TOWN OF CORTLAND
Town Hall
59 S. Somonauk Road
Cortland, IL 60112

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Committee/Business Meeting

January 11, 2010

7:00 P.M.

WEB ACCESSED

Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance / Roll Call

Mayor Seyller called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Deputy Clerk Rita Nielsen called the roll. Shown as present were Mayor Seyller and Trustees Sandra Barzso, Brad Stone, Randy Reiter, Doug Corson (arrived at 8:15), Chuck Lanning and Mike Siewierski. Quorum was present. Also present were Town Administrator Walter Magdziarz, Treasurer Susan Dockus, Police Chief Russ Stokes and Attorney Johnson. Clerk Aldis was on vacation.

Agenda

Trustee Lanning moved and Trustee Reiter seconded a motion to approve the agenda as amended to include item d: police department budget and item e: salary of elected officials for discussion only. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.

Public Hearing

MS4 Renewal Application

The Public Hearing for MS4 Renewal Application was called to order by Mayor Seyller at 7:04 p.m. Mr. Magdziarz presented the information explaining the purpose of the public hearing is to satisfy the requirements of the EPA to hold a public hearing for the MS4 Renewal Application plan for best management practices for storm water management and pollution control. This is year two of the five year plan and Fehr-Graham is not recommending any changes to the plan at this time.

Hearing no comments from the audience, Mayor Seyller closed the hearing at 7:06 p.m.

Committee of the Whole

Union Drainage District Meeting

The Town was approached by trustees of the Cortland/Pierce Drainage District regarding receiving compensation for the release of discharge into the Union Ditch. The trustees have asked for $5,000 which they believe is a fair and equitable amount as most of the money will be paid to contractors for maintenance and cleaning. This is an 18 month contract to discharge between 825-875 thousand gallons per day. Mr. Magdziarz explained that the compensation was agreed upon as the drainage ditch is accepting additional volume. Mr. Magdziarz reported that discharging has been ongoing since December 21, pumping 24 hours a day four days a week, Monday-Thursday.

A contract is being prepared and will be presented to the Town Board on January 25 for action.

Approved: January 25, 2010
Attest: Clerk

Update on Town Garage Architect
Mr. Magdziarz reported that the Linden Group has been selected as the architectural firm to begin negotiations for construction oversight of a new town garage. Their fee for developing construction drawings as well as handling construction activity, and any changes in the field is $70,000. This fee does not include testing services. Mr. Magdziarz will get bids for soil borings. Mr. Magdziarz will have a full understanding of the details and possibly a contract for the Town Board meeting on January 25.

General Overview of Town Administrator Duties
Mr. Magdziarz is in the process of preparing an organizational chart. He explained that one of his objectives as Town Administrator is allow department heads and staff to do their work and to avoid unnecessary interference by board members. This is just cautionary on his part as he has seen this happen in other communities using the trustee as liaison and he would like to avoid potential problems. He explained that he supports the liaison-approach but we need to be careful not to allow it to evolve into micro-managing by Board members.

Police Department
Trustee Reiter reported on the need for additional funding for the police department. He has been working closely with Chief Stokes and he is convinced that the department needs two officers on duty at night, every night, for their own safety. Trustee Reiter has complied data from several departments and found that the town is inadequate in funding its police department. Trustee Reiter is recommending that the board consider raising the budget for salaries in order to add approximately 230 hours for part-time officers per month and hire another part-time officer. This would allow coverage by two officers every night. Trustee Reiter said he would like to see an increase in the Police Department budget by $10,000 with the monies coming from Capital Improvement. Chief Stokes addressed the board expressing his concern for officer safety and the potential for disaster when an officer is on duty without backup. The board took a consensus and agreed that $15,000 be added to the police budget for salaries until April 30 with monies to be taken from the Capital Improvement Fund. Item to be placed on agenda for the January 25 meeting.

Doug Corson arrived at 8:15 p.m.

Elected officials Salary
Trustee Lanning suggested that the board think about reducing the salary and benefits for the Mayor starting with the 2013 election. The Liquor Commissioner salary would remain the same. His suggestion was to change it now and re-address the issue 6 months before the next election. Trustee Lanning asked that this be on the agenda for the January 25 meeting.

President's Report
Mayor Seyller reported that he and Mr. Magdziarz have been working together creating a list of long and short term projects. There have been meetings schedule with homeowners in Chestnut Grove Subdivision for Monday, January 18, and with Eagle Homes homeowners for Tuesday, January 19.

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Mayor Seyller reported that with Mr. Magdziarz will now be attending DSATS (DeKalb Sycamore Area Transportation System) in place of the Town Engineer. Mr. Magdziarz has been appointed chair of this committee.

Mayor Seyller introduced Mr. Mike Lamz. Mr. Lamz has been hired to replace Mrs. Dockus.

Mayor Seyller said that street plowing has been going well as well as discharging into the Union Ditch.

Concerns
At a previous meeting Trustee Lanning asked about how developer park funds can be used throughout the community, specifically for Cortland Community Park. The Board suggested a survey of the land area for which the park reserves for McPhillips Park were paid. This committee would prepare and distribute the survey. Trustees Stone, Lanning and Barzso, along with Mrs. Dockus were to work on this together. Trustee Lanning suggested the committee did not need this many members and will no longer be serving on this committee.

Adjournment
Trustee Siewierski moved and Trustee Stone seconded a motion to adjourn at 8:37 p.m. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.

Submitted by,

Rita Nielsen

Rita Nielsen
Deputy Clerk

WEB ACCESSED

Approved: January 25, 2010
Attest: Clay TC