

**VILLAGE OF HINSDALE
VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
February 16, 2010**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Hinsdale Village Board of Trustees was called to order by President Tom Cauley in Memorial Hall of the Memorial Building on Tuesday, February 16, 2010 at 7:36 p.m.

Present: President Tom Cauley, Trustees J. Kimberley Angelo, Bob Saigh, Laura LaPlaca, Doug Geoga, Cindy Williams and Bob Schultz

Absent: None

Also Present: Village Attorney Ken Florey, Village Manager Dave Cook, Assistant Village Manager/Director of Finance Darrell Langlois, Acting Director of Community Development Robb McGinnis, Police Chief Brad Bloom, Fire Chief Mike Kelly, Director of Public Services George Franco and Deputy Village Clerk Christine Bruton

Also Present: Amy Deis representing The Doings, Christine Martin with the Tribune and Don Grigus, Suburban Life

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Cauley led those in attendance in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustees Saigh and Angelo and President Cauley asked for corrections to the minutes. Trustee Geoga moved **to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 1, 2010, as amended**. Trustee LaPlaca seconded the motion.

AYES: Trustees Angelo, Saigh, LaPlaca, Williams, Geoga, Schultz

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

CITIZENS' PETITIONS

Kathy Gartlan of 616 S. Lincoln Street addressed the Board in the matter of the cell antennae installation at the high school, she referenced materials she has provided the Board that support her position that this installation is a health risk to the students at the high school. She explained that more information is coming out on this matter and referenced articles in Prevention and GQ magazine about the dangers of proximity to cell towers. She believes there are other locations for the antenna and commented that a Village employee had suggested a location near Veeck Park. She will oppose a water tower site because of the danger to the water supply.

Mr. Richard Ciccarone of 733 S. Bodin Street, former Village Trustee, addressed the Board on the matter of public safety. He stated that response times are an important issue when it comes to saving lives and property, and referenced a ten minute benchmark. He drove from Clarendon Hills to Hinsdale as a test; he caught one train and it took six minutes—too close a margin. He suggested that if Clarendon Hills would open the gates in front of Lions Park Pool for emergency vehicles it would be helpful. He cautioned the Board to reduce public safety only if absolutely necessary.

President Cauley agreed that the road by Lions Park Pool is a crucial access point and, in fact, Chief Kelly and Village Manager Cook had already successfully addressed this issue with Clarendon Hills.

Margaret Woulfe-Ahrens of 135 S. Clay, former Village Trustee and current volunteer on the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners expressed concern that it does not appear that the intergovernmental agreement on the agenda tonight has been discussed at the committee level. She believes that public input critical. She pointed out that people campaigned on no cuts in fire and police, and yet it has happened. She described the rigorous and thorough hiring process in Hinsdale for fire and police personnel. She believes there should be full disclosure of facts concerning these cuts and agreements. Her experience with a paid on call, part time fire personnel community was not good. She noted that the agreement provides for a five year term with a one year notice for termination, but for a new agreement such as this, she thinks it should be evaluated sooner.

Trustee Williams thanked Ms. Woulfe-Ahrens for articulating many of her own concerns. She asked her to describe in more detail the selection process for fire and police candidates.

Mr. John Hakim of 820 S. Bruner addressed the Board on the public safety issue. He prefaced remarks by stating that he was a Police Superintendent in India for seven years before coming to this country, and as he had faced communist terrorism,

he feels qualified to talk about police work and first responders. The Village needs to be sure they have enough staff to respond to breaking and entering situations, domestic disputes and any other alarm. He expressed concern about closing the 911 center because some of these people act as matrons. If there is a delay in fire department response, more than one home could be affected. He asked the Board to consider these matters carefully.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Cauley, in the matter of the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 budget, stated that he and Trustee Geoga have worked closely with staff on the budget, a draft will go to the Trustees in their Friday packet and be posted on the website. In the next two weeks it will be reviewed by the Finance Commission and discussed at the special budget meeting of the Village Board on March 1st.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

President Cauley asked for a motion to appoint Mr. John Bohnen for a three year term on the Historic Preservation Commission. He noted Mr. Bohnen's qualifications. Trustee Angelo moved to **approve the appointment to the Historic Preservation Commission as recommended by President Cauley**. Trustee Saigh seconded the motion.

AYES: Trustees Angelo, Saigh, LaPlaca, Geoga

NAYS: Trustees Williams and Schultz

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Items Recommended by Environment & Public Services Committee

- a) Resolution Adopting Legislative Positions for 2010 Legislative Session not addressed
- b) Resolution Approving the Expenditure/Authorization of Motor Fuel Tax Funds in the amount of \$3,704.54 – for Improvements by Municipality under the Illinois Highway Code for various streets (Omnibus vote)

- c) A Resolution Adopting A Sidewalk Master Plan and an Ordinance Amending Section 7-1-8 (Sidewalks; Construction and Grade) of the Village Code of Hinsdale Concerning the Installation and Alteration of Sidewalks re moved

President Cauley introduced the Consent Agenda and Trustee LaPlaca said that Items A and C were not discussed and were forwarded to the next meeting of the Environment & Public Services Committee. President Cauley read Item B: Resolution Approving the Expenditure/Authorization of Motor Fuel Tax Funds in the amount of \$3,704.54 – for Improvements by Municipality under the Illinois Highway Code for various streets. Trustee Angelo moved to **approve the Consent Agenda, as amended**. Trustee Saigh seconded the motion.

AYES: Trustees Angelo, Saigh, LaPlaca, Williams, Geoga, Schultz

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATION AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Trustee Geoga moved **Approval and Payment of the Accounts Payable for the period of January 29, 2010 through February 12, 2010 in the aggregate amount of \$666,340.44 as set forth on the list provided by the Village Treasurer, of which a permanent copy is on file with the Village Clerk**. Trustee Angelo seconded the motion.

AYES: Trustees Angelo, Saigh, LaPlaca, Williams, Geoga, Schultz

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

ZONING AND PUBLIC SAFETY

President Cauley began discussion by stating that he heard the public safety comments tonight and reiterated that public safety is a foremost concern and would not be sacrificed to save money. He further stated that only a handful of municipalities in DuPage County still have their own dispatch centers and it is his

understanding that all are exploring a move to regional dispatch. For Hinsdale, this is an essential first step to shared services. Clarendon Hills, Burr Ridge and Willowbrook all use Southwest Central Dispatch. Police Chief Bloom has researched this matter and recommends Southwest Central Dispatch. Currently, Hinsdale pays \$512,000 annually to support its own dispatch center. The first year Hinsdale will save \$164,000, the second year \$209,000 and \$145,000 per year thereafter. He expressed concern over the loss of jobs, and noted Village efforts to find employment for those persons. Further, the Village will be very involved in Southwest's management going forward. As Village President he will be on their Board and Chief Kelly and Chief Bloom will be on their Executive Committee. Further, as part of the dispatcher training program Southwest personnel will ride along with Hinsdale police officers so as to become familiar with Hinsdale parks, churches and schools. In short, the move to Southwest Central Dispatch will save the Village a significant amount of money, have no adverse impact on public safety and will provide a necessary first step to sharing police and fire services with surrounding communities.

Trustee Schultz made a **motion to invoke Rule 7 for the following items:**

- a) Southwest Central Dispatch
 - 1) Ordinance Authorizing the Participation by the Village of Hinsdale in Southwest Public Safety Communications ("Southwest Central Dispatch")
 - 2) Resolution Approving Joint Public Safety Agreement – Southwest Central Dispatch
 - 3) Approval of Purchase Order to Motorola, Inc. in the amount of \$33,190.15 for purchase of 28 portable radios, 1 mobile radio and necessary accessories
- b) Sharing of Fire Services with Clarendon Hills
 - 1) Resolution Authorizing an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Villages of Clarendon Hills and Hinsdale in Regard to the Sharing of Fire Department Services

Trustee Williams seconded the motion. Discussion followed regarding the process followed with these issues. President Cauley pointed out that Clarendon Hills is voting on this matter tonight. Clarendon Hills and Hinsdale will respond to all calls, the agreement provides for the sharing of personnel, equipment and training costs. With shared dispatch, response time will be improved, the Village will save \$164,000 the first year and would have the option to terminate the agreement with one year notice. Currently the Village has two shifts with eight firefighters and one shift with seven, there would be 10 persons per shift after approval of this agreement. Additionally, because of the location of the fire stations, response time will be better, particularly in southern Hinsdale.

ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC SERVICES

No report.

REPORTS FROM ADVISORY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

None.

STAFF REPORTS

None.

CITIZENS' PETITIONS

None.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Williams remarked that she appreciated former Trustees coming forward to express their concerns regarding public safety. She does not believe that this matter has had the proper exposure to the public. The community should debate the matter and the ZPS Committee should have a discussion. She encouraged residents to come forward. She stated that staffing cuts should be done in the context of prioritization. The budget process was different this year, it will be unveiled on Friday, however, if we don't know what cuts need to be made why rush to fire Village staff? She believes capital expenditures should be deferred to save employees. It is discouraging to be a Trustee and cut out of the budget process, but she won't vote to fire eight people tonight.

Trustee Geoga stated that, regarding the budget process, typically Village management develops a draft, which goes before the Finance Commission and then the Village Board. This year, because of the dire financial situation, he and the Village President have been working with management, getting involved earlier, and examining the budget line by line. In the matter of the agreement with Clarendon Hills, this was a measure before the Board with a positive financial impact without impacting public safety. If the Board had had the discussion tonight, the people who are entrusted with management of these departments would have been allowed to explain the matter to residents.

President Cauley stated that the problems with the budget can't be discussed effectively in open meetings. There are still two weeks for all to view the draft and for it to be vetted. Due to the fact that only two members of the Village Board can meet without violating the Open Meetings Act, the nitty-gritty line by line examination of

the budget was done by himself and Trustee Geoga with the Village Manager and the Finance Director. It was an attempt to start early, there was no effort to hide anything and he believes they did a good job figuring out what can be cut. There is still plenty of time for everyone to weigh in. Trustee LaPlaca commented that it is important that people have factual information so as not to be susceptible to fear-mongering. Trustee Saigh asked people to inform themselves; these materials are available on the Village website and he believes that consideration, professionalism and forethought has gone into the preparation of these materials. He also noted that the subject of shared services is not a new one and that former Village President Woerner had conducted informational meetings on this topic and it has come up in the preparation of previous budgets.

On another matter, Trustee Saigh said the the EPS meeting prior to this one was a good one. There was a review of pesticide management and he noted the proaction of the Village on this matter. This information is available on the website and he hoped for press attention to the matter. Trustee LaPlaca noted that as of Spring 2010, Hinsdale will be pesticide free.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Village Board of Trustees and no need for a Closed Session, Trustee LaPlaca **moved to adjourn the meeting of February 16, 2010.** Trustee Angelo seconded the motion.

AYES: Trustees Angelo, Saigh, LaPlaca, Williams, Geoga, Schultz

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

ATTEST: _____

Christine M. Bruton, Deputy Village Clerk