

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF WESTCHESTER
25 August 2009**

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM and present/responding to the roll call were Trustees Boyle, Casey, Fox, Novak, Sloan, Steker and Pres. Pulia. Also present were Village Manager Urban and Village Attorney Storino.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Luigi Mazzei, 1612 Westchester Blvd., presented a check to Aspire on behalf of the Westchester Comes First Party in the amount of \$250. The check was given to Trustee Fox for his wife who is active in the organization. Mrs. Fox will get the donation to Mr. Cales of Aspire.

PRESENTATIONS:

State Representative Karen Yarbrough presented the Village with a check for \$200,000 from the State of Illinois to be used for the Emergency Operations Center.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Trustees Boyle would like to remove Item A, Aug 11 minutes and B, the Record of Bills from the Consent Agenda. Trustee Fox would like to remove for discussion Item F. Trustee Sloan made a motion, seconded by Trustee Novak to approve the consent agenda and on the Roll Call vote, the Board unanimously passed said motion. (Aye 7) Trustee Boyle, Casey, and Steker were not present at the Aug. 11 meeting and cannot approve the minutes. Trustee Boyle questioned the American Express bill of \$676.54. Village Manager Urban said it was airfare to the ICMA Conference in Montreal. Trustee Novak suggested not including duplicate copies of resolutions to save on paper. Village Manager Urban said the computers would be ready no earlier than Oct. 1. Copies of resolutions will be included in all packets until we go paperless. Trustee Boyle questioned the number of properties that the village is now cutting the grass and if we are getting any money back from the property owner. Village Attorney Storino will look into how to better handle the growing problem of foreclosed homes. Trustee Sloan made a motion, seconded by and Fox to approve the Aug. 11 minutes. Trustee Boyle, Casey and Steker will abstain because they were absent from that meeting. Village Manager Urban would like to remove PO # 00002634, check for a Bobcat because it was placed on the Consent Agenda in error. It needs to be paid by the bank, not directly to the company. It will be placed on the next Consent Agenda. Trustee Novak made a motion, seconded by Trustee Casey to approve the Record of Bills and on the roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved said motion (Aye 7) Trustee Fox would like a summary of why we amending the code. Manager Urban said that by law to meet as Committee of the Whole we need to change the code. He would also need to be present in all the meetings so they would need to be on different days. If that format is used in the future Mr. Urban asked that the board be given time to consider the agenda and that it would not be brought forward that same day. Trustee Fox feels more can be accomplished in a smaller group setting rather than Committee of the Whole. Trustee Casey feels weekly meetings were helpful in the beginning to get the new board up to speed but thinks it could be cut back in the future. President Pulia would like to keep things as is until he feels he has a better handle on everything. Trustee Boyle said that from his research we are the only village that meets four times a month. On the roll call vote the board approved motion of Item F, Ordinance amending code regarding Board and Committee of the Whole meetings. (Aye 6) Trustee Casey, Fox, Novak, Sloan, Steker and Pres. Pulia. (Nay 1) Trustee Boyle.

ACTIVE AGENDA:

A. Trustee Novak made a motion, seconded by Trustee Casey to approve a Resolution Authorizing Sanitary Sewer Flow Study. Mr. Boyle questioned how placement of the meters was determined. Why wasn't B & W being used for the flow monitoring, which is quoting a lower amount? B & W does all type of water engineering. SSE only does flow monitoring. We will have data from three different firms and a savings of \$1,500. We will wait for the weather to be better for monitoring. Trustee Fox feels we should go with the leading engineering company specializing in water. Trustee Novak agrees that two sets of eyes is better along with the cost savings of \$1,500. Mr. Urban is comfortable using either firm but would like to use SSE because they are the specialists in the area of flow monitoring. Trustee Casey cautioned about having firms do business for free in the future. Trustee Sloan feels we will now have multiple firms looking to do business with us. On the roll call vote the motion passed. (Aye 6) Trustees Boyle, Casey, Novak, Sloan, Steker and Pres. Pulia. (Nay 1) Trustee Fox.

B. Trustee Sloan made a motion, seconded by Trustee Fox to approve a Resolution Authorizing Janitorial Services Contract. Mr. Urban would like to enter into an eight-month contract ending April 30, 2010. There will be no savings with this company but the company does an excellent job. All contracts will be sent out to bid from now on and work reviewed monthly.

C. Trustee Boyle made a motion, seconded by Trustee Fox to approve original contract with Pinner Lyons Electric. Trustee Fox said that Ashley Electric had many safety violations in the past, high no bid contracts and problems with IDOT in not meeting standards for Roosevelt beautification project. Trustee Boyle said that Pinner Lyons has done reliable service in the past and gave more details on the bid concerning services and costs. Ashley Electric did not give as much information in their bid. Village Manager Urban said that Ashley Electric is not a union shop, which may make the difference in the cost. The cost factor is what staff made their decision on. Trustee Boyle said that the job asked to bid on was not for emergency services and those cannot be determined. Lyons Pinner was the lowest bidder for what we asked them to bid on. How big is Ashley and can they serve the village on a timely basis was another concern. Trustee Casey also was concerned on the size of Ashley and if they had the employees to service the village. Mr. Urban said that both companies did not follow the requests of the bid. Mr. Casey asked if we should throw out all bids so that we can compare the two companies. President Pulia asked if the board had heard any negative feedback in years past. Trustee Casey said that Pres. Sinda never shared that information with the board so the board never heard anything. Trustee Fox reiterated the fact that the work that Ashley Electric did held up the grant for the Roosevelt Road project. Trustee Sloan pointed out that they did come in lower on the bid and sufficient references were given. On the roll call vote for a motion to approve Lyons Pinner for the Street Light Contract (Aye 3) Trustee Boyle, Casey, Fox.

(Nay 4) Trustee Novak, Sloan, Steker and Pres. Pulia. Trustee Boyle feels there is a hidden agenda. Trustee Novak is going along with the staff recommendation and he has no hidden agenda. Trustee Fox feels the board has done many positive things so far but he does feel that not everything is in the public eye. Ashley Electric contributed to the Westchester Comes First Party and he feels that was because he wanted to become a vendor. The former board got rid of this company because of problems and now you want to hire them again. Trustee Novak based his decision on the numbers only. Trustee Casey warned that we open ourselves up to the perception that something is not right by using vendors that have contributed to campaigns. This gives the suggestion of impropriety and he would like the village to pass an ordinance to prohibit this practice. Trustee Sloan was concerned about the cost of emergency services, which is what brings up the cost and from the bid they have the lower cost. We need to look forward because we do not know what exactly happened in the past. It is wrong to state that our votes were based on campaign contribution. Looking forward he would support restrictions on campaign contributions from vendors. President Pulia has not heard anything bad and has always done prompt, reliable work. Many other companies have also made campaign contributions. On the roll call vote to award Street Light Contract to Ashley Electric the motion passed (Aye 4) Trustee Novak, Sloan, Steker and Pres. Pulia. (Nay 3) Trustee Boyle, Casey, and Fox.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Mr. Urban would like to reiterate that if he feels that a vendor is not doing his job he would bring it to the board to cancel the contract. All the fire hydrants have been repaired and are working. There will be a Grand Opening ribbon cutting for Monday and Tuesday at 5:30 PM. For two new businesses, Thai Cuisine and Christopher Speakeasy. The property at Roosevelt Road has been cleaned up. The two properties on Manheim, 1630 and 1656, have been sold and they are making repairs. Trustee Boyle asked how the sale went through with an outstanding water bill. Mr. Urban said the county did not inform us of the sale. The new property owner is willing to work with the village to repay the entire bill. Village Attorney Storino said that they are required by law to pay. The water will not be turned back on until repairs are made and bills are paid. Mr. Urban will follow up as to how this fell through the cracks.

BOARD MEMBERS REPORTS:

Trustee Steker reported that Coffee with the President went well.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Pulia asked Attorney Storino if legislation be made to put responsibility on homeowners regarding public vs. private property. Mr. Storino will check to see what the law is on this issue. The Coffee with the President was a big success. The Proviso Crop Walk is Sept. 27th to raise money for local food pantries in town. The Village of Bartlett sent a letter thanking firefighter Rich Mahoney, for helping with a hostage call from the Northern Illinois Police Alarm System Emergency Response Team. Trustee Boyle and Sloan attended the Chamber lunch with me today. I spoke with State Rep Tammy Duckworth about speaking at the Veteran's Day Run and am hopeful she will be there. Chief Evans and I, along with village officials from Berwyn went to 318 Army Wing of the National Guard Armory in Forest Park, escorted them to O'Hare Airport, and ushered them in as they were deployed to Iraq. The Fire and Police Department had all personnel standing at attention and gave them a great sendoff as we went by. August 31 the public schools start, parochial schools have already started and a police presence in the schools will go a long way.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Rick Klaczynski, 10150 Cermak Rd. would like to have public comments at the end so that people can talk about the agenda. Have we received any money from the lobbyist we hired and can residents get a summary of what has been done and can then determine if we should rehire when contract is up. But this also is a long process that may take more than a year so we need to keep that in mind when renewing any contract. Mr. Urban has been in close contact with the lobbyist and she has been in constant contact with the state reps. This is an ongoing process that is the result of many people. He was also disappointed with the finger pointing against the board. We need to get past what was done under other administrations and move forward.

Mr. Battersby asked if the board would look into campaign donations and does the village have an electrical inspector? Yes, there is an electrical inspector in the building dept.

Mr. Gross will look into the complaint from a resident that never received a follow up call regarding her water problems.

With no further business to discuss, Trustee Novak made a motion, seconded by Trustee Steker to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 PM.

Catherine M. Booth, Village Clerk

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OF THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF WESTCHESTER
25 August 2009-Amendment**

ACTIVE AGENDA:

Under Agenda Item C, on a roll call vote to award Street Light Contract to Lyons/Pinner Electric the motion did not pass (Aye 3) Trustee Trustee Boyle, Casey, and Fox; (Nay 4) Novak, Sloan, Steker and Pres. Pulia.

Under Agenda Item C, on a roll call vote to award Street Light Contract to Ashley Electric the motion passed (Aye 3) Trustees Novak, Sloan, Steker and Pres. Pulia. (NAY)Trustees Boyle, Casey, and Fox.