

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF WESTCHESTER
24 November 2009**

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM and present/responding to roll call were Trustees Boyle, Casey, Fox, Novak, Sloan, and President Pulia. Also present were Village Manager Urban and Attorney Durkin. Trustee Steker was absent.

PRESENTATIONS:

Eagle Scout Award Recipients-Boy Scout Troop 73 presented a flag to the Village of Westchester. Joe Parenti and Joe Mills from Troop 73 were presented the Eagle Scout Award. Cook County Youth Service Medal of Honor was presented to Olivia Stanger.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Steve Battersby, 1905 Balmoral questioned if a completion deposit would be required if the escrow is eliminated. Village Manager Urban said yes that would still be required. He also felt this is the wrong time in the economy to be going after vehicle sticker violations. Also, the 50/50 program was done without the base and thickness required by residents who do their own sidewalks. Shouldn't the Village have the same standard? Manager Urban said it was all inspected but he will look into it. Trustee Fox told Mr. Battersby that if more fees were collected for all vehicles, the village could possibly lower the fee. The people following the law are paying for those who don't.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Trustee Fox made a motion, seconded by Trustee Novak for the approval of the Consent Agenda. Trustee Boyle requested Item B, Record of Bills, be pulled and Trustee Casey requested Item A, the Nov. 10th minutes be pulled because he was absent. On the roll call vote to approve Item A, Minutes from 10/27/09 and 11/3/09 and Item C, Appointment of Marianne Bero to Economic Development Committee, the Board unanimously passes said motion. (Aye 6) Trustee Sloan made a motion, seconded by Trustee Fox to approve Item A, Minutes of 11/11/09 meeting and on the roll call vote, the Board unanimously passed said motion. (Aye 5) Trustee Casey abstained. Trustee Casey made a motion, seconded by Trustee Sloan to approve the Record of Bills with discussion.

Trustee Boyle questioned two bills from Ernst and Urban Forest Management. Village Manager Urban stated that the bills were for estimates of tree almost cut down by resident. The resident asked the Village to come out to remove a tree they felt was dead. The Village didn't get out within a couple weeks so the resident took it upon himself to trim the tree completely. Complaints came in from residents that the tree was butchered. Code Enforcement and the Village Manager talked with property owner telling him that two arborists inspected the tree and determined a fine of \$1,500 would be given to the resident to replace the tree. The cost of the two arborists and the cost to have the tree removed would be included in arbitration. Trustee Boyle would like to get a work ticket for future bills from vendors to make sure they are signing off on their time. Village Manager Urban stated that all vendors will be required to have a work order for every single job. Village Manager Urban would like to pull the Ashley bills to check that they were not double billed. Trustee Novak questioned what the photography bill was for. Village Manager Urban stated that the photographer took 1500-2000 high quality pictures of the village to be used for newsletter, economic development, etc. Trustee Sloan asked the status of the Utility Audit and Village manager Urban said he would have to get back to him with that information. Trustee Sloan pointed out that there continues to be purchase orders that are generated after there are invoices. A memo was sent out by Village Manager a few weeks ago stating that he will not sign off on any purchase order unless the purchase order was created prior to the purchase. Trustee Casey pointed out that years ago a policy was made requiring two signatures on purchase orders and would like to get back to that practice. Village Manager Urban said the Village Manager and the Finance Director should be signing the purchase order. With a motion and a second on the floor, the board unanimously approved the Record of Bills, pulling Ashley payment, with check allowed to be issued after invoices are checked. (AYE 6)

ACTIVE AGENDA:

A. Resolution Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement between Village and Hancock Engineering for the Gardner Road Resurfacing Project. Trustee Casey made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Trustee Sloan and the board unanimously passed said motion. (AYE 6)

B. Ordinance Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement to Purchase Property at 10417 W. Cermak Road for the price of \$200,000. Trustee Fox made a motion seconded by Trustee Sloan to approve purchase of property and the board unanimously passed said motion. (AYE 6). Village Manager Urban stated that a closing date has not been determined. Trustee Boyle stated that there is still not a plan for the property and the traffic problem will still exist. Village Manager Urban said that this purchase was a short term plan with hopes of developing other property and still working on the traffic problem. Trustee Fox said that a temporary parking solution is a start. Village Manager Urban reported the Bike Shop has been sold to the furrier next door. A grant might be coming through within the next 36 months for Cermak/Manheim Road, which at that time the zoning of this area will be updated. President Pulia reported the first meeting of the Economic Development Team will be 11/30/09. Trustee Novak feels the board should meet with the Economic Development Team to give them guidance so they know the vision of the board.

C. Ordinance Changing the Fee Structure for Parking Tickets, Compliance Tickets, and Handicapped Parking Tickets. Trustee Sloan made a motion, seconded by Trustee Boyle to table Item C to next committee meeting and on the roll call vote, the board unanimously agreed to said motion. (AYE 6)

D. Ordinance Relating to Vicious Animals. Trustee Boyle made a motion, seconded by Trustee Novak to table Item D to next committee meeting and on the roll call vote, the board unanimously agreed to said motion. (AYE 6)

E. Ordinance Banning Video Gaming. Trustee Sloan made a motion to table Item E to next committee meeting and on the roll call vote, the board unanimously agreed to said motion. (AYE 6)

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Village Manager Urban would like to give the Board an idea of what to expect at the next meeting. He said the December 2nd Public Hearing will be on the tax levy. Following the Public Hearing the COW will include a presentation from GCG Financial Inc, health insurance brokers, Ordinance to dispose of personal property, 2010 capital improvement projects, gaming, and parking tickets.

BOARD MEMBERS REPORT:

Trustee Novak reported that the Census Team has been meeting and will have two meetings in December.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Pulia thanked the Eagle Scouts and Olivia Stanger for their service to the community. The Christmas tree is up with over 1250 lights, ornaments and candy canes. The Tree Lighting ceremony is scheduled for December 4, 2009. Donations to the military are underway along with the toy and food collection. The village would like to get all this information on the Cable Channel and the Website as well as collecting emails to get information to residents.

With no further business to discuss, Trustee Sloan made a motion, seconded by Trustee Fox, for the meeting to be adjourned to Executive Session and on the roll call vote, the Board unanimously passed said motion (AYE 5) and the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 PM. Trustee Boyle voted NAY to adjourn to Executive Session.

Catherine M. Booth, Village Clerk