

August 16, 2016

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

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Stickney met in regular session on Tuesday, August 16, 2016 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 Fuentes, Hrejsa, Lazansky, Milenkovic, Savopoulos and White
Absent: None**

Trustee Milenkovic moved, duly seconded by Trustee Fuentes, to approve the minutes of the previous regular session on Tuesday, August 2, 2016.

**Upon the roll call, the following Trustees voted:
Ayes: Trustees Fuentes, Hrejsa, Lazansky, Milenkovic, Savopoulos and White
Nays: None
Mayor Morelli declared the motion carried.**

Trustee White moved, duly seconded by Trustee Savopoulos 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 Fuentes, Hrejsa, Lazansky, Milenkovic, Savopoulos and White
Nays: None
Mayor Morelli declared the motion carried.**

Trustee Lazansky moved, duly seconded by Trustee Fuentes to accept the report from the Illinois Department of Revenue for sales tax collected for the month of May, 2016 indicating the sum of \$46,764.23.

**Upon the roll call, the following Trustees voted:
Ayes: Trustees Fuentes, Hrejsa, Lazansky, Milenkovic, Savopoulos and White
Nays: None
Mayor Morelli declared the motion carried.**

Trustee White moved, duly seconded by Trustee Hrejsa to accept the report from the Illinois Department of Transportation for the month of July, 2016 in the amount of \$15,525.44.

**Upon the roll call, the following Trustees voted:
Ayes: Trustees Fuentes, Hrejsa, Lazansky, Milenkovic, Savopoulos and White
Nays: None
Mayor Morelli declared the motion carried.**

Trustee Fuentes moved, duly seconded by Trustee Lazansky to pass and approve Ordinance 2016-20, "An Ordinance Amending Chapter 50, Section 50-38 of the Municipal Code, Village of Stickney, Illinois Regarding Cannabis

Prior to the vote Trustee White explained that this ordinance brings us up to state law and invited Deputy Police Chief Rich Jaczak to explain the changes. The Deputy told us, "On the last Friday of July, Governor Rauner signed a bill making less than 10 grams of Cannabis a civil offense only. On the police standpoint that is similar to parking next to a fire hydrant. All we can do is ticket you, hand you the ticket and walk away for less than 10 grams of Cannabis. Our fine schedule (is up to \$200.00 per state law) for 2.5 grams and not more than ten grams is \$200.00. It was \$250.00. Less than 2.5 grams was \$150.00. More than ten grams and not more than 20 grams is \$400.00 or we can criminally arrest them. More than 20 grams and not more than 30 grams is \$500.00 and it is a felony and we can't issue village tickets for that. This is bringing us up to state compliance with state law."

Upon the roll call, the following Trustees voted:

Ayes: Trustees Fuentes, Hrejsa, Lazansky, Milenkovic, Savopoulos and White

Nays: None

Mayor Morelli declared the motion carried.

The Mayor asked for approval to waive any applicable bidding requirement and authorize the purchase of Scott Air Paks for the Village of Stickney Fire Department.

Stickney Fire Chief Larry Meyer informed us, "In the past we have been fortunate to get a few grants. This current grant will allow us to replace all our breathing apparatus. It will include 24 air masks and cylinders for each one. They are expensive. Our old ones are 14 years old. The new ones have many upgrades such as CVR compliant, upgraded face piece, abrasion testing, and a heads-up LED display in the mask to see how much air is left in their tank and there is a buddy breathing system. This is a significant amount of money. The Village Board needs a 2/3 majority vote". Village Attorney Mike Del Galdo explained, "Procedurally there needs to be two separate votes for this. The Village can legally waive the bidding requirement by a 2/3 vote in favor. This is a roll call vote to waive applicable bidding. Assuming that this passes by a 2/3 vote, there would be a second motion to authorize the purchase as detailed by the Chief."

Trustee White asked the Chief why we are waiving the bidding process. Chief Meyer explained, "There are maybe one half dozen breathing apparatus manufacturers for fire service in this country. They have been using the Scott brand for close to 50 years. We have personnel that are trained technicians in the use and maintenance of this brand of air pak. They are field-level certified to repair certain parts of the air paks. There are parts that can be used on these new air paks. We want to stay with this brand. All the air pak companies have sales territories. We have to go with one dealer in our territory. We still work with the manufacturer for quantity pricing. The company is called Global MES. The price is \$147,516.00. The Federal share is 95% and the Village share is 5%. That is about \$7,400.00 that we have to pay. That is less the amount of the award package which was \$159,300.00. That money is available for us to spend on something that we need. I will have to write an amendment to the

grant to justify the purchase. We could spend it on a hose as an example. It is approximately \$1,100.00 we would have to spend. The Village will have to spend 5%. He is asking the Board to approve what the legal counsel has said. The amount is \$147,516.00.”

Trustee Lazansky moved, duly seconded by Trustee White to waive any applicable bidding requirements.

Upon the roll call, the following Trustees voted:

Ayes: Trustees Fuentes, Hrejsa, Lazansky, Milenkovic, Savopoulos and White

Nays: None

Mayor Morelli declared the motion carried.

Trustee Milenkovic moved, duly seconded by Trustee Savopoulos to purchase Scott Air Paks for the Stickney Fire Department for the price of \$147, 516.00.

Upon the roll call, the following Trustees voted:

Ayes: Trustees Fuentes, Hrejsa, Lazansky, Milenkovic, Savopoulos and White

Nays: None

Mayor Morelli declared the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Mayor asked for discussion and possible final action regarding cyber security issues related to the social media platforms of the mayor.

She explained that last week-end her Facebook account was hacked. People were questioning her to be friends when they were already. She described messages that were going out from herself that there was \$100,000.00 grant that she was awarded. The people who were putting this out there were actually communicating with some of these people. They were communicating. There was personal information requested. Eventually the people were suspicious and stopped communicating. The mayor contacted Facebook. The mayor posted a message on her Facebook that a hacking had taken place. One resident actually contacted the mayor at the village and asked for funds from the \$100,000.00 grant to replace her roof. The mayor gave a final warning to some of these people that this was a scam. She continued to warn the audience of this hacking business. She said she was going to follow through with our IT people. The clerk asked if there was any way that it could have breached our village internet system. She is uncertain and that is why she is asking for the IT people to look into it to see if it could have.

The Mayor asked for discussion and possible action regarding settlement offer regarding Village of Stickney v. Madness Inc., et al., filed and pending litigation.

Village Attorney Mike Del Galdo gave a general substance of the issue, “Prior to me becoming the Village Attorney, the village filed a law suit against the owner of 4139 S. Harlem Avenue. At the time it was called Madness, Inc. It was over a demolition. The property was demolished per court order. The Village recorded a demolition lien against the property on November 23, 2011 in the amount of \$73,697.45. There is an

additional \$6,000 in other unrecorded Village citations and fines. Mr. Chester Hiller of Madness has proposed a settlement offer of \$10,000 in exchange for the release of all Village liens and other citations. The matter is on the agenda for the Village Board's consideration to accept or reject the settlement".

Trustee White stated, "There is nearly \$80,000 in liens on the property." Village Attorney Mike Del Galdo clarified, "There is \$73,000 in recorded liens and \$6,600 in unrecorded citations. The \$73,000 is protected and has to be paid or dealt with as part of a sale. The \$6,000 in unrecorded liens is citations that are outstanding and not recorded against the property."

The general consensus from the trustees was that \$10,000 was not sufficient for the \$73,000 lien. Trustee Savopoulos asked, "What are the plans for the property?" Village Attorney Mike Del Galdo asked for Mr. Hiller to address the board. Mr. Hiller told us the liens are against him also. He would like to start over. He can't refinance his house. He doesn't know how much the property is worth. Village Attorney Mike Del Galdo did review the file. He said that the village paid for the demolition and legal fees. The \$73,000 was a judgement to recoup the money that the village paid out of pocket. Mr. Hiller claims that he paid for the demolition. If you do nothing or reject the settlement, the lien stays on the property. Mr. Hiller again pleaded his case. Trustee White asked, "How much is owed in back taxes?" Village Attorney Mike Del Galdo told us, "We looked into that. Your original offer to the village a number of years ago was to surrender your title back to the village. We looked into it. You can't even redeem your taxes. They have been sold to a tax-deed scavenger. You have no way of knowing what the debt is. You could determine what the tax deed was purchased for but it accumulated statutory interest and the purchaser of the taxes can set the price". Trustee Savopoulos asked, "Is the tax scavenger responsible for the lien?" Village Attorney Mike Del Galdo learned that it was a bench trial. There are three parcels. The south parcel was sold to a tax scavenger. The other two parcels are still available. Trustee White told Mr. Hiller "Eventually someone will have to pay because it is a recorded lien. I am not saying that we would not be flexible somewhat, but we can't be that flexible. I feel for your position but I have to feel for the people who live here. I don't know if we could take \$10,000 if there are tax liens". Village Attorney Mike Del Galdo said, "We would be entitled to the money first. If the village would accept the settlement, we would release our lien. It would be a one-page document that said, 'Upon payment of (whatever the sum of money is) we agree to release our lien. Then the money would be paid into the village. The village would release our lien. Presumably the other two parcels would go into a tax sale as well. Eventually someone would try to acquire actual legal title to those. We do not have any legal obligation to pay those taxes. " There was much cross talking going on between the trustees. Village Attorney Mike Del Galdo added in, "Ultimately nothing will happen. The amount of the judgement will far exceed the value of the property so nobody will ever pay it off. You will eventually come in with somebody who wants to build something. They could ask if we could waive your liens." Mr. Hiller told the board, "I could still redeem the back taxes on it". (It was very difficult to hear Mr. Heller speaking from the back of the room.) Village Attorney Mike Del Galdo asked, "Mr. Heller could you put us in touch with the tax- deed purchaser". Further discussion was given over his circumstances. Village Attorney Mike Del Galdo explained, "Mr. Hiller asked him if this could be placed on

the agenda. If you are ready to vote, you can. If you want to put it under advisement and put it on a future agenda you can. You could ask Mr. Hiller to get more information and contact the potential purchaser and find out what intentions are. Is it for development purposes or hold it". Continued discussion took place between the Village Attorney Mike Del Galdo, trustees and Mr. Hiller. (There was great difficulty hearing Mr. Hiller on the audio.) Finally Trustee Fuentes said, "I think we need more information." Trustee Milenkovic asked, "Can we put this on the next agenda."

MAYOR'S REPORT: No report

CLERK'S REPORT: The clerk informed the audience that she provided all the elected officials an application to attend the Illinois Municipal League 103rd Annual Conference. The conference sessions are on line. A report was given from the IEPA of a permit application to accept clean construction or demolition debris at the former quarry in Lyons.

TRUSTEES' REPORTS: Trustee Fuentes reminded us of the Back to School Clean-up Day on August 20 with a rain date of August 21. They will meet at Haley Park at 9:00 a.m. All participating kids will receive a raffle ticket for the opportunity to win a bicycle. There is a Parks & Rec meeting on August 22, at 6:30 p.m. at the Village Hall. September 10, is the third annual Fall Fest, from 1:00 to 9:00 p.m. There will be free bingo and fireworks sponsored by Koppers. There will be a community shredding event on September 18, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Trustee Lazansky gave the Police Department Total Monthly Activity Report for the month of July, 2016: Total number of calls for service; 1,559; Total number of E911 calls received; 462; Arrest by type: Traffic: 70; Village Ordinance Offences: 28; Warrants and Complaints: 6; Parking violations: 428; Total number of arrests/citations issued: 532; Total number of squad miles: 9,393; Total amount of gasoline used: 1,106.1; Average gas mileage/squad: 8.492.

Ordinance Activity Report for the month of July, 2016. Ordinance Investigations: 298; Business License Investigations: 3; Violation Notices Issued: 10; Miscellaneous Details: 135; S.L.O. Tickets: 2; Parking Citations Issued: 133; Tow Tag: 0;

Trustee Milenkovic advised us that at the last Tree Board Committee meeting they accepted the applications for the tree lottery. The winning residents were notified. The list of tree varieties was given. The trees will be purchased from the Cedar Path Nursery. The next meeting will be October 6, at 10:00 a.m. In addition, Trustee Milenkovic and Trustee Savopoulos attended the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers meeting August 4, at the Forest View Village Hall. The subject was the flood of April, 2013. The concern is the stability of the levee. Trees are dying, animals are burrowing in it and seepage can occur. The cost for the study is \$500,000. (50% Federal, 50% MWRD) The cost of the project is \$5,500,000. (65% Federal, 35% MWRD) This section of the levee is 4,200 feet long. It was built in 1900 by the MWRD as part of the Sanitary and Ship Canal. Ownership was transferred to the Cook County Forest Preserve District in 1950. There were four alternatives that were given to rectify the issue. Future dates: They are accepting comment forms through August

26, to the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers; Feasibility Permit application Early 2017; Execute Project Early 2017; Construction Award Late 2017; Complete Early 2019.

Fire Chief Larry Meyer gave additional information on the subject. The spill-way was put there before the levee. It was put there to drain part of Mud Lake. This area here (Stickney) was Mud Lake. There is no surprise why the Water Reclamation is here because this is the lowest area. Take the area of 41st and Ridgeland and draw a line down to 4300 block of Harlem, everything south of that line is protected by the levee. If the levee fails or overtops that whole area is subject to flooding. This would be much worse than what we had three years ago. This is big news to fix the levee. When they gave it to the Forest Preserve District in 1950, they ignored the levee, and this is what happened.

Trustee White announced that we received a grant for a Medical-Loc Box. "Police Chief Sladetz and I set it up in the lobby of the police station". Congressman Lipinski was here to take pictures. Any pharmaceuticals can be deposited there 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS: Deputy Police Chief Rich Jaczak reminded us that the pills can be kept in the original containers. The DEA will dispose of that. On August 7, Hawthorne Race Course was hosting their annual Belize Fest. There could have been as much as 2,500 people there. There were two shootings. One individual was involved in both. . . the victim of one, the shooter in the other. The Deputy commented that Hawthorne Race Course did a great job in handling this. They had that many people running in different directions. The fact that they had both shooters stopped and arrested shows what a good job Hawthorne did. Within an hour we had 12 detectives assisting us from the Major Case Assistance Team. Half of our department came in on their days off to assist on street patrol since everyone was at the race track. Our newest sergeant, Sergeant Merrill, was the shift boss at the time. He was there for a situation that could have been a large scale riot. He handled himself professionally and did a great job. We had Lyons, McCook, Cicero and others from all over the place. There were four felony charges against the two individuals that were arrested. We anticipate many more in front of the grand jury. This was one of the situations that could go bad at any time. They have been here for years. It is loud. They drank. They danced. We have not been there in many years. They were using metal detectors on everyone walking in. The thought is the ones who brought in the guns actually hid them in the braids on their head. The detector wands were from the shoulders down. The Carey family already notified us that the Belize Fest will no longer be at Hawthorne. They did a good job. One of their security guards, in particular, wrestled a gun out of one of the offender's hands. We will recognize him a one of our future meetings. One of the gunshot victims had a minor graze wound. The other was just lucky. It could have been much worse. We had twelve detectives working on this for three days. In addition, we will be on school patrol every morning and every afternoon.

Fire Chief Larry Meyer provided a comment over the most recent three-hour power failure. It encompassed a pretty good amount of the village. It was caused when a Mylar balloon tangled with a power line and shorted out a phase of the power line.

Treasurer Kasnicka reminded us that it will be three weeks until our next board meeting. On Monday, September 5, we will observe Labor Day. Administrative offices will be closed. All Public Works pick-ups will be delayed one day.

Trustee Fuentes moved, duly seconded by Trustee Hrejsa to adjourn into closed session at 7:50 p.m.

Upon the roll call, the following Trustees voted:

Ayes: Trustees Fuentes, Hrejsa, Lazansky, Milenkovic, Savopoulos and White

Nays: None

Mayor Morelli declared the motion carried.

a. Discussion Regarding The Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance Or Dismissal Of Specific Employees of the Public Body (Consideration Of This Matter Held In Closed Meeting/Executive Session Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 (C)(1)(2014)

b. Convening into executive session under Section 2 (c)(21) of the Open Meetings Act for discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes for approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06

Trustee Lazansky moved, duly seconded by Trustee Fuentes to return to open session at 8:41 p.m.

Upon the roll call, the following Trustees voted:

Ayes: Trustees Fuentes, Hrejsa, Lazansky, Milenkovic, Savopoulos and White

Nays: None

Mayor Morelli declared the motion carried.

Trustee White moved, duly seconded by Trustee Savopoulos to ask the clerk to draft a resolution setting for which closed sessions minutes will be released and which closed session minutes will remain closed.

Upon the roll call, the following Trustees voted:

Ayes: Trustees Fuentes, Hrejsa, Lazansky, Milenkovic, Savopoulos and White

Nays: None

Mayor Morelli declared the motion carried.

There being no further business, Trustee Lazansky moved, duly seconded by Trustee Fuentes that the meeting be adjourned. Upon which the Board adopted the motion at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey McAdams, Village Clerk

Approved by me this 7th day of September, 2016

Deborah E. Morelli, Village Mayor