

June 2, 2015

**State of Illinois
County of Cook
Village of Stickney**

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Stickney met in regular session on Tuesday, June 2, 2015 at 7:04 p.m. in the Stickney Village Hall, 6533 W. Pershing Road, Stickney, Illinois.

Upon the roll call, the following Trustees were present:

Present: Trustees Hrejsa, Lazansky, Milenkovic, Savopoulos, and White

Absent: Trustee De Leshe

Trustee Lazansky moved, duly seconded by Trustee White, to approve the minutes of the previous regular session on Tuesday, May 19, 2015.

Upon the roll call, the following Trustees were present:

Present: Trustees Hrejsa, Lazansky, Milenkovic, Savopoulos, and White

Absent: Trustee De Leshe

President Morelli declared the motion carried.

Trustee White moved, duly seconded by Trustee Savopoulos that the bills, approved by the various committees of the Board, be approved for payment, and to approve warrants which authorize the Village Treasurer to draw checks to pay the bills, to be signed by the authorized signers, as provided for by the Ordinances of the Village of Stickney.

Upon the roll call, the following Trustees were present:

Present: Trustees Hrejsa, Lazansky, Milenkovic, Savopoulos, and White

Absent: Trustee De Leshe

President Morelli declared the motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT: The Mayor read a letter was written to the Stickney Fire Department from Richard Stoehmann Fire Certification Specialist I who is from the Office of the State Fire Marshall. He met with the Chief to report on the results of the audit of our training. The audit results are on the Fire Marshall's portal. The Stickney Fire Department was found to have a well-run training program. It was mentioned that we are extremely organized.

Mayor Morelli mentioned that we are not ready for the appointments to the Parks and Recreation Committee. She asked that #7 be struck from the agenda.

CLERK'S REPORT: A letter of thanks was received from Doris Helebrandt, Vice President, American Legion Auxiliary, Stickney Post 687. She wanted to show her appreciation to the Village of Stickney in their help it organizing the Memorial Day ceremony. Specific people were named for their assistance.

TRUSTEE'S REPORTS: Trustee Mary Hrejsa explained that at the last board meeting the mayor appointed seven people to have on the Park & Rec Advisory Committee. She then said that Trustee Hrejsa could appoint two. The following email was then read: "Sorry I didn't respond earlier to your emails. Just got my email up and running this afternoon. I asked Martha Gomez and Linda Bruscato if they were interested in being on the parks and rec advisory committee, they said yes." Trustee Hrejsa explained that they are the most hard-working volunteers this village has ever seen. They have lived here for years. The Trustee then went back to reading the email. "Very sorry I didn't get back to you sooner, but we were having trouble getting me connected on the computer." The response from the mayor was then read. "Thank you for your recommendations for appointments to the Parks & Recreation Committee. "I have reviewed your recommendations and am declining to make your requested appointments. If you wish to put forth 2 different persons for my consideration, please let me know on or before Tuesday, June 10. If you don't wish to put forward 2 other persons for my consideration, I will make appointments to fill the 2 vacancies at the Board Meeting of June 16th."

Trustee Hrejsa then stated, when she ran for trustee, she talked to many village residents. . . . they actually came to her. She promised the residents that she would work for them, only for them. They came with questions and a lot of them. She told them that they have her word that she would work for them, only them, and do the best she could for them. And, she still will. There were questions and a lot of them.. She said, "You have my word." She then injected that she got a lot more votes than seven votes. To them she said, "I am doing my best but sometimes your hands are tied." "I have no control over this." "But, I will never stop trying." "I will go to the residents and tell them what happened here." "And, I am not here for me." "I don't want my picture in the newspaper." "I don't want my picture on Facebook." "I am doing it for the town because I love this village and the residents."

Trustee Hrejsa asked, "I would love to know her reason for denying the two wonderful people that have worked so hard for this village." "I don't think I will get a straight answer." "But, I want to end with my sincere apologies to Martha Gomez and Linda Bruscato who are the most dedicated, proven, successful volunteers I know." "They have worked harder than anyone." "There are many volunteers that work hard." "But there are many that just talk and don't do anything." "You are not going to get anywhere if you don't work hard."

Trustee Hrejsa went on to say, "The mayor asked me for second best choice." "I don't have any." "I picked the best." "If the mayor wants second best, she can make those appointments herself."

Trustee Milenkovic stated that he has received complaints from residents concerning shrubs in the parkways creating blind spots for drivers. Trustee Milenkovic spoke to Public Works Supervisor Jeff Boyajian about trimming or removing some of the shrubs. Supervisor Boyajian will address this. Trustee Milenkovic then provided information pertaining to the next meeting of Midway Noise Compatibility Commission on July 23. Our permanent noise monitor is located at 4308 Wenonah. We have the lowest noise readings of the 12 monitors located around Midway. This year so far there have been no noise complaints from Stickney. Trustee Milenkovic is

working on complaints concerning the train whistles. Fire Chief Larry Meyer took him and Trustee Hrejsa on a tour of the east end of the Stickney industrial area. Home Depot is doing a service project at Edison School next week. They will be working on the planters at the main entrance. Finally, he thanked Clerk McAdams for a wonderful Memorial Day service. He included Joe Lopez for cooking, the American Legion for hosting, the fire department for bringing the chairs and the lectern, Sergeant Wiseman for doing the Honor Guard, the woman's auxiliary of the Legion (namely Doris Helebrandt and Sylvia Hosek for setting up the hall and serving the food) and Natasa Dzolic for shopping for all the food.

Trustee Savopoulos informed us of the 50/50 sidewalk program. We have a stack of applications. Our budget is \$17,000 and we are almost there. The cutoff will be June 30 to accept applications. This way we can get the money in. Public Works Supervisor Jeff Boyajian will then go out and mark all the sidewalks. Ridgeland Avenue is all done. Those sidewalks are all done.

Trustee White spoke to Treasurer Kurt Kasnicka about our American Express Corporate card. All of our paperwork is in for that. We should have that card very soon. We will be using that card to pay our water bill for Chicago. We will earn a cash rebate at the end of the year. Concerning the electronic recycling with Seguin Services; Public Works Supervisor Jeff Boyajian had an opportunity to speak with the manager there. We will be able to get rid of some of our recyclables there. During the next few weeks we will get started on our budget. Hopefully we will be able to get a budget done in a timely fashion. He was disheartened learning that employee raises were given out. He doesn't understand how we could give out raises when we haven't done our budget. The Treasurer, Kurt Kasnicka, was not in attendance at this meeting. Trustee White asked the Mayor if they gave out raises. Mayor Morelli answered, "That is something that the Mayor is able to do." Trustee White remarked that, "We could do that without even knowing our budget." "Even after what we went through last year when we had such a controversy over the raises." "Now our budget doesn't get done until June." He asked when the raises were given out and how much were they. Mayor Morelli responded, "She believes that they just went through now." "Everybody got 2%." Trustee White stated that we have a contractual agreement with the police department for 2%. We are not paying them because we are waiting for our budget. It is an obligation that we cannot get away from. We have yet to give them their back pay and yet we are giving out raises to people who are not in the union. If we are giving out raises in April or May, then our budget meetings should be pushed back in January.

Senator Sandoval spoke to the assembly. He congratulated the Mayor upon completing her second year. Stickney is known as a community that cares. He also congratulated the new trustees. His visit was to remind us that Governor Rauner is planning on shutting down state government on July 1. Senator Sandoval did vote on a responsible budget spending plan that the governor refuses to accept. Senator Sandoval said the governor refused to sit down and discuss the budget. The governor has stated that the legislators must give him "right to work" and "worker's comp reforms", neither of which is not related to the budget. The Senator reminded us that we have responsible representatives that we have sent to Springfield. The

constitution mandates that the legislators have a budget delivered by May 31. Usually it is agreed upon by the governor and the general assembly. The house and the senate came together early on to an agreement. The governor refused to meet with them. Instead, he then toured the state to talk about his reforms. Finally, the governor said, "Give me my agenda and then we will talk about yours."

Senator Sandoval warned us that we may be seeing some very serious cuts to our budgets in the upcoming 30 days. If there is no budget deal by July 1, the state government will shut down. Serious consequences will be felt.

The Senator expected a bipartisan agreement. He is not too sure that there will be an agreement. He suggested that we reach out to our legislators with our concerns.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS: Police Chief John Sladetz advised us he will be having a meeting with our phone company the next day. The police department and the fire department are conducting evacuation drills with Edison and Home Schools.

PUBLIC WORKS SUPERVISOR JEFF BOYAJIAN spoke about the electronic recycling program that was cut by the state. Through Trustee White's contact with Seguin Services, we are now talking with them. They are a middleman. We are slowly emptying our building of the electronics that we have stored there. Right now Seguin is a holding area. Once they have a certain quantity, they call for a pickup. They then receive payment for the electronics that they use for their programs. The supervisor explained that we had been paying \$250 just for the previous service to send out a truck. Then it was \$.14 per pound for TVs and monitors. With this Seguin program, we have to pay a little bit for the TVs and monitors and we don't have to pay the travel fees. We were notified that the dog park has reopened.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORTS: Chief Larry Meyer announced that the State Fire Marshal has audited the fire department. They review the training hours. In addition, we were informed that the fire department is having troubles with their phones. They are involved with all of our schools. This week they are doing a simulated evacuation drill at both schools.

There being no further business, Trustee Lazansky moved, duly seconded by Trustee White that the meeting be adjourned. Upon which the Board adopted the motion at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey McAdams, Village Clerk

Approved by me this 17th day of June, 2015

Deborah E. Morelli, Village Mayor