

VILLAGE BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING
THE VILLAGE BOARD OF THE VILLAGE OF ISLAND LAKE
August 7, 2008 7:30 pm

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Hyde called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

ROLL CALL Roll call indicated the following present: Trustees Garling, Herrmann, Mascillino, Ponio, Saville and Verciglio. Also present: Sergeant Anthony Scarrione and Willie Kootstra, Public Works.

Motion by Trustee Ponio, properly seconded to move BCA's presentation to the top of the agenda. All in favor.

1. Discussion and update from Daniel Altino of BCA regarding the study of Village Hall and facilities

Mr. Altino passed out meeting minutes which summarized the meetings with the Department Heads. The staff interviews were conducted on July 15th – they met with Public Works, the Police Department, Finance and Administration, the Village Clerk, Park and Recreation and Creative Playtime. The building was then entered into a drafting program and analyzed. 3D and 2D plans were shown this evening. BCA proposed possibly using field 4 for parking and possibly relocate the police department. Trustee Verciglio questioned why a representative from the Seniors was not interviewed also. Mr. Altino said that he was not certain as he did not schedule the interviews. Trustee Ponio suggested that the Seniors submit their suggestions, needs, etc., right away to BCA so they are included also. BCA will continue working on the drawings and plans and report back to the board.

2. Tress presentation and discussion with Willie Kootstra, Director of Public Works

Mr. Kootstra said that he placed the Village tree information in the Clerks Office over a week ago as well as he let everyone on the Board know that it was in her office; however, no one has called him nor has anyone picked up the information and reviewed it. Huntley and Algonquin already have ash bore. Mr. Kootstra passed out a detailed list of the trees in the Village. 15.9% are ash trees. There are 3,332 trees that need to be maintained and of those, 531 are ash trees. The ash bore disease spreads quickly and has killed 300 million trees in Michigan alone. There is no way thus far to stop the disease. Any tree application is approximately \$160 per tree. Mr. Kootstra said that the Village has to work together and come up with a solid plan on handling the Village trees. Mr. Kootstra worked with Joe, the Village tree expert, and they arrived at numbers to remove ash trees and it was over \$235,000 to remove these trees. Mr. Kootstra passed out a sheet of trees that are waiting to be removed already within the Village. Mr. Kootstra explained that a comprehensive tree plan is very much so needed. He said that the ordinances do not address the Emerald Ash Bore disease and how to deal with it and enforce it. HE suggested that it be done now in preparation before the ash bore disease gets here. Mr. Kootstra stated that he needs the Boards assistance, he needs their help, support and input on such a project. The Japanese Beetles are an issue too along with the Gypsum moth. Trustee Garling inquired if the state offers any assistance. Mr. Kootstra replied that there are no programs at this time. He is constantly monitoring the nearby Villages to see what they are doing and how they are preparing for such diseases to hit their trees. Trustee Garling suggested maybe several Villages getting together and doing some of this together possibly to save on costs of spraying, etc. Chris, the tree expert for Wauconda, suggested preparing now by reviewing and updating ordinances, reviewing what other counties and Village are doing and how they are preparing, etc. Trustee Mascillino commented that it appears that the black knot disease and ash bore kills trees and the beetles damage trees. Mr. Kootstra said the black knot is a fungus that attacks fruit trees.

Mr. Kootstra said that he has spoken to residents Mike Herrick and Wolfgang Neumeier regarding the trees in Westridge and the black knot disease. He agrees that the trees do need to come down; however, he said it is not necessarily a danger but rather these trees are infected with a very common fungus. Mr. Kootstra said that 95 trees were removed just in Fox River Shores, Newberry and Westridge. He has told these people that if the Village gets a tree replacement program, they will get new trees. He reported that the past policy has been for Public Works to cut down trees to the ground and that's it. Stumps do not get ground down unless they are a traffic hazard and/or car safety hazard. A stump grinder has to be rented as the Village does not own one. Trustee Mascillino rephrased then that the Village policy has been that the Village cuts down trees, the Village absorbs the costs however the Village does not replace the trees as there is no tree replacement program. Mr. Kootstra concurred. Trustee Ponio confirmed that the

95 trees on the list already are the first in the row of what needs to be removed in the Village. Mr. Kootstra agreed and stated that many have been waiting for awhile now but do to budgetary constraints, this takes a while. Mr. Kootstra and the Board discussed starting a nursery program at the Village once again as an option. Mr. Koostra said that there are several nurseries in the area that maybe the Village could work something out with as well. Trustee Verciglio asked if there would need to be additions to Mr. Kootstras crew then to handle and maintain such a program. Mr. Kootstra replied that yes, more staff will be needed. He said they have been short handed in Public Works since 2001. Trustee Ponio commented that 126 trees need to be replaced though before the Village begins a nursery program. Trustee Mascillino asked if the Village should cut the diseases trees. Mr. Kootstra said that the safety of the public is not in jeopardy in Westridge. Trustee Ponio said that Westridge claims that it is though. Mr. Kootstra replied that yes, trees have diseases; however, they are not a public hazard at this time.

Mayor Hyde stated that the total scope of this tree situation in the Village is very large. He said that lots of diseases too are yet to come most likely. HE said that the Board needs to look at realistic start. Mayor Hyde feels that a nursery program is one of the best ways to get started as well as it is cost effective.

Mr. Kootstra recommended changing the Village ordinance as well as he suggested taking out the ash tree. The Board and Mr. Kootstra also talked about public education and awareness. Chris, of the Village of Wauconda, said that the state and counties all have issues and there is no state funding at this time. He said that the ash bore disease is huge and is a devastating pest. He said too, along the way, the Department of Agriculture could come in at any time and tell all our Villages what they have to do. He agreed, as Mr. Kootstra suggested, to be prepared. Trustee Garling suggested possibly working with the University of Illinois as an option as there are many students who are becoming arborists that would maybe like to work with such a project. He added that the cost to take down trees and the cost to replace them should be worked on and planned out now. Mr. Kootstra said that biodiversity is important too and different tree varieties will help too. Chris commented that if the Village is in compliance, and the proper ordinances are in place, the state will work with the Village. Mayor Hyde suggested then that a planting/nursery program be looked at and the ordinances be worked on.

Trustee Mascillino mentioned the tree situation in Westridge once again. Wolfgang Neumeier of 713 S. Carriage Hill Road stated that there are 31 trees in Westridge with the black knot disease. He said if they are pruned, there won't be much left to the trees so they are looking for removal and for the trees to be stumped out. Trustee Herrmann said that the Board did receive a letter from legal regarding trees. Mike Herrick commented that the shredding from these trees needs to be properly discarded so that the disease is not spread. He reiterated the quote that they received in the amount of \$3720. Mr. Neumeier stated that the little problems and the big problems all have to be looked at by the Village. He said that Mr. Kootstra is looking at the big picture and that a master plan could take months. He added that there has been funding within the Village since 2005 and nothing has been used in the budget. He said that now that Westridge has come forward, this whole tree issue has gotten so big now and he is concerned that nothing will happen. Mr. Neumeier said that the cherry tree problem is here, now, and today and it's affecting all the fruit trees. Mr. Herrick said that Westridge did all the leg work already and obtained quotes for the Village. They are seeking removal and stumping. He added that they understand budget constraints and they are here to help as residents.

3. Discussion of Connect CTY emergency notification system policy and procedures

Trustee Mascillino presented to the Board the policy and procedure suggestion along with Attorney Puma's comments. She commented though, that his suggestions negate the whole process. Trustee Mascillino said that she put "must" vs. "advise", etc. This policy and procedure will be further reviewed by the Board at the next meeting.

Items from the Clerk, Trustees and Department Heads

- Trustee Ponio inquired about the fireworks update that he requested. Trustee Herrmann replied that Clerk Kaczmarek sent an email out the Board about a week ago with the updated figured. Trustee Ponio replied that he is having trouble with his Village email and is not receiving emails for about the past two weeks. Clerk Kaczmarek replied that Baxter & Woodman is looking into the problem. Trustee Ponio replied that apparently his password had expired.

- Trustee Ponio brought forward who is using the Village marquee and who is not. Mayor Hyde said that the sign is for not for profits. Trustee Ponio replied that LYAA is up there. Trustee Verciglio replied that the Board had issues about this last week but that was for registration signs. It was stated that LYAA is a not for profit along with the Bull Dogs too. Trustee Ponio replied that he thought that individuals had to request though to use the Village marquee and have it approved by the Board. Debby in Public Works handles it as a first come, first serve basis as requests come in. There is no policy in place. Trustee Mascillino stated that it is a community marquee and the events posted involve residents. Trustee Ponio questioned where the LYAA headquarters is. He suggested that a policy be put into place for the handling of these Village marquees or an ordinance. Trustee Herrmann replied that Trustee Ponio is in charge of ordinances.
- Trustee Ponio requested once again an update on the financing of the well and water tower. He said a test well was put in but that was it and there have been no updates. He said that the last that he had heard was Neal DeYoung and John Little were speaking with various bankers for the \$5 million. Trustee Herrmann replied that she does not have an update at this time. Trustee Saville replied that the land situation is being looked at first and all the information is being put together. Trustee Ponio said that Neal and John sat down with bankers over a year ago and he'd like an update.
- Trustee Herrmann said that the supplemental appropriation will be on next weeks agenda. An email went out from John Little to the Board Members.
- Trustee Mascillino inquired if there would be a post LakeFest meeting. Trustee Verciglio said they are hoping for a meeting for next week. He will let everyone know.
- Trustee Garling said that he has been contacted by 2 developers looking at property in Island Lake. 3-4 areas are being looked at.
- Trustee Garling announced an Uptown Improvement Committee meeting for August 16th at 7:30 pm at Village Hall. They are working on a sidewalk program. He invited all to attend.
- Trustee Herrmann said that she would like to see the Board be able to go back and to be able to have meeting with departments. She said that maybe the Board could agree to post these meetings so they are in compliance so that they can better work with the departments. She said that the Board needs to get involved and that they all need to be able to meet and work on things.
- Trustee Herrmann mentioned the last 3 months of attorney bills that are being accumulated. She said the charges are \$20,000 + for the upcoming month. She said that the Village will run into a big problem if this continues. Trustee Herrmann commented that the Village should not be footing the bill for individuals who decide to act politically and turn items into the states attorneys office when they are the one's filing the complaints. She said that they should be footing the bill, not the Village. Trustee Ponio asked who will be paying Mr. Kachka's attorney bills as he's been found not guilty. Trustee Herrmann replied that the States Attorneys Office filed and pursued this, not her nor the Island Lake PD. Trustee Ponio said the people have the right to file. Trustee Herrmann said she's also like to discuss the mayhem relative to ordinance 441 the public and private water hook up. She said the attorney fees for this are already \$2500 +. She said in addition to the legal bills, Trustee Saville also added a part time employee. Trustee Herrmann said the action was taken without Board approval. She said a policy and procedure violation has taken place and this was not Board approved. Because of the dialogue between Trustee Saville and the employees, Trustee Herrmann said she was asked, by employees, to work with them on this particular ordinance and the mayhem that has been created. She would like to see this enforced as well but without pandemonium. Trustee Ponio replied that Trustee Saville should be handling this matter. Trustee Saville replied that the budget is a working document. On May 22, he brought this matter of hiring a part time person to the Board and that it is in the Village minutes. There are also emails as well as conversations that went on between himself, Debby, Neal and John Little. HE added that he does not micromanage his departments and that he told them to get with John Little and make sure this works money wise. Trustee Saville said that after the meeting and the emails, no one has said a thing. On July 7th Debby Balke sent an email to all announcing the part time person who was hired. No one responded to this email either. Trustee Herrmann replied that the Board did not approve this and Trustees can not hire and fire as they please without Board consent. Trustee Saville asked for the policy and/or ordinance. He said that he came to the Board with the notion of a part timer person because he was asked by the Department Heads to do so as they need help. Trustee Ponio inquired about a policy and ordinance as well. Trustee Herrmann said that someone can be hired only with the advice and consent of the Board. Trustee Saville said again that he needs to see and to get a copy of that policy that Trustee Herrmann is referring to. Mayor Hyde questioned what this part timer works on for four hours a day. Trustee Saville reiterated that this was unintentional, that he brought this to the Board several times and that the Department Heads are requesting help. Trustee Saville also questioned why this water hook up water is suddenly being considered chaos when no complaints have been received.

Committee Meeting – Village of Island Lake – page 4 of 5

He is surprised also with the attorney fees as they have come back with very little information on this matter. Trustee Herrmann said that the part time employee was not in the budget and she questioned what this person does for the Water Department. Trustee Saville commented that he too is being left off of emails which is impeding communication. Trustee Verciglio commented too that this needs Board approval. Trustee Ponio replied that Trustee Saville is asking for the policy and procedure for this. Trustee Garling replied that he wants to see it in writing – what this person makes, what the job duties are, etc. Trustee Herrmann next read some suggested ordinance changes to ordinance 441 that employees have requested. Trustee Saville said that himself, Neal, Willie and Frank met about this also about a year ago. This is different for businesses vs. residents. Trustee Saville read from the June 7, 2004 meeting minutes where Mayor Hyde, Trustee Hyde at the time, stated that the ordinance states that it is mandatory to hook up. The minutes said, “Trustee Hyde said he feels the letters should be followed thru with and that residents must do so and hook up”. Trustee Saville commented that this is nothing new and has been talked about many times through the years. Trustee Mascillino said that the ordinance needs to be followed but that a different approach needs to be taken.

Motion by Trustee Verciglio, properly seconded to extend the meeting past 10 pm. Opposed-Trustee Ponio, Herrmann and Saville. In favor, Mascillino, Garling, Verciglio and Mayor Hyde.

Trustee Ponio said that Trustee Herrmann has taken this away from Trustee Saville and from the ordinance committee/himself, modified it and is moving forward. Trustee Mascillino, Herrmann, Verciglio and Garling agreed that this is to go to the Village Attorney for review. Trustee Saville and Ponio did not agree.

- Trustee Herrmann said that her last item is that litigation is being discussed in executive session; however, it is leaving the Board Room and should not be. She stated that she is no longer staying in executive session if litigation is being discussed. Trustee Herrmann said that this is unfair to the taxpayers and to those that this executive session items/topics are about. She said she will not go in for litigation.
- Trustee Verciglio passed out the LakeFest synopsis. There was a profit of \$523.26. Less was made this year from last year. Trustee Ponio inquired about the fireworks funds/donations. Trustee Herrmann said that Clerk Kaczmarek already sent everyone an update and that the committee is still working on funds and are considering a car wash.

Items from the Mayor

- The IML Conference is September 25th to the 28th.
- Mayor Hyde passed out information from Bourbonnais, Illinois regarding a development similar to Circle Land Development.
- Mayor Hyde reviewed a note regarding Miseracordia and stated that they will be before the Board on September 4th.
- Mayor Hyde mentioned the Capitol Funding Resolution that was passed out to the Board.
- Mayor Hyde discussed the letter from Lakemoor regarding the waste composting plant being proposed by Perricone. A response is required by August 4th.
- A mutual aid agreement packet was given to each Board Member for their review.
- Mayor Hyde announced that the Liquor Commission is recommending a liquor license for Mr. Patel who is planning a business for the Westridge shopping mall. This will come before the Board next week.
- Mayor Hyde reported that the Gang Enforcement contract is not complete yet. The wording is not fitting with the insurance so it is still in process.

Motion by Trustee Garling, properly seconded to open the meeting to the floor. All in favor.

No comments.

Motion by Trustee Herrmann, properly seconded to bring the meeting back to the Board. All in favor.

Committee Meeting – Village of Island Lake – page 5 of 5

Motion by Trustee Mascillino, properly seconded to go into executive session for personnel. All in favor.

Roll call: Trustees Herrmann, Verciglio, Saville, Ponio, Mascillino and Garling.

Motion by Trustee Garling, properly seconded to come out of executive session. All in favor.

Roll call: Trustees Herrmann, Verciglio, Saville, Ponio, Mascillino and Garling.

Motion by Trustee Garling, properly seconded to adjourn the committee meeting. Being that no further business was discussed, the meeting adjourned at 10:40 pm. All in favor.

Christine Kaczmarek, Village Clerk