

VILLAGE OF WAUCONDA
REGULAR VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2012
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Knigge called the Board of Trustees to order on Tuesday, January 3, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Hall.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Boy Scout Troops 90 and 290.

3. ROLL CALL

Upon roll call by the Village Clerk, the following Trustees were:

Present: Trustee Knight, Barbini, Buster, Starkey, Arnswald, Black

Absent: None

QUORUM PRESENT

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Trustee Arnswald, seconded by Trustee Starkey, to approve the agenda.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Absent/Abstain: 0

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

6. MOTION TO APPROVE CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA BY OMNIBUS VOTE

A motion was made by Trustee Black, seconded by Trustee Barbini, to approve the consent agenda.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Absent/Abstain: 0

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

Mayor Knigge asked if there were any changes or comments in tonight's Consent Agenda. Director Miller informed the Board that in the Solar Energy Ordinance the attorney made some administrative changes from the first draft. The wording does not change the meaning of the ordinance. He mentioned the correction on page 10, the definitions of FAA; page 12, under owner; the top of page 15, under insurance and proof of ownership; and finally page 21, under sales of surplus power. These corrections were already made and were in the copies in the Board's packets for tonight's meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve Board Meeting Minutes from Dec. 6, 2011
- B. Approve Bills for Payment from 12/16/11 through 12/29/11 Totaling \$343,007.93
- C. Pass Ordinance Amending Chapter 155 of Title XIV of the Wauconda Code of Ordinances Pertaining to Regulation of Wind and Solar Energy Systems (Ordinance No. 2012-ZO-01)

7. MOTION TO APPROVE ITEMS A THROUGH C ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Trustee Arnswald, seconded by Trustee Starkey, to approve the Consent Agenda by Omnibus vote.

Ayes: Trustees Knight, Barbini, Buster, Starkey, Arnswald, Black

Nays: None

Absent/Abstain: None

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

8. NEW BUSINESS

None

9. STAFF & OFFICERS' REPORTS

Mayor Knigge asked that each staff member include what they feel is the greatest accomplishment from the past year.

Village Administrator, Director of Public Works, and Director of Building & Zoning Dave Geary wished everyone a Happy New Year. He thanked the Board for a good year and said that the staff feels that they have accomplished a lot this year. Mr. Geary has completed his term as President of the Public Works Association of Lake County. He said that he appreciates the Board's support in allowing him to complete the responsibilities of this office. His participation in this brings a lot of recognition to Wauconda.

The thing he feels is our biggest accomplishment this year has to be the Village's Strategic Plan. The thing he likes most about it is that with input from the Board, we have been able to work on some very measurable goals and have real results that we can look at. The staff feels like they understand what the Board is looking for, which helps them focus on the job.

In the Administrative Report, the number of Building Inspections is about 40, issued 11 permits, one for new house construction.

There was a CTY message that went out tonight promoting the electrical savings plan. The challenge is getting the word out, and they are using every means to do this. This week another brochure will be going out in Spanish and there are special notices being sent out that the senior representative from the Township will be working with them on this.

There will be another CTY message sent out tomorrow on the emerald ash borer. They will be letting the residents in Oak Grove know that Public Works will be cutting more trees. They have cut down about 150 trees so far of the total 400 ash trees impacted out of the total of 1,000 ash trees. About 25% of the trees owned by the Village are Ash.

Mayor Knigge thanked Mr. Geary for all he has done this year. We have accomplished much because of his cooperation with the Board and his willingness to be so flexible.

Superintendent of Public Works – Administration and Director of Environmental Quality Jacqueline Soccorso began with an update on three grant opportunities which we have taken advantage of over the past years. The first is a \$1600.00 grant from the Metropolitan Mayors' Caucus. This grant was a technical assistance grant which allowed Public Works to track the ash trees and to do a complete tree inventory of the Village. This fund required that the cost is covered by the Village and we submit for reimbursement.

The 2nd grant we are applying for is for restoration. This will help replace some of the trees which were removed because they were infected by the emerald ash Borer. This is a \$10,000.00 grant to replace approximately 125 trees. We are hoping that we are approved. The only possible reason we wouldn't get this grant is because we received a grant from them previously.

We have applied for the Community Development Block Grant through Lake County. This one is for a \$260,000.00 Roadway Improvement Project in the Crestview Subdivision. There is about 4/10th of a mile of roadway that needs to be resurfaced and some curb and gutter replacement as well as some parkway work. They have applied for \$100,000.00 towards this project. The County has tentatively approved an award of \$60,000.00 but this is still subject to the public hearing process and approval of the Lake County Board. Final decision will be made in March of this year.

Mayor Knigge stopped into Public Works to wish everyone a Happy New Year, and he stopped in to talk with Mrs. Soccorso and this became a discussion on the weed control of the lake. She has so much information on this issue already. This is going to be one of the upcoming hot topics for the Village and she is prepared.

Trustee Buster asked Mrs. Soccorso what qualifies us to be a recipient of that grant. And how can we get more of these grants? Mr. Geary said that these community block grants are based on income levels and goes by census track. We only have a few areas that meet the small income levels of these grants. We reach out for grants in the areas which we qualify.

Director of Planning and Zoning Chris Miller echoed Mr. Geary's comments that our Strategic Goals are our biggest accomplishment this past year. He is happy to be part of that, specifically what we are working on, like the Solar Energy Ordinance passed tonight. We are also working on design guidelines. We have also reviewed and evaluated a number of economic incentive programs which are available to the Village.

This year we came up with a new zoning district called the Retail Business District. The draft is under review.

Mayor Knigge agreed there is a long list of accomplishments that the Economic Development and the Building & Zoning Group have done together under Mr. Miller's leadership, and it is great to have him working with us full time.

Wauconda Fire District Deputy Chief Jon Fessler said that one of the accomplishments for the Fire District was to manage to get a BUD for the property on Garland Road. Another accomplishment was the renewed agreement between the Fire District and Building & Zoning. They needed to come up with some new ways to achieve this.

The Advanced CERT Academy begins this week. Chief Larsson will be the first presenter. Then the Public Works Department will be next. This training will continue over the next 3 - 4 months. This will allow those being trained to take a more active role with Public Works, Police, and Fire when necessary.

The Fire Commission will be taking applications over the next month to select those to put on a list of possible hires if there are openings.

Mayor Knigge thanked the Fire Department for all they do. They made it possible for us to function in some really tough times. Thank you to the Fire District Board and to Chief Dato for their cooperation and help.

Director of Economic Development Linda Krajniak reported after the Trustees had concluded their reports. She informed the Board that Eduardo from Eduardo's Catering has opened a new business, Main Street Tacos, located west on Main Street where the frame shop used to be. He has worked hard to improve this location so please support him.

We will be recognizing the volunteers from the Holiday Walk at a future meeting. Ed and Linda Lochmayer were great as the chairpersons. And, for the first time, there is \$1,000.00 to carry over to next year.

Census information for 2010 is finally available officially. She will be sharing this with the Board so we can see the demographics.

Highlights from the past year; 1 – that we continued momentum with four new Trustees, 2 – to echo Trustee Barbini's comment that the Village is going to be in the black when it was projected that we would be in the red, and 3 – she wished to thank the Board for establishing a nice strong, common thread of economic development with all of the departments. It worked. She receives a lot of information of what is going on in the community, things that people have seen on their off time. She thanked everybody and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Mayor Knigge thanked Ms. Krajniak for all her hard work.

Police Chief Douglas Larsson was not in attendance this evening.

Director of Finance, IMRF Authorized agent, Director of Human Resources/Risk Management, and Director of I.T. Zaida Torres was not in attendance this evening.

10. MAYOR'S REPORT

Again, a Happy New Year to everyone. He couldn't be prouder of everything that happened last year. Especially, thanks to the new Board members for their energy, enthusiasm, and to the Board for the cooperation and communication with the staff. We really are the envy of other Villages in the area. They see what we do and know how well we operate here. We have had some very tough economic conditions and we've stepped up and have done a tremendous job for the residents of Wauconda. The overwhelming attitude of our residents is that they are very happy with what we're doing. Again, thank you to the Board and to the staff. It's a great team, and he is really looking forward to 2012. We are attempting some things that this Village has never done before. We can maintain the small-town feel while moving forward.

What he thinks is a tremendous accomplishment is what we have put together related to the Lake Michigan Water Issue. Mr. Geary, Mr. Devery, and the staff have put together various options. This will be the largest project this Village has faced.

He is also looking forward to Dr. Bender coming back and working with a private session with the Board.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS & TRUSTEES' COMMENTS

Trustee Starkey began saying that she is looking forward to working together with everybody in 2012. The Communications Committee had a meeting this evening at 5:30 p.m. Next week, on Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. there will be a Professional Marketing Presentation by Robin Malpass and Associates. Everyone is invited. February 24th and 25th is the Chamber Expo at the High School. She passed around a sheet asking each Board member to sign up for a two hour block of time to man the Village's booth. They will have information on the Lake Michigan Water Issue and the Electricity Savings Program and then hopefully the community calendar by the Economic Advisory Group and United Partnership.

The Economic Advisory Group has recommended that we take advantage of the Daily Herald On-Line Press Portal. This is a self publishing portal. Ms. Krajniak will be putting one or two top items from our E-News and post it on the Daily Herald web-site.

Trustee Arnswald started with Happy New Year to all. He then said there was no Public Works Committee report this evening. They will be meeting soon. He thinks that this year's accomplishments are the Strategic Plan, and him being here. He agrees with Mayor Knigge that it is amazing to see how well everyone in their positions work. The

commitment and dedication of everybody really gives the residents the biggest bang for their buck.

Mayor Knigge added that what's great is that everyone has their own ideas and they are engaged in each of their committees.

Trustee Black also shared his wishes for a Happy New Year. As Mrs. Soccorso reported, work continues on a plan to control the exotic plants in Bangs Lake. They had their second meeting with Lake County and Clark. They are evaluating the different situations and weighing their options. They have developed a draft of a timeline for plan of implementation, shooting for spring of 2013. Staff is getting cost estimates for the different options. There will be a timeline presented to the Board at the COW next week. Cost estimates will be presented to the Board during the budget development process. He has three things that he sees as accomplishments this past year. Regarding the Lake Michigan Water Issue, it is amazing how much information has been gathered by everyone to get us to the point where we are right now. It's amazing that we are so far along. The Strategic Plan speaks for itself. That everyone is on the same page. There is no arguing and that everyone is heading in the same direction is amazing. And, finally, communication thanks to Linda Krajniak and Linda Starkey. Everything gets out to the community. It's great to have all the different channels used to get the information out to the residents.

Trustee Buster said that he did not have a lot to report since things have been off through the holidays. At the last joint B&Z and Economic Development Committee Meeting, they looked at the first draft of the design guidelines. They will be finalizing these, and they will also be working on some things for single family construction, specifically lot sizes and different types of development. An accomplishment that he sees, as a new Board member, is that he had no idea how professional this group was. This group works so well together. As a community member, he had no idea how professional this team is. Mr. Geary just makes things flow. He is always available and returns his calls. Also, bringing Mr. Miller on board is a big accomplishment.

Trustee Barbini informed the Board that there will be a joint meeting on the 17th. As mentioned, they will be working on the façade guidelines. He also asked about the meeting on the 24th with the Oak Park Development Corporation. Mr. Geary said they are still shooting for the 24th but needs to confirm some times. He sees two things as accomplishments for the past year. First, we have a focus which is the Strategic Plan, and we have really been doing a very good job of holding ourselves to that Plan, holding ourselves accountable to that Plan, and addressing the issues in that Plan. Secondly, the budget has remained in the black. We are operating with 25 less staff and making the Village work. Yes, some people are doing double and triple duty. Another thing that has happened is the utility tax has been reduced. Also, the cooperative effort to get us into the fuel depot is saving us \$1,500.00 a month. We have a focus, and we have leadership at the Village administration level and a Board that is really working together very well. It is a pleasure to serve on this Board with these people and this administration.

Trustee Knight started with business. He asked if the License & Administration Committee could meet on Jan. 16th at 5:30 p.m. next door in the Building & Zoning building. As for goals, it's been a great year. The staff has been working great together with the Board. The new Board members have jumped right in and being active is awesome to see. Mr. Miller coming on board is great. One other thing he would like to mention is the new 911 Dispatch Center. This is going to be huge for our residents and for the other communities that are signing on. This is far reaching and was a great move by everyone involved.

Mayor Knigge then asked Village Clerk Ginger Irwin to add her comments. She said that she has enjoyed watching everyone work so well together. He thanked her for all she does.

12. OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

A motion was made by Trustee Knight, seconded by Trustee Starkey, to open the meeting to the public.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Absent/Abstain: 0

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

Mayor Knigge thanked Ed and Linda Lochmayer for all their hard work for the Village.

Ed Lochmayer mentioned that on the 16th, at 7:00 p.m., here at the Village Hall, we are hosting the meeting for the Four Lakes Water Shed Initiative Project. If you have the time to attend, it would be very worthwhile. Things are really moving along.

Mayor Knigge asked if there was any type of write up which comes out of these meetings. Mr. Geary suggested putting out a notice in E-News so the residents who want to can attend.

13. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Trustee Starkey, seconded by Trustee Arnsward, to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Absent/Abstain: 0

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

Ginger Irwin, Village Clerk