

## COMMITTEE-AT-LARGE MINUTES: OCTOBER 20, 2014

The Committee-at-Large Meeting was held on Monday, October 20, 2014, at the New Baden Village Hall, 1 East Hanover Street and was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Picard.

**Present:** Mayor Picard, Trustees Malina, Linthicum, Nielsen, Mavrogeorge and Him. **Board Members Absent:** Trustee Oster. **Staff Members Present:** Clerk Crane; Administrator Joost; Public Works Commissioner Renth; Police Chief Riley; Treasurer Pollmann; Deputy Clerk Wilken; Chief Building & Zoning Official Green; and Attorney Gruenke.

### Audit Report: FY 2013/14

Annette Hipkiss, of Allison, Knapp & Siekmann, Ltd., was present to review the Fiscal Year 2013/14 Audit Report.

### Haier Plumbing & Heating, Inc.: Change Order: I-64 Water/Sewer Extension

This is a current discussion between the Village of New Baden, HMG Engineers and Haier Plumbing & Heating stemming from Haier hitting large rocks during the bore that required time and effort above and beyond what they included in their bid for the unforeseen conditions during the bore.

### Wisper ISP Proposal for Elevated Water Tower Antennae

Public Works Commissioner Renth, Trustee Oster and Administrator Joost met on October 14 with David Gress, Operations Manager for Wisper ISP to discuss their request to locate one or more antennae on New Baden's water tower. Mr. Renth was comfortable with the proposal; his main concerns were the installation and Wisper's access to the tower. It was the consensus of the Board to allow the potential use of the tower in order to provide residents with an alternative source for internet connection; staff will proceed with developing a formal agreement with Wisper. Attorney Gruenke will have Attorney Terry Bruckert of the firm Bruckert, Gruenke & Long, PC, prepare the documents to avoid a conflict of interest. Once the agreement is finalized, it will be presented to the Board for consideration.

### Emergency Siren

Mayor Picard addressed the issue with the storm warning sirens that occurred on October 13 when volatile weather was experienced. She stated that the storm warning siren was detonated but failed to sound off. Within minutes the cause was determined and corrected; but because the weather system had already moved on, the siren was not sounded a second time. Additional precautions have been taken since this date to have this less likely happen in the future. Mayor Picard has asked that a Public Safety Committee meeting be held to discuss this issue and some additional topics that need to be addressed.

### Liability Insurance Renewal

The Village's liability insurance coverage is up for renewal; the renewal date this year will be December 1st, rather than December 30th. Staff is still waiting on final numbers from the broker. This will be considered at the November 3 regular meeting.

### Liquor License Request: Love's Travel Stops

Board members reviewed a letter from Love's Travel Stops requesting the Village open an additional Class C (liquor store) license. The ordinance to change the number of allowed liquor store licenses will be considered at the November 3 regular meeting.

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### Community Newsletter

Board members reviewed information provided by Administrator Joost detailing the possible format and costs of a community newsletter. This project might be useful in the near future in keeping residents informed about issues and projects. The estimated cost of producing and mailing the newsletter is about \$680.00 per issue. Mr. Joost proposes that it be funded through supporting advertisers. The consensus of the board is in favor.

### Home Rule Referendum Discussion

The Home Rule Referendum Ordinance was discussed at the September Committee-At-Large meeting. Board members reviewed basic information, statutory deadlines, and a draft resolution in the event the Board wishes to move forward with the referendum. If the Village wants to move forward with Crime Free Housing, home rule must be approved by the voters. Questions were addressed regarding tax increases by future Boards. The Community Newsletter will be a great way to get information to residents regarding home rule. Mayor Picard requested a Community Coordination Committee meeting be scheduled to address notifying the public regarding the referendum.

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

**Ayes:** Malina, Linthicum, Nielsen, Mavrogeorge, Him.

**Nays:** None.

**Absent:** Oster.

A majority of the Board voting aye, the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Teri L Crane, Village Clerk  
Approved: November 3, 2014