

December 16, 2014

State of Illinois

County of Cook

Village of Stickney

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Stickney met in regular session on Tuesday, December 16, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Stickney Village Hall, 6533 W. Pershing Road, Stickney, Illinois.

Upon the roll call, the following Trustees were present:

Trustees De Leshe, Gomez, Lazansky, Savopoulos, Sleigher and White

Trustee Lazansky moved, duly seconded by Trustee Sleigher, to approve the minutes of the previous regular session on Tuesday, December 2, 2014.

Upon the roll call, the following Trustees voted:

Ayes: Trustees De Leshe, Gomez, Lazansky, Savopoulos, Sleigher and White

Nays: None

Mayor Morelli declared the motion carried.

Trustee Lazansky moved, duly seconded by Trustee Gomez 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 voted:

Ayes: Trustees DeLeshe, Gomez, Lazansky, Savopoulos, Sleigher and White

Nays: None

Mayor Morelli declared the motion carried.

Trustee Lazansky moved, duly seconded by Trustee White to accept the report from the Illinois Department of Revenue for sales tax collected for the month of September, 2014 indicating the sum of \$39,910.78.

Upon the roll call, the following Trustees voted:

Ayes: Trustees De Leshe, Gomez, Lazansky, Savopoulos, Sleigher and White

Nays: None

Mayor Morelli declared the motion carried.

Trustee White moved, duly seconded by Trustee Savopoulos to accept the report from the Illinois Department of Transportation for the month of November, 2014 in the amount of \$14,911.78.

Upon the roll call, the following Trustees voted:

Ayes: Trustees De Leshe, Gomez, Lazansky, Savopoulos, Sleigher and White

Nays: None

Mayor Morelli declared the motion carried.

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Trustee Lazansky moved, duly seconded by Trustee Sleigher to pass and approve Option 1: of Ordinance 2014-10, "The 2014 Tax Levy Ordinance for the Fiscal Year, beginning May 1, 2014 and ending April 30, 2014.

Option 1: Increase to General Fund of \$25,000.00 and increase to Police Pension Fund of \$14,907.00 and is based on Ordinance #2014-6 Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance

Option 2: No increase to General Fund and increase to Police Pension Fund of \$14,907.00

Option 3: No increase to General Fund and no increase to Police Pension fund

Upon the roll call, the following Trustees voted:

Ayes: Trustees Lazansky and Sleigher

Nays: Trustee De Leshe, Gomez, Savopoulos and White

Mayor Morelli declared the motion failed

Trustee White moved, duly seconded by Trustee Savopoulos to pass and approve Ordinance 2014-10, Option 2.

Upon the roll call, the following Trustees voted:

Ayes: Trustees De Leshe, Gomez, Savopoulos and White

Nays: Trustees Lazansky and Sleighter

Mayor Morelli declared the motion carried.

Prior to the vote on the first motion on Option 1 Trustee De Leshe questioned what does the actuarial state that should be required? Treasurer Kasnicka answered that the actuarial amount was at \$590,000 but it was a few years ago that they changed the assumptions to a 40-year period to the year 2040. With that the amount is lower. One of the things is we are within the \$600,000 range of what we are levying. Now, what we are going to be paying out this year is just over \$800,000 in pension salaries. The latest actuarial stated that we have dropped a couple of tenths of a percent. We are still funded at 38% of being funded. We are ahead of what Tim Sharp, our actuarial, recommends that what we levy. This (the budget increase) will help us catch up to the \$600,000 and surpass that in the short term. Trustee White asked about the law where the state can seize our state-raised revenue. Kasnicka said that we are OK because the amounts that are needed to levy are in the \$500,000 range. We are not in jeopardy for the police pension fund where they would take our state- shared revenues. We were at 38% funded. We are to be fully funded by 2040. Trustee De Leshe asked what the percentage would be in 2016. Kasnicka said we are ahead of where we are required to levy. Trustee White asked what the reason was that we are short was because of retirements or are we paying out more money. Is that what you are saying? Kasnicka explained that there are a lot more factors. We have been stuck in the 35% to 40% range for years. All that is calculating out is an estimate of all future benefits. They are looking at what do we have on hand and our fund and they are looking at the money will earn at 7% rate of return. Of course, he said, we are not because of the limitations with so much ca being invested in equities

and half can be in bonds. We are not earning 7% and therefore we are not achieving the rate of return that the assumptions say it should.

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Trustee De Leshe asked why we can't take the \$25,000 you propose for the General Fund and put it also in the Police Pension Fund. The Trustee stated that it has been stated in an article that we have one of the worst funded pensions in the state. Kasnicka explained that the expenses of the village go up and you have to have revenues to keep up because the expenses keep going up. That is why the \$25,000 is in for the General Fund purposes. He said that he is giving you options to balance the General Fund. He went on to say that we are projected to have a deficit in the General Fund of \$300,000. What happens every year the expenses keep going up. Trustee De Leshe assumed that the \$14,907. 00 was just enough to keep up with the Pension Fund. The Treasurer said that the amount that we recommended last year was around \$597,000. Therefore, there was no increase last year. Last year we were targeting \$612,000 and 2% of that is \$12,000. Trustee Gomez challenged Kasnicka by asking if this being the ultimate answer. She didn't want to hear later that you changed your mind, whatever. Kasnicka reiterated that we are 38% funded and we are talking about millions of dollars and \$14,907 is like petty cash. What we are trying to do is

to keep pace with the actuarial. As the years go on it is going to see increases of a lot more than the \$15,000. Trustee Savopoulos asked why we are short by \$300,000 in the General Fund. Kasnicka said that it is \$300,000 more in expenses than we are expecting in revenue. Trustee Savopoulos stated that two years ago we had \$700,000 in surplus in the General Fund. Kasnicka said that in May, 2009 the Village had \$2.2 million in fund balance. In April of 2013 a third of those reserves are gone. This last year we had a surplus of \$82,000. We didn't fund anything to Capital Projects. If you go back to the last six years, expenses keep going up about \$175,000 to \$200,000 every year. Trustee Savopoulos questioned what we are doing to control the spending. Kasnicka felt that now we don't have a group of people who are going out spending. The department heads feel that we can get by. Kasnicka referred to the Menard's file history. This really adds up. The Mayor granted permission for Bea Callahan in the audience to speak. She asked if we really had to spend over \$100,000 to fix the computers and licensing. Trustee White corrected her by saying that it was actually \$200,000. He said that it was a lot more than we were originally told. He went on to say that we spent \$200,000 on trees. We cut down every tree and took out the stumps. The treasurer refocused the conversation to the tax levy. He reiterated the explanation of the Options. It was at this point that a vote was made on the first motion for Option 1. Option 2 was then voted on after Trustee White made the motion.

Trustee Sleighter moved, duly seconded by Trustee Lazansky to pass and approve Ordinance 2014-11, "An Ordinance Amending Solid Waste Collection Fee".

Upon the roll call, the following Trustees voted:

Ayes: Trustees Lazansky and Sleighter

Nays: Trustees De Leshe, Gomez, Savopoulos and White

Mayor Morelli declared the motion failed

Prior to the vote Treasurer Kasnicka explained that this is a \$3.00 per month increase from \$12.00 to \$15.00. It would generate approximately \$60,000 on a yearly basis. Trustee De Leshe asked why they are asking for the increase. Kasnicka said that the last time the rates were changed was in 2007. We have the lowest garbage

rate in the area. This will generate an increase in the General Fund. This was in the budget to raise the rates to raise more revenue. He went on to say that we have an aging fleet of garbage trucks. Trustee White asked the audience who would like their garbage rates raised. Not one person raised their hands. Various comments were given during an open conversation. Trustee Lazansky gave input about the rates being low. He even stated that the vehicle sticker prices are the lowest in the area at \$20.00 where other communities are \$75.00. Trustee De Leshe gave his opinion about earmarking any raises to go toward the purchase of a garbage truck. He asked Supervisor Boyajian what a garbage truck would cost. We learned that it is \$210,000 and we will need a new truck in five years. Treasurer Kasnicka stated that what you are trying to achieve is to make enough revenue to have enough money to transfer it over to the Capital Projects Fund so that when the garbage

truck needs to be purchased you would have money on hand. Previously \$250,000 was transferred over from the General Fund into the Capital Projects Fund. It was a great plan but there were no provisions for revenues. He went on to say that the fund balance went down from \$2.2 million to \$1.5 million in a four year period. Now we have brought it up to \$1.6 million. When the garbage trucks come up, where are you going to get the money? He felt that the ambulance fees should be saved in a fund for an ambulance. But, the money gets spent. Trustee White reminded everyone that we were told that we had the money for an ambulance and now we are told there is no money for an ambulance. Kasnicka gave his projections for the ambulance. The park project status was given. The front stairs at the police department were discussed. Trustee Sleigher lamented that we cannot do anything unless we get grants. We can't do anything for the people unless we get grants.

Trustee Lazansky moved, duly seconded by Trustee Sleigher to pass and approve Ordinance 2014-12, Providing for the Issuance and Sale of Not to Exceed \$1,500,000 of General Obligation Bonds Series 2014 for the Purpose of Refunding the \$850,000 Outstanding Aggregate Principal Amount of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2004”

Upon the roll call, the following Trustees voted:

Ayes: Trustees De Leshe, Gomez, Lazansky, Savopoulos, Sleigher and White

Nays: None

Mayor Morelli declared the motion carried.

Prior to the vote a presentation was made by Bill Hofherr of George K. Baum explained at length the refunding of the 2004 bond. There will be \$500,000 in new money and refunding, it makes sense. The 2008 and 2011 are callable in 2018. There you have \$5.5 to \$6 million and those would be candidates given their size. A majority of his presentation was similar to one given at a previous meeting. Attorney Kreger added that this plan will not raise the levy. The levy will go up slightly for the next three years if we don't refinance. He said that this is a way to raise funds without raising taxes. Trustee Sleigher asked about the fees. We were told that the total fees would be \$40,000 payable from the proceeds. The fee to George K. Baum is

\$13,000, \$1,000 for the Depository Trust Company and \$16,000 to Attorney Donald Kreger. Trustee Savopoulos asked about the savings. Bill Hofherr told us that it will save \$20,000 to \$30,000 over all. This will hold down the taxes for four years. Trustee De Leshe asked where the \$500,000 will be used. Attorney Kreger told us that it has to go into the Bond Proceeds and it is used for Capital Expenditures.

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Treasurer Kasnicka reminded us that if this passes it will go into the Capital Fund and we can then get the public works truck.

Trustee Sleigher questioned the grant that we are to receive for the playground. He wanted clarification as to where those funds will go. Kasnicka explained that those funds will have

to go back into the Capital Project Funds. Attorney Kreger continued the discussion by explaining the Capital Projects Fund is currently being funded by the General taxes. You earmarked it. This board can un-earmark it. You are not legally bound (unlike bond proceeds where you are legally bound to spend it on and that is Capital Projects so that the bond issue is tax exempt.)

Attorney Kreger explained to Trustee Savopoulos that your taxes will not be going up. The current levy covers your payback for four years and the refinancing of the others will cover the payback entirely. The total design is to say that your taxes are not going to go up and still function with some type of new money available and earmarked for it. There isn't going to be another tax. One tax is cancelled.

There was a lack of a motion on Ordinance 2014-13, "Amending Motor Vehicles and Traffic as it pertains to eliminating residential parking zone A". The ordinance failed.

There was discussion led by Attorney Kreger explaining that we had passed an ordinance creating residential only parking on Clinton Avenue from 39th to 40th on both sides of the street. Resident, Gabriel Rangel of that block was allowed to speak before the board at this time. He explained that he was the one to canvas his block originally. They were having parking problems due to the apartment buildings taking up all the street parking. He obtained signatures of his neighbors asking the board to help the parking problem by creating a resident-only parking zone. An ordinance was passed creating such a zone. Next thing he knows, a lady came to his door and had a petition to overturn that resident-only parking ordinance due to visitors not being able to park on the block. Mr. Rangel gave multiple examples of the need for the resident-only ordinance. He wanted to know why this is coming up when you already passed the resident-only parking ordinance. Treasurer Kurt Kasnicka explained how the "A" parking sticker will work. He said, that anyone that lives on that block and has a car registered there, will get the "A" parking sticker. What we have done in the other resident-only parking areas is that we give each house two parking passes. You can have more at a cost of \$5.00 each. If you need a replacement card, it is \$5.00. Considerable more conversation was held. Trustee De Leshe questioned if we have the proper signs and stickers so the original ordinance can go into effect. Everything is in place to go ahead with the resident-only parking zone "A".

Trustee White moved, duly seconded by Trustee Savopoulos to pass and approve Ordinance 2014-14, Amending Video Gaming License fee.

Upon the roll call, the following Trustees voted:

Ayes: Trustees De Leshe, Gomez, Lazansky, Savopoulos, Sleighter and White

Nays: None

Mayor Morelli declared the motion carried.

Prior to the vote Attorney Kreger explained that we are raising the rate to conform to what has been on our applications.

Trustee Lazansky moved, duly seconded by Trustee Sleigher to pass and approve Ordinance 2014-15, Amending Law Enforcement by adding an Additional Corporal,”

Upon the roll call, the following Trustees voted:

Ayes: Trustees De Leshe, Gomez, Lazansky, Savopoulos, Sleigher and White

Nays: None

Mayor Morelli declared the motion carried.

Prior to the vote, Police Chief John Sladetz educated us on the fact that they are projecting to implementing 12-hour shifts. There will be a sergeant on each team. We already have two corporals. We would like to get a third corporal. If a sergeant is off we will have a ranking supervisor to oversee that shift. What this does is elevate a lot of premium pay if you are paying a patrolman to be a shift commander for the eight-hour shift. You are actually paying him a sergeant’s salary. It would save probably \$8,000 per year. Trustee De Leshe asked if it is an appointed position.

Trustee Lazansky moved, duly seconded by Trustee Sleihger to pass and approve Resolution 06-2014, “ A Resolution to increase Loss of Bond & Interest Fund to 8% for the 2014 tax year.”

Upon the roll call, the following Trustees voted:

Ayes: Trustees De Leshe, Gomez, Lazansky, Savopoulos, Sleigher and White

Nays: None

Mayor Morelli declared the motion carried.

Treasurer Kasnicka explained prior to the vote that would produce \$23,000 increase in revenue. He told us that when he made the bond payment on December 1, we were short just under \$74,000. This is down a bit from last year. This goes back to the big refunds to Hawthorne Race Course and the amount that was prorated to the bond and interest fund. Every year when we go to pay the bond and interest fund, we are short. This is for consideration for one year only. It will start to close the gap so we don’t have to borrow the money. Trustee Sleigher asked what it will cost anybody. Kasnicka said that it will be .73% increase in taxes. In your tax bill where you pay \$1,000 to the Village of Stickney, it will cost you \$7.30 and it is a one-time shot. Unless it is brought up for future years. Attorney

Kreger went on to tell us that if someone objects to their Equalized Assessed Evaluation and the decision is made during the year they are seeking it, it wouldn't have the impact on us. Since we are Home Rule, whatever we levy we are supposed to get. If someone gets a refund after the year of collection, it has the impact of reducing the money we get and we can't make up for it. For instance, the race track was not decided for six years and we had to return and not get replacement funds. We currently have two cases now. We are working with the school district now and we are hoping objections are not successful. The treasurer clarified that when he goes to pay the bonds and there is not enough money, he has to make a temporary loan and when the taxes start to come in during the first installment and he starts to pay back the temporary loan. Every year we get in the same position.

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Trustee White moved, duly seconded by Trustee Savopoulos to approve Mutual Box Alarm System Addendum Agreement.

Upon the roll call, the following Trustees voted:

Ayes: Trustees De Leshe, Gomez, Lazansky, Savopoulos, Sleigher and White

Nays: None

Mayor Morelli declared the motion carried.

Fire Chief Larry Meyer enlightened the board that this is MABAS. This is the box alarm system that is used in all fire departments in the regional states. This is an agreement by all fire departments to provide aid in times of need. He used an example of when Hurricane Katrina hit, we had two of our people go there for ten days to help. FEMA reimbursed us. This document is changing some of the contact reimbursement language.

Trustee Gomez moved, duly seconded by Trustee White to grant permission to the Girls Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana to conduct their cookie order program Jan. 1-25, 2015 with delivery starting February 18, 2015. Cookie direct sale booths will take place between February 3, 2015 and May 1, 2015.

Upon the roll call, the following Trustees voted:

Ayes: Trustees De Leshe, Gomez, Lazansky, Savopoulos, Sleigher and White

Nays: None

Mayor Morelli declared the motion carried.

Trustee Gomez move, duly seconded by Trustee Sleigher to grant permission to the Stickney-Forest View Lions Club Holiday Lights Recycling event.

Upon the roll call, the following Trustees voted:

Ayes: Trustees De Leshe, Gomez, Lazansky, Savopoulos, Sleigher and White

Nays: None

Mayor Morelli declared the motion carried.

At this point Mayor Morelli said she would like to move forward the Parks and Recreation Committee and have appointments with that. She will be doing this as a group. She named the following: Megan Carpenter, Sheri Young, Dario Ramirez, Ed Dombrowski, Mark Kusper, Michael Salizar and MaryAnn Schimel

Trustee Lazansky moved, duly seconded by Trustee Sleigher that the appointments be made.

Trustee De Leshe asked if there other members. Mayor Morelli responded that there is Kristen Draz and Jody Nolte who are already on the committee.

Trustee White asked if there have been any background checks on any persons on the committee. He went on to say that he sent an email to the mayor about a year-and-a-half ago requesting background checks because it is mandatory by our insurance.

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Also, he is thinking about the safety of our children. It is not to say that there is anything wrong with our people here, it is mandatory from our insurance company.

We have talked about this a long time. Our insurance company requires it. He mentioned that the cost is about \$37. Everyone works in the Village is supposed to be vetted. Trustee Gomez asked what happened to Ron Unguro from football and the woman from the library. They are still part of the parks and recreation. The mayor said her phone number has been changed and she doesn't have any contact. The mayor said that she never heard from him and never saw him again. Trustee Gomez said she would talk to Ron. Attorney Kreger suggested that we table this so we don't keep going on that we motion to table this to the next meeting so we don't keep going on. Trustee Lazansky asked if the Little League and the football league go through background checks. Audience member Mark Kusper said that he has gone through background checks as a coach for little league.

Trustee White moved, duly seconded by Trustee Sleigher to table the appointments to Parks and Recreation.

Upon the roll call, the following Trustees voted:

Ayes: Trustees De Leshe, Gomez, Lazansky, Savopoulos, Sleigher and White

Nays: None

Mayor Morelli declared the motion carried.

MAYOR REPORT: Attorney Donald Kreger reported that he is in the process of amending our ordinance providing the proper building codes to update our ordinance so that it is valid. The Chicago Plumbing Code is now by law the State of Illinois Plumbing Code. The Chicago Plumbing Code will be repealed at the next board meeting. He is also working on the fees for the Plumbing to match what he believes was the intent. . . . which was a percentage basis opposed to a facility basis. Trustee White interjected that he felt that if an inspector goes twice because it fails the first time, they should have to pay for the subsequent inspections as well. Attorney Kreger went on to explain that he is the current ordinance states that it adopts the current edition. That is delegating to a private entity amendments to our ordinance purely by changing some model code. We have to adopt a particular year and three years later when they come in with new we have to decide whether adopt the new one or stay with the old one.

Mayor Morelli read correspondence from the Village of Oak Park thanking the Stickney Fire Department for their assistance at the Torrano Bakery fire on November 11. Another thank you letter came from North Riverside for the

assistance they received from the Stickney Fire Department fighting the Carson's fire on November 12. In addition, Mayor Morelli gave Christmas wishes to all.

CLERKS REPORT: Clerk McAdams referred to a flyer that she placed in the lobby informed everyone that Com Ed is providing a \$1,500 grant to seniors who are past-due on their electric bill. There is a list of the 2015 Regular Board Meeting dates available. The petitions for the 2015 Consolidated Election were due in this past Monday. There will be a lottery for the simultaneous petition filings on January 5.

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Trustee Lazansky moved, duly seconded by Trustee Gomez to accept the treasurer's report for the month of August, 2014.

Upon the roll call, the following Trustees voted:

Ayes: Trustees De Leshe, Gomez, Lazansky, Savopoulos, Sleigher and White

Nays: None

Mayor Morelli declared the motion carried.

Trustee Lazansky gave the police report for the month of November, 2014. The total number of calls for service; 1894; Total number of E911 calls received; 393; Arrest by type: Traffic: 101; Village Ordinance Offences: 11; Warrants and Complaints: 5; Parking violations: 244; Total number of arrests/citations issued: 361 Total number of squad miles: 9,862; Total amount of gasoline used: 1,113.6; Average gas mileage/squad: 8.856 mpg.

Ordinance Activity Report for the month of November, 2014. Ordinance Investigations: 295, Business License Investigations: 5, Violation Notices Issued: 1, Miscellaneous Details: 155, S.L.O. Tickets: 1, Parking Citations Issued: 47,

Trustee Sleighter mentioned that Beth Lukas, administrative assistant, will be sending out notices to all residents who have lost trees at the beginning of the year due to the Emerald Ash Borer. The letter explains the process. You can submit your name to be included in the tree lottery.

Trustee Savopoulos spoke on the shortage of cement that has affected surrounding communities. We have completed our sidewalk replacement program for this year. Public Works Supervisor, Jeff Boyajian and Contactor Andreas completed the project within two days.

All Trustees gave Holiday Greetings.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS: Fire Chief Larry Meyer gave caution-related advice on open flames and space heaters that could cause a house fire. He discussed the grant- process-statistics that he needs to provide for the application. Some of the numbers include: Traffic on our side of Cicero Avenue is vehicles per day; Harlem Avenue 35,000 vehicles per day on our side; Pershing Road on our half is 8,500; we have the Sanitary Ship Canal; we have three natural-gas pipe lines; we have three rail lines; we have an electric substation; there is an intermodal shipping container yard with 400 trucks in and out of there each day:

Police Chief Sladetz mentioned that the police department gave Holiday greetings. The Toys for Tots program is running real well. They have had four pickups. The fire department association spent \$500 on toys. Pitt Ohio Trucking Company made a large donation. We have been having walk-in donations from throughout the village.

Public Works Supervisor Jeff Boyajian mentioned that snow is coming and asked that people abide to the signs to help our trucks get through the streets. He reminded us that raking leaves into to streets is forbidden. The sweeper will go out on a weekly basis weather permitting. He gave Holiday Greetings. An audience member

questioned lawn services blowing leaves and grass into the gutter. The supervisor asked that he call the police while it is happening.

Treasurer Kurt Kasnicka informed us that the Village administrative offices will be closed in the afternoon of Friday, December 19, of our Christmas luncheon and on December 24, and December 25, due to Christmas Eve and Christmas day.

There being no further business, Trustee Lazansky moved, duly seconded by Trustee Gomez that the meeting be adjourned. Upon which the Board adopted the motion at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey McAdams, Village Clerk

Approved by me this 7th of January, 2015

Deborah E. Morelli, Village Mayor