

COMMITTEE-AT-LARGE MINUTES: MAY 21, 2012

The Committee-at-Large Meeting was held Monday, May 21, 2012, at the New Baden Village Hall, 1 East Hanover Street. The meeting started at 7:02 p.m.

Present: Mayor Brandmeyer, Trustees Malina, Linthicum, Picard, Nielsen and Gunn.
Board Members Absent: Trustee Oster. **Staff Members Present:** Clerk Crane; Administrator Morani; Public Works Commissioner Renth; Chief Building and Zoning Official Green; Treasurer Pollmann; Police Chief Riley; Brian Buchheit of HMG Engineers, Inc., and Attorneys Gruenke and Palen of Belsheim & Bruckert, LLC.

Committee Appointments

Mayor Brandmeyer stated that in regards to the Committees, he would like the chairs of the individual committees to stay the same and just rework the members.

Capital Improvement Projects

This was continued discussion from the May 7 regular meeting in regards to potential financing of these projects.

Tornado Sirens

In reference to recent storms in the area, uniform standards will be created for when the siren should be sounded. Trustee Gunn will work with Chief Riley in the establishment of the standards.

Emergency Notification System

Police Chief Riley has been researching vendors in regards to an emergency notification system for the Village. He presented information from Global Connect, which is currently used by Trenton, Breese, Mascoutah and Bond County. The cost is approximately \$1,000 per year for registration of home phone numbers and email addresses; there is an additional cost to register cell phones. The consensus of the Board was in favor of this system.

Public Works Dept.

Mayor Brandmeyer extended his thanks to Public Works Commissioner Renth and the Public Works Dept. for all their work after the hail storm on April 28 and the time put in for a water main break on May 13.

Telecommunications Tax

Administrator Morani presented information received from the Illinois Dept. of Revenue pertaining to actual state telecommunication tax revenues generated within the Village of New Baden. The figures for New Baden are almost identical to Trenton's revenues, which collects approximately \$50,000 annually at 3%. Lebanon and Mascoutah are at 5% and 6% respectively. In FY 2011-2012, the Village made \$22,500 in permanent transfers from the General Fund to the recreation funds. If the Board implemented a telecommunications tax, these revenues could be earmarked for the recreation funds (Park and Civic Center), thus preventing the continued subsidization from the General Fund. Additionally, these revenues would provide the Village with adequate resources to make improvements to recreational facilities once the TIF District expires in 2014. The implementation of this tax at 3% will be considered at the June 4 regular meeting.

Reno-Guthrie Chevrolet TIF Project

The owner of Reno-Guthrie Chevrolet has informed the Village of their intent to renovate and expand their business. Although the Village is not in a position to make any commitments with TIF funds at this time, Administrator Morani recommends an inducement resolution be considered at the June 4 regular meeting. An inducement resolution shows that the Village will support such a project, with no guarantee on the amount of funds to be reimbursed.

FY 2012/13 Budget

Administrator Morani will coordinate with Trustee Malina in scheduling a Finance Committee meeting in June.

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Employee Wage Adjustments

Administrator Morani recommends between a 2% and 3% wage increase for non-union employees; Trustee Picard, Personnel committee chair, agrees with this recommendation. This applies to the following positions: Chief of Police, Commissioner of Public Works, Village Clerk/Collector, Deputy Clerk, Treasurer, EMS Director, Paramedics, EMTs, Park & Rec Coordinator, Crossing Guard, and Custodian. The consensus of the Board was to grant a 3% wage increase to the non-union employees. Additionally, Mr. Morani and EMS Director Allen Gilbert request that the Village adopt a special rate of pay (1.5 times) for EMT's who work the June Jamboree event. Mr. Gilbert has a difficult time finding employees to volunteer to work these extra shifts since they are on weekend evenings between 6 to 8 hours per shift. If the Chamber of Commerce shares 50% of the cost of the EMT wages (similar to police services), it is estimated to cost the Village \$200.

Village Property on East Illinois Street

The Board reviewed the proposed minor subdivision and rezoning exhibit for the Village Property on East Illinois Street. These items will be reviewed by the Plan Commission at a Public Hearing on Tuesday, May 29 and will be considered by the Board at the June 4 regular meeting.

Electric Aggregation

Board members received the results from the electric aggregation bids from May 8. The Village chose the lowest bid from Homefield Energy, which is a subsidiary (but separate entity) of Ameren at a rate of 0.0401 per kWh for a two-year term. This rate is very favorable and less than what was predicted by the village's consultant. New Baden Ameren customers should receive a letter within the week notifying them of the proposed rate and the ability to opt-out of the aggregation program. At this low of a rate, it is likely that most will achieve savings, including a majority of space heat customers.

Door-to-Door Solicitation

As a result of the hail storm on April 28, 2012, the Village has seen an influx of out-of-town solicitors. Staff has reviewed the village's policy on door-to-door soliciting and recommends the Board consider increasing the fees from \$5 per day / \$50 per year to \$25 per day / \$100 per year. Even with this increase, the village's fees would be lower than neighboring communities. This will be considered at the June 4 regular meeting.

A motion was made by Trustee Malina and seconded by Trustee Nielsen to adjourn the meeting to Closed Session to discuss Personnel.

Ayes: Malina, Linthicum, Picard, Nielsen, Gunn.

Nays: None.

Absent: Oster.

A majority of the Board voting aye, the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned to Closed Session at 7:50 p.m.

Meeting reconvened at 7:59 p.m.

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There being no further business to be discussed by the Village Board, a motion was made by Trustee Nielsen and seconded by Trustee Malina to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Malina, Linthicum, Picard, Nielsen, Gunn.

Nays: None.

Absent: Oster.

A majority of the Board voting aye, the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Teri L Crane, Village Clerk

Approved: June 4, 2012