

1) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Deer Park was held on Thursday, January 14, 2010 at Vehe Barn, 23570 W. Cuba Road, in the Village of Deer Park, in the counties of Lake and Cook, Illinois. President Kellermann called the meeting to order at 7:05pm. Village officials and guests recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2) ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Upon roll call, the following were present: President Kellermann, Trustees Evans, Kizior, Olson, Pratscher, and Sands. The following Village officials were absent: Trustee Trost. Other Village officials present were Administrator Connors, Attorney Bateman, Treasurer Stade, and Permit Coordinator Doniec. President Kellermann stated there was a quorum.

3) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

AMENDED MOTION: by Trustee Olson, seconded by Trustee Sands, to approve the agenda amended by omitting the second Item 6) Status of letter stating termination of Vehe Farm Foundation. Upon voice vote: YES: (5) / NO: (0) / ABSENT: (1) Trost. Motion carried 5/0

4) DISCUSSION OF FY2010-2011 BUDGET

Key items discussed regarding the budget are as follows:

- With the State of Illinois' financial woes, the possibility exists that municipalities might not receive all that they are entitled to, including sales tax revenues.
- Rule of thumb is to sustain a surplus of at least 25% of annual expenditures, thus no less than \$750,000.
- Zero Based Budgeting provides for no excess in the budget and no deficits.
- Residents' complaints are justified regarding road issues as potholes, cracks, drainage etc. are a real concern; however the funds available for roads will never cover all the work desired. Therefore prioritization based on need is essential and the Road Program Plan which was updated in 2008 provides the data necessary to allow that.
- Funds available for roads and drainage for the 2010-2011 budget, assuming similar revenues and expenses for the year, are estimated to be \$331,200.
- Sales tax revenues could improve based on the state of the economy.
- A \$100,000 grant is to be received from the State of Illinois for roads which is not included above and an additional \$275,000 is pending as the signed bill has not yet been funded.
- Additional utility tax could be realized based on the upcoming contracted audit, although the results could be unfavorable as well.
- MFT revenue is substantially below budget.
- Most of the items needing to be addressed in the parks are minor except for the Dover Pond drainage which should be added to the list of drainage problems.
- Most of the worst drainage issues were handled during the current and previous years.
- A rating system would help prioritize necessary drainage work.
- The potential exists for partial funding of drainage issues by homeowners' associations.
- Early season bids for road work are more competitive.
- To be more economical, mowing contracts should state a reduction in mowing during hot/dry spells which result in minimal growth.

The consensus of the Board was for Trustee Sands to direct Village Engineer Gordon to initiate work on bid documents for drainage and road projects in the amounts of approximately \$70,000 and \$170,000 respectively. The remaining funds will be used for the pathway project and for maintenance issues as they arise.

After some discussion it was determined that Trustee Olson will research the potential cost of funding road work with municipal bonds.

After some discussion it was determined that Trustee Evans would work on details and backup for her insights into making the barn more of a “working asset” for the village which would include such ideas as generating revenues from corporate sponsorships for, and state/township funding of, children’s events, charging participants with event fees, and using hotel taxes to promote tourism.

5) DISCUSSION OF DRAFT ETHICS ORDINANCE

Attorney Bateman stated the following pertaining to a draft ethics ordinance:

- The number of members could be three (3) or five (5), though the latter would be the preferred choice because a commission of only three (3) people could easily result in a tie vote should one (1) member need to recuse him or herself due to a personal or business issue.
- Care must be taken to distinguish a complaint of ethics from that of style or policy.
- A Code of Ethics could be established by a sub-committee of the Board of Trustees or as a recommendation from the Ethics Commission.
- The process and procedures should be established by the Board of Trustees.

6) DISCUSSION OF DRAFT ORDINANCE REGARDING RECORDING OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

Attorney Bateman stated that he added paragraphs G and H to the draft ordinance and advised against any Village representative or Board member from taking action in a situation where there is a disturbance to a village meeting, noting that calling 911 would be the appropriate response.

7) DISCUSSION OF DRAFT VEHE FARM SURVEY

After much discussion it was determined that additions to the survey are necessary to request input from residents regarding the draft mission and vision statements, and that Trustee Sands will discuss with Pat Ekstrom the minimal sample size needed for the survey to be statistically useful as well as the number of one-to-one encounters by the trustees needed to be meaningful.

8) CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL

MOTION: by Trustee Olson, seconded by Trustee Evans, to temporarily adjourn into closed session to discuss issues of personnel. Upon roll call: YES: (5) Olson, Evans, Kizior, Pratscher, and Sands / NO: (0) / ABSENT: (1) Trost. Motion carried 5/0

The Board went into Closed Session at 9:28pm.

MOTION: by Trustee Evans, seconded by Trustee Sands, to re-open the regular meeting. Upon voice vote: YES: (5) / NO: (0) / ABSENT: (1) Trost. Motion carried 5/0

The Board returned to the regular session meeting at 10:22pm.

9) ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: by Trustee Sands, seconded by Trustee Olson, to adjourn the meeting. Upon voice vote: YES: (5) / NO: (0) / ABSENT: (1) Trost. Motion carried 5/0

The meeting ended at 10:22pm.

Robert Kellermann, Village President

Linda Bilocerkowycz