

COMMITTEE-AT-LARGE MINUTES: NOVEMBER 19, 2012

The Committee-at-Large Meeting was held Monday, November 19, 2012, at the New Baden Village Hall, 1 East Hanover Street. The meeting started at 7:05 p.m.

Prior to the meeting, Public Hearings were held for the Amended Interstate-64 TIF Redevelopment Plan, Business District II Plan and Business District III Plan.

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; and Attorney Palen of Belsheim & Bruckert, LLC.

Announcements

Mayor Brandmeyer announced that HMG Engineers has won an Honor Award (one of 12 awarded this year) from the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) Illinois' 2013 Engineering Excellence Awards Competition for their work on the Wastewater Treatment Facility project. This is the first municipal type of project of this kind within the State of Illinois.

Mayor Brandmeyer read a "Letter to the Editor" from a recent issue of "The Trenton Sun". The letter was from a traveler and commended the local police departments (New Baden, Mascoutah and the Illinois State Police) on their quick response to assist an elderly traveler along Interstate 64.

Maintenance Shed Driveway

Jerry Kunz was present to thank the Board for their work in assisting him with the use of the maintenance shed driveway; unfortunately, his lending institution is against the use of the road and he will be required to install a separate hard surface road that will extend south from 5th Street (east side of property).

Library & Civic Center Improvements

Mayor Brandmeyer reported that Trustee Oster has met with a representative of AAIC, Inc. who will be drawing up the plans for the renovations to the Library and Civic Center. He will have additional information at the December 10, 2012 meeting. It was also stated that a quote for the sky light repairs to the Library came in double what the insurance company was reimbursing to the Village. Administrator Morani is working to secure an additional quote for the insurance company.

South First Street Extension Project

Mayor Brandmeyer questioned the Board on their reason for not approving this project at the regular meeting on November 5. Trustees Malina, Linthicum and Picard said they want to see the Civic Center renovations completed prior to any work being down on the First Street Extension. Trustee Malina stated that the inside of the Civic Center looks great, but the outside is lacking. He also wants to see the work to the walking trail at the Park completed; it's better than it was, but still needs work. Administrator Morani stated that \$150,000 has been budgeted for the work at the Civic Center; there is no information yet on the estimated cost of the project. Mayor Brandmeyer stated that this project will continue to be listed on all future agendas until it is approved.

Wesclin Water/Sewer Project

Administrator Morani reported that the sewer portion of the project is moving along. In regards to the water portion, easements still need to be obtained from four (4) property owners. Tri-Township Water District says that the Village has encroached into their jurisdiction; typically this is settled by purchasing the rights from the other district. This topic is being discussed at the Wesclin School Board meeting that is also taking place this evening. Updates will be provided at the next board meeting.

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Open Burning on Agricultural Property

Board members reviewed an ordinance that is a proposed amendment to Section 27-9-2 of the Village Code to permit open burning on properties within the corporate limits that are zoned agricultural and at least five (5) acres in size. Since the printing of the agenda packets, it has been recommended to make the property at least ten (10) acres in size. This has become a topic addressed by many of the property owners that easements are trying to be obtained from, and that would be required to sign an annexation agreement. This will be on the December 10 Agenda for consideration.

Discharging of Firearms on Agricultural Property

Board members reviewed an ordinance that is a proposed amendment to Section 27-2-20 of the Village Code to permit the discharging of firearms on properties within the corporate limits that are zoned agricultural and at least five (5) acres in size. Since the printing of the agenda packets, it has been recommended to make the property at least ten (10) acres in size. This has become a topic addressed by many of the property owners that easements are trying to be obtained from, and that would be required to sign an annexation agreement. Attorney Palen stated that the Dept. of Natural Resources also has regulations on firearms; rifles have to be a minimum of 900 ft. from any residence, shotguns and bows have to be a minimum of 300 ft. from any residence. This will be on the December 10 Agenda for consideration.

FY 2012/13 Tax Levy

Board members reviewed a worksheet for the proposed FY 2012-2013 tax levy. Due to declining equalized assessed value (EAV) for properties within the Village, Administrator Morani recommends that the tax levy remain at the same level as last year. While this could result in an increased rate for properties, the amount of taxes received by the Village on an aggregate basis will not increase. This worksheet also assumes the library board will increase their tax levy by 5%. If the library's levy is lower than an increase of 5%, then the resulting total levy will be lower. This will be considered at the December 10 meeting.

Azavar Audit Solutions Agreement

Board members reviewed an agreement from Azavar Audit Solutions. This company will audit various taxes and fees imposed by the Village to ensure they are properly paid and collected. The firm works on a contingency fee basis so there is no up-front cost to the Village. This will be considered at the December 10 meeting.

Caylin Ridge SSA

Administrator Morani reported that the ordinance to establish the Caylin Ridge SSA will be considered at the December 10 meeting. To his knowledge, residents have not yet formed a homeowners' association (HOA). If the residents do not properly maintain the property, the Village can levy a tax within the special service area. This led to a detailed discussion in regards to covenants within a subdivision and HOAs.

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

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

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

A majority of the Board voting aye, the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Teri L Crane, Village Clerk
Approved: December 10, 2012