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AGENDA  
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING,  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2008 7:00 P.M.

**REGULAR MEETING**

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

>> All present

IV. Consent Agenda

A. Payment of Bills

B. Approval of Minutes

1. Regular Village Board Meeting of February 7, 2008

C. An ordinance authorizing the disposal of property owned by the Village of Winfield – Surplus Equipment (1<sup>st</sup> reading)

>> Approved unanimously

V. Open Forum

A. Public Comments

>> A Klein Creek resident had a protest (a “gripe” in his words) about several parking tickets he had received at the commuter parking lot. He had 5 issues regarding the Village’s responsibilities regarding the commuter parking lots.

1. The management of the waiting list for permits.

2. Police officers, highly trained and armed, doing the parking ticket enforcement. He felt this was underusing personnel

3. Poor record of ticket accuracy

4. Excessive fees for late payment as well as a “laughable” appeals process. Fees are charged 4 to 5 days after the citation is issued.

5. No Saturday Village hours.

He raised these issues after receiving 3 tickets on days when he had paid the parking fee. He pointed out that there are many chances of error in the present system and felt the Village wasn’t taking this into account when enforcing tickets. The Police Chief and Village Manager were asked to pursue the matter.

A citizen suggested some ideas regarding C.D.H. She felt that the hospital gives very little to the Village while spending lots of money on glitzy T.V. and newspaper ads for the facility. She recounted that she has had occasion to visit many area hospitals in the area, and all charged for parking. She wondered if the Village could mandate parking fees for parking at C.D.H with revenue going to the Village.

A representative of the Beverage Retailers Association was before the board to ask for an expanded liquor license for Winfield Pantry. New owners would like to remodel, clean up and re-open the site, but felt they would only be profitable if they were allowed to devote 70% of the store to liquor products. Their current license allows 25% of the store to be devoted to alcohol. The close proximity of Walgreen's serves the convenience store needs of customers, therefore the owners feel they could only succeed if they devote more space to alcohol and less to food products. The argument was made that customers want to be able to buy the full range of liquor products in one place rather than having to buy beer and wine in one place, but go elsewhere for liquor products.

Village President Czech explained that at this point Winfield Pantry has a "C" license indicating it is a convenience store. He felt they were asking to reopen as a liquor store with a little food for purchase. In that case they would need to apply for a different license instead of asking for a modification of the license they now hold.

Board comments on this issue:

Trustee Bajor said that the number of liquor licenses in the Village has come up before and the issue should be addressed as a future Committee of the Whole agenda item.

It was also mentioned that there will be new spaces available in the new retail developments being opened on Geneva Road. The Beverage Association rep. explained that rent in a newer building would be much higher, so the owners would like to stay in Prairie Trail Center, but felt they could only do so with expanded liquor space.

A fire dept. board member addressed the board about phone calls they have received from C.D.H regarding the property next to them currently owned by the hospital. This was in reference to some issues about the property that had been brought up at a recent Plan Commission meeting.

The Village Manager explained that the V.P. of the Hospital said the Fire Dept. had asked the hospital about land availability as an alternative to the Mattson property. The hospital had previously donated the property to the Village for a post office. The property must now go back to the hospital. The Village didn't see the Fire Department's plans for the land as helping the T.I.F. district. Town Center plans call for the fire station to be moved from that corner and the Village should help them do that.

## VI. New Business – None

## VII. Reports of General Business

### A. Public Works Committee

1. Authorization to submit a petition to the Illinois Commerce Commission for funding for the Pedestrian Underpass project

>> Trustee Bajor stated that he felt this is an important incremental step in the process. He feels the Village should take advantage of the funds from federal and state sources. He felt there are many opportunities for grants to help fund the project -- \$2.4 million is available in grants.

Trustee Kunesh commented that the design that is being submitted at this point will probably not be the design of the final project. He had questions about whether the Village would actually get the money. Bill Barlow explained that the Village will receive funds after money has been spent and requests submitted. Trustee Kunesh had questions about how long it would take to get the money and whether the funds would ever actually arrive from the state.

Trustee Birutis had a financial analysis that she had prepared for the board. It compared cost estimates from the beginning of the project to the costs estimated at this point.

Trustee Mortenson felt the public had a right to know how he made his decision. We can't afford it. Some people want more time to plan and analyze. However, he felt the board should go ahead with expenditures to find out how much the project will cost and then decide to approve the actual project or not. He felt the estimates may be deliberately high to cover all eventualities and the actual costs may be less. Final figures should be available by June. Staff may be able to find more

grant sources by then. He wondered aloud if perhaps companies may do the work for less since construction is down nation-wide, and they need the business. \$300,000 was as much as he felt comfortable spending. If we don't go ahead with the project would the \$300,000 have to be paid back? His two main concerns were safety and cost. He explained that the board would feel better about making a decision after all of the numbers were in.

Trustee VadeBonCouer felt that many valid points had been made. 2 points jumped out at him – The railroad will not be required to pay any of the cost. The village should approach them on this. The project has value if done efficiently and cost effectively. He had a question about page 35 of the application that said the Village will pay \$1.5 million.

Trustee Petitti said that she felt the financial part was important to the Village. She felt the Village should look into other avenues of financing. There are other avenues for financing. Rempe-Sharpe usually bids 10 – 25% higher on initial bids. The village won't know actual costs unless we go forward and get the costs. She mentioned that 12 professional engineers had gone over the plans throughout the process, so she felt the project has not been approached lightly.

Trustee Bajor mentioned that sometime engineers come in with high estimates. He doesn't want to miss the opportunity to get the grants. We can always back out of the project later.

Trustee Kunesh stated that the project will require specialized contractors and the addition of stairs will add to the costs.

Vote: Petitti, Bajor and Mortenson in favor  
VadeBonCouer, Berutis and Kunesh opposed.  
President Czech broke the tie by voting in favor  
Authorization passed

#### VIII. Reports of Temporary Committees

##### A. Downtown Riverwalk Initiative Task Force – Trustee VadeBonCouer

>>Report indicated that the committee wanted to emphasize the importance of managing the message and setting accurate expectations for the project. Next meeting Mon. Feb. 25 6:30

##### B. Fire Sprinkler Regulations – Trustee Petitti

>>Draft of ordinance will be discussed Mon at 7:30

##### C. Town Center Marketing and Capacity Study – Trustee Birutis

>> The committee's website will be linked to the Village's website. Monthly meetings are to be scheduled.

##### D. Safe Routes to School – Trustee Birutis

>> 2007 funds are still on hold. A survey is planned to see what is needed before parents will let their children walk to school.

#### IX. Future Business

##### A. Active

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##### B. Forthcoming

1. Compensation for Elected Officials – If the Village Board wishes to act on increasing or otherwise changing the compensation for elected officials, it must act 180 days before the April 2009 election, which means a decision by the second Board meeting in September 2008.

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2. Creation of the office of President Pro Tem or other approach – a question has arisen regarding who acts as the President in his/her absence, particularly as it relates to a disaster. Options will be discussed.

>>Trustee Petitti had questions about the President Pro Tem changes to the Village code that had been made previously, but were not reflected in the current copy of the Village Code. She asked the Village Manager to check on this. He explained that the Village hired a Codifier to get the code up to date and would pursue the matter.

3. General Development Plan Key Development Areas 1a, 1b, and 2/ St. Charles Road area annexation initiative –Recommendation from the Plan Commission anticipated in the near future.

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4. Policy on maintenance of stormwater maintenance facilities – Work has begun on the inventory; policy will be deliberated first by Public Works Committee.

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5. Policy on distribution of impact fees – Matter has been referred to the Administration and Finance Committee.

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#### X. Village Board Comments

>> Trustee Petitti reported that the Public Safety Committee discussed grants for public safety, the bike helmet ordinance and siren activation

Trustee VadeBonCoeur reported that the Finance Committee will be working through the budget.

Trustee Bajor mentioned that the next meeting would be the 27<sup>th</sup>. The Environmental Concerns Committee heard a presentation. The solid Waste Contract was discussed as well as ways to promote recycling. Examples included providing larger recycling containers, trying to standardize garbage can size, and asking for the public's help with yard waste pick-up. The current vacuum pick up was not recommended. A request for proposals will be let in the spring, then a vendor will be chosen.

Trustee Birutis reported that the Plan Commission had approved the final plan for the C.D.H parking garage and diagnostic imaging facility. The R.V. parking ordinance was approved. Estate Zoning overlay ordinance received a 4-2 vote not to approve. There was a question about whether there was a rush for a tear-down ordinance. If not, the committee would like to be deliberate in their considerations.

#### XI. Other Village Official's Reports and Comments

##### A. Village President

1 .Appointment of Brian Eisenmenger to the Police Pension Board for a 3 year term.

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2 .Appointment of Joe Amodeo to the Communications Commission for a 3 year term.

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##### B. Village Treasurer

1 Monthly Treasurer's Report – January 2008

>> Nadine presented since Treasurer was unable to attend

##### C. Village Attorney

>> No Report

##### D. Village Manager

>> The Village Manager commented that the vote to submit the petition to the I.C.C was not a binding agreement. The Village was just asking them to make the money available to us. The issue of discrepancy in estimates was explained. Rempe-Sharpe should be given a chance to remove contingencies or explain them so the board can analyze actual projections. There was no attempt to deceive

In regards to parking issues, Bill felt that if the citizen with concerns had stayed for this portion of the meeting, most of his concerns would have been resolved if the proposal he was presenting was given the okay by the board. Permits are a problem because so many people want them – hence, a long waiting list.

The Village is not able to charge \$ to park at the hospital because we are not a home rule community.

##### E. Village Clerk

>> No Report

#### XII. Other Business

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#### XIII. Adjournment

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

### I. Old Business

### II. New Business

#### A. Administration and Finance Committee

1. Policy and procedure for application for and administration of grants, donations, and other outside funding for Village related operations and purchases

>>Trustee VadeBonCouer felt the Village needed to go through standard procedure for acceptance of funds and grants to insure transparency. He felt that different boards and commissions shouldn't be going after funds without oversight of the Village Board. Grants, Donations and Outside Funding guidelines were established. President Czech expressed concern about funds from C.D.H that are to be administered by a village Committee and awarded to outside entities. It was explained that only grants to the Village would need to be presented to the Board. The intent is to keep the Village Board in the loop in requests for funding. The Village would be one of many entities allowed to apply for the C.D.H funds. Mr. Barlow suggested that funds from C.D.H, and approved through the Village committee be paid to the petitioner by the hospital to avoid legal problems. Trustee Pettiti had questions about routine grants that are now in the budget. Will they now need to go before the board? Will this create more complications? Trustee Bajor felt the policy at this point is a place to start and welcomes discussion. Mr. Barlow mentioned that some donations are unsolicited. This proposal says the board needs to be made aware of these as opposed to having to review and approve them. There are many ways to inform the board, but the board needs to be aware of donations. There is wording to this effect in the proposal.

2. Proposed policy statement on Utility Extension Cost Recovery

>> Wait for final costs before determining cost sharing.

3. Review of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Financials

>> Presentation

Due to the economy being down, projected income from development is down. There have been fewer permits, and contractor registrations sought. Funds from ordinance enforcement is down because of cut-backs in police overtime. (fewer tickets issued)

Details of the presentation are available through the Village. Final report at the next Village Board meeting.

4. Recommendations on Parking Lot Operation Improvements

>> Mr. Barlow admitted that many improvements in the parking situation can be made. The lots are in poor condition and there is no money for repairs. A conversion to an automatic fee collection system was suggested along with the elimination of "free" parking spaces and the collection of fees on 7 days to generate funds and pay for improvements. The current collection boxes are rusting, they were made for coins making it hard to insert bills, police officers must open the back of the box and visually check to see which spaces have been paid for, and there is no system accounting for funds.

A proposal was discussed that would have more durable collection machines. It is a loop parking system that is used by many Metra lots now. It can handle cash, coins, credit cards and phone. You can call the device if you forgot to pay. The device dispenses a receipt and tells the motorist if they have paid the correct fee. It generates a list of who has paid, so the police can accurately issue tickets. This would streamline the process of getting funds to the Village and print reports for each lot. The Loop 2 system seems to be the best. It was suggested that the cost be spread over 5 years so that all 4 machines can be installed at once to minimize confusion. Trustee Pettiti wanted to know which towns use the system now. A cost saving analyses was requested. Some points to be included would be staff time that would not be used for preparing deposits, police wouldn't need to do the collection, and it would be easier to check who had paid. Enforcement would be easier and more accurate.

#### B. Planning/Zoning Board of Appeals

1. Zoning Board of Appeals Recommendation on variance request of Greg Palumbo, 0S441 Jefferson Street

>>Mr. Palumbo wants to build a detached garage. The current ordinance requires that it be in the back yard. The lot is pie-shaped and this creates the problem because of

required set-backs. The Z.B.A has had 2 meetings on the issue. The first had no quorum, but was the scheduled public hearing. The second meeting approved the request. The main concern was that of setting a precedent for not requiring garages to be in back yards. The matter will be on the board agenda the first meeting in March.

C. Other

1. Resolution of conflicting language in the Village Code regarding authority to appoint the Chief of Police

>>Removed

2. Assignment of surplus equipment – Public Works Unit 665 – 1993 Ford Superduty Utility Body truck to WEMA

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III. Requests for Future Committee of the Whole Agenda Items from the Trustees (Requests Require the Concurrence of at Least Two Members of the Village Board)

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IV. Public Comments

>> Karen Skillman of the Z.B.A explained that the board had carefully considered the Palumbo question and recommended approval. She also agreed that the parking lot situation needed to be improved. She had a question about 3 spaces she noticed that are now not being used and have no parking signs by them.

A resident near the Garfield Court Development expressed concerns about water collecting in his back yard. He has lived at his home since 1993 and didn't have the problem until the development went in. He asked if Village engineers could investigate

V. Village Board Comments

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VI. Executive Session Pending Litigation

VII. Adjournment