meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Roseann Stark  
Deputy Clerk