

December 29, 2009

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

A Special Session of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Stickney was called to order by President Daniel A. O'Reilly on Tuesday, December 29, 2009 at 11:03 a.m. for the purpose of a Committee of the Whole meeting in the Stickney Village Hall, 6533 W. Pershing Road, Stickney, Illinois.

The following Trustees were present: Trustee Lazansky, Mares, Morelli, Walik and Schimel. Trustee Zeedyk was absent.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and gather information on the following: Home/office occupations in our Village; to further discuss Ordinance 2009-34 concerning new findings involving downspouts; to discuss ideas on future revenue sources.

There was no audience in attendance.

A notice of the meeting was posted in the Village Hall Lobby on December 23, 2009.

A list was presented to each trustee of all the Illinois Department of Revenue businesses that live in Stickney. There are 100 of those listed that do not have a business license in the Village. Trustee Schimel questioned if businesses located on Metropolitan Water Reclamation District property or on the east side of our Village are paying taxes that go to Stickney. Trustee Schimel provided historical information on maintaining the integrity of our single-family community by monitoring non-conforming uses. He also did some research on a couple of the businesses listed and what they do.

President O'Reilly gave an example of what Berwyn, Cicero and Lyons do in licensing in-house businesses. He felt that we should change the current ordinance and make it right.

Trustee Mares gave opinions on allowing people to run their in-house businesses that follow the prohibited rules. It allows the people to stay in the Village.

Attorney Stanley Kuser recommended that a new ordinance be written that addresses a home occupation business. He said that Chicago's ordinance is very stringent. There should be a variance on businesses. There will be strong verbiage in a new ordinance. A consensus was received to go forward.

The subject of downspouts was continued.

Trustee Schimel gave historical information on the ordinance that was passed in 2005. There have been approximately 20 newsletters distributed over the years that address the mandates spelled out in the ordinance. He explained a conversation he had with Morton Grove Supervisor, Ed Helebrandt. There was a letter presented that explains the ordinance that Morton Grove has on disconnecting downspouts. We were not able to find any evidence concerning the mandate of December 2010 as the deadline to do this.

Trustee Lazansky produced correspondence dated January 24, 2006 that was given to each trustee. This was a survey from the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District on water involving sewer and flooding issues. President O'Reilly then referred to a letter written by the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District on November 16, 2009. This letter was in response to a request made by our building inspector David Schimdt. He wanted an explanation to the downspout requirements. We have now learned that, "for existing buildings, the District does not require that existing downspouts or roof drains be disconnected from storm or combined sewer systems and discharge onto the ground, but encourages it where practicable."

President O'Reilly felt that we would be at fault by not changing this ordinance based on the information that we now know.

Attorney Stanley Kuser recommended that a preamble be included with the revised Ordinance 2009-34 that states: Based on information recently received from the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District it has been determined that mandatory provisions and mandates contained in the previous ordinance be deleted and new provision substituted therefore.

The next discussion was held on ideas for possible resources for revenue.

Trustee Fred Schimel gave some background on the utility tax. He noted that \$36,000 was the tax on the first month of the electric utility tax for the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District. They refused to pay it. We learned from Attorney Stanley Kuser that a taxing body cannot tax a taxing body.

Trustee Lazansky gave his original feelings prior to voting for the utility tax in 2005.

Grants have been applied for ever since we took office. President O'Reilly has submitted two requests for a Federal Water Shed Grant for the water main on East Avenue. President O'Reilly said that we are expecting money to do another two to six streets depending on funding from the state.

A lengthy discussion was held on various revenue sources to keep our Village moving forward without raising our property taxes.

President O'Reilly then reminded the Trustees of the Police Pension Fund requirements by the Village. He told them that the Village is mandated to make up the losses seen in their fund due to the economy. A lengthy explanation was given to our responsibility.

The board will study all possibilities in the near future, including the possibility of cutting expenses on the next budget.

Trustee Lazansky moved, duly seconded by Trustee Mares to adjourn this meeting at 12:33 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

**Audrey McAdams
Village Clerk**

Approved by me, this 30th day of December 2009

Daniel A. O'Reilly, President