

TOWN OF CORTLAND  
Town Hall  
59 S. Somonauk Road  
Cortland, IL 60112  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
Committee/Business Meeting  
**May 14, 2012**  
**7:00 P.M.**

**Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance / Roll Call**

Mayor Seyller called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Roll call was taken by Deputy Clerk Rita Nielsen. Shown as present were Mayor Seyller and Trustees Susan Dockus, Chuck Lanning (arrived 7:04), Brad Stone, Sandra Barzso. Trustees Doug Corson and Mike Siewierski were absent. A quorum was present. Other official present was Administrator Walter Magdziarz.

**Approval of Agenda**

Trustee Barzso moved and Trustee Stone seconded a motion to approve agenda. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.

**Public Hearing: Municipal Electric Aggregation**

Mayor Seyller called the public hearing to order at 7:03. There was no one wishing to speak. Mayor Seyller closed the public hearing at 7:04. The notice of public hearing was read into the record at the April 23 Town Board meeting and was published in the *Daily Chronicle* on April 12, 2012 and April 19, 2012.

**Public Wishing to Speak**

Ms. Jennifer Cortese and Mr. Jeff Ballerini (Richland Trail) spoke to the board regarding issues at Chestnut Grove. Both residents thanked the Town for mowing in Chestnut Grove. ComEd still has to fix two lights, one on Hampstead and one on Stratford. Mr. Magdziarz will check into this. Mr. Ballerini was informed by [Royal] Bank of Canada that mowing will be done once per month. Mr. Ballerini called police regarding vacant residence at Hampstead as the door lock was broken and door was open. Police secured the house. Other issues in subdivision are the signs that have never been removed. Residents would like to see signs removed.

**Committee of the Whole**

**2012 Medical Costs Analysis**

Mr. Brian Jablonski with the Linden Group Health Services was present to discuss the Town's health insurance options. Mr. Jablonski presented 2 options: The current Humana PPO Plan (reflecting current rate with a monthly employer premium of \$9,45) and a second option utilizing Humana \$2,500 PPO option with an employer premium of \$8,137, for a saving \$15,180 per year. This is an increase of 17.7% from last year. However, adding a life insurance policy of \$50,000 per employee will cost the Town a total of \$166.40 per month, but save another 4%, on the health coverage bringing the total increase to the Town of 13.7%. The proposed option 2 with its \$2500 deductible results in a rate decrease and savings of 13.9% over the current policy and provides payment of the employee's deductible beyond the first \$250 so that the \$2500 deductible does not impact the employee."

Trustees agreed that Humana's \$2,500 PPO coinsurance option with life insurance policy is the best option.

Approved: June 11, 2012

Attest: Clay TC

### **2012 MFT Projects**

Terry Heitkamp, Fehr-Graham presented the 2012 Municipal Estimate of Maintenance Costs for bituminous removal/resurfacing along with maps of selected streets. Trustee Dockus raised concerns regarding payouts to contractors for work performed when the monies will not be received for months after work is completed. Mr. Heitkamp explained that the Resolution is meant to be presented once a year, but is intended to be used for multiple contracts. He would recommend using flexibility in choosing projects based on bids. Mr. Heitkamp expects bids to be ready the first of July.

### **Town Administrator's Report**

Mr. Magdziarz reported that the State of Illinois is talking about withholding funds from the State's CDAP Program (Community Development Assistance Program Grants.) The Town currently has about \$60,000 in economic development monies to assist small business. [The Community Development Assistance Program (CDAP) is a grant program funded through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development that assists Illinois communities by providing grants to local governments to help them in financing economic development projects, public facilities and housing rehabilitation. The program is targeted to assist low-to-moderate income persons by creating job opportunities and improving the quality of their living environment.] Mrs. Dockus mentioned that these funds have encumbrances that are not always easy to meet.

Mr. Magdziarz reported that DeKalb Fiber Optic is not cooperating with the Town in that they do not want to comply with the Town's right-of-way ordinances like all other utility companies. They also object to, and have resisted being subjected to, the Town's schedule with respect to permit applications. It is now the intent of the Town to enter into a license agreement that has been proposed, but limit the agreement to only the infrastructure necessary to allow Fiber Optics and the County to complete the DATA project.

### **All Other Reports were in Packet for Board Review**

#### **Information on Electric at Cortland Community Park**

Trustees Stone and Lanning are looking into what it would take to have electric available at the park. Larry Coward has given helpful suggestions. Trustee Stone will draw up a diagram of how they could accomplish this goal and bring back suggestions for further discussion.

#### **Building Inspector Discussion**

Mayor Seyller reported that our current inspection company (ICCI) has resigned. He and Mr. Magdziarz are looking into different options for hiring a new contractor for inspections. Maple Park is in the same situation, they are interviewing three different companies tonight. Mayor Seyller expressed an interest in possibly sharing an inspection company. He will keep the board informed as he and Mr. Magdziarz move forward with this process. A discussion regarding permit fees for window and siding will be postponed until a new company is contracted.

#### **Sale of Cortland Elementary School**

The school building is scheduled for sale at auction on May 23 at 1:00 p.m. Mayor Seyller said he planned on being there.

Approved: June 11, 2012

Attest: Clayton

### **DeKalb Sanitary District**

Mr. Magdziarz reported that a letter was received from the DeKalb Sanitary District's attorney regarding an agreement the Town has with DeKalb Sanitary District. The agreement basically was for emergency release if the Town needed it. Now that the Town has the sewer treatment plant and its permanent discharge operating permit it is not necessary for the Town to continue its agreement with DeKalb Sanitary District. DeKalb Sanitary District is asking for certain required conditions that were in the agreement. The Town attorney, Mayor and Town Administrator will keep the board informed as events unfold.

### **Resolution to Approve 2012 MFT Funds**

Trustee Stone moved and Trustee Barzso seconded a motion to approve Resolution for Maintenance of Streets and Highways not to exceed \$206,000.

Roll call vote:

Yeas: Trustees Dockus, Barzso, Lanning and Stone

Nays: None

Absent: Trustees Siewierski and Corson

4 - yea; 0 - nay; 2 - absent; motion carried.

**R 2012-07**

### **Approve Order for Snow Plow Truck**

Streets and Maintenance Superintendent John Kocher requested a new truck be ordered from Prairie Archway International in Springfield, IL, under state bid contract. The new truck with snow plow equipment is \$132,391.00. Trustee Lanning moved and Trustee Stone seconded a motion to allow ordering snow plow truck. Delivery is not expected until late fall.

Roll call vote:

Yeas: Trustees Dockus, Barzso, Lanning and Stone

Nays: None

Absent: Trustees Siewierski and Corson

4 - yea; 0 - nay; 2 - absent; motion carried.

### **An Ordinance Authorizing Aggregation of Electrical Load and Adopting An Electric Aggregation Plan of Operation and Governance.**

Mr. Chris Childress with Progressive Energy was present. Mrs. Dockus asked about a few changes she would have liked to see from the Plan of Governance that was on record with the Town. She and Mr. Childress looked over the document he brought to the meeting in anticipation of this ordinance being adopted. Trustee Dockus was not able to tell if the changes had been made. Trustee Dockus agreed that she would review the document with the proposed changes, and if need be, it could be amended at a later date. Mr. Magdziarz will email the latest plan to trustees. Trustee Lanning moved and Trustee Barzso seconded a motion to approve

Roll call vote:

Yeas: Trustees Lanning, Barzso, Dockus and Stone

Nays: None

Absent: Trustees Siewierski and Corson

4 - yea; 0 - nay; 2 - absent; motion carried.

**Ord. No. 2012-12**

### **Letter of Commendation of Officer Christian Kuhns presented to Town Board on May 10, 2012**

It is once again my pleasure to commend one of the Cortland Police Officers on a job well done!

Approved: June 11, 2012

Attest: Clayton

On May 2nd, 2012 at about 9:04 pm Officer Christian Kuhns was patrolling Cortland when he heard radio traffic in Hinckley of a possible burglary in progress. The person reporting the incident to dispatch was able to obtain a license plate from the suspect's vehicle, and that information was relayed over the radio. Officer Kuhns, who is ever vigilant in his duties, listened as further information was dispatched. Officer Kuhns learned that the suspect vehicle registered to a Sycamore address. A Hinckley officer responded to the burglary call and found the suspects had already fled. Officer Kuhns, knowing that the suspect vehicle registered to an address in Sycamore, responded to Route 38 and Hinckley Road. From that location he drove southbound and eventually observed the suspect vehicle northbound. Officer Kuhns affected a traffic stop on the vehicle, and was able detain the suspects until such time as the Hinckley officer could escort his witnesses to Officer Kuhns' location, and positively identify the individuals who were then taken into custody.

The Town of Cortland can be very proud of the caliber of its police officers; this is just another example of the great job they do.

It is with great pleasure that I congratulate Officer Christian Kuhns on a job well done!

Dennis M. Medema  
Chief of Police

#### **Adjourn to Closed Session**

Trustee Lanning moved and Trustee Barzso seconded a motion to adjourn to Closed Session to review minutes of previous closed sessions. (Exception to Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120.2 (c) (21) to include the Mayor, Trustees and Deputy Clerk.

Meeting adjourned to closed session at 8:45 with a 2 minute recess.

#### **Reconvene**

Motion to reconvene to regular meeting was made by Trustee Stone and seconded by Trustee Lanning at 9:04.

Roll call vote:

Yeas: Trustees Lanning, Barzso, Dockus and Stone

Nays: None

Absent: Trustees Siewierski and Corson

4 - yea; 0 - nay; 2 - absent; motion carried.

After motion to reconvene from closed session meeting, a formal motion of disposition of minutes was not done.

#### **Comments/Concerns**

Trustee Dockus asked that an updated policy handbook be given to all the trustees. She also would like the Mayor to get Board permission when hiring a new employee if the hiring agreement would vary from the Town's policy and procedures. Trustee Dockus stated that she saw the job position had been removed from the website. Mayor Seyller said that there are 7 applicants at this time. Trustee Dockus asked that if the job description is re-posted to please use existing job description adopted by the Town Board. Trustee Dockus, in referring to Comptroller fraud in Dixon, asked that checks and balances are put into place and also segregation of duties. She would like open access to auditors by trustees and employees and would like to see "Dashboard" implemented. She would also like to see documentation to

accompany checks when presented for signatures. Trustee Dockus would also like to continue the two signatures required policy on a permanent basis.

Trustee Barzso said that she was glad to see the article in the newsletter regarding grass clippings, but would have liked to see a reminder regarding not allowing grass clippings being dumped in detention ponds. Also there is a TV in the right-of-way in front of her house and she would like to see it removed. Mayor Seyller suggested she call the police when she sees anyone dumping clippings near the detention pond.

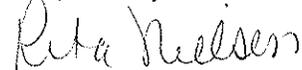
Trustee Stone said that he had a resident report to him that he was very disappointed that a Town employee led him to believe that abandoning a well was not going to cost him but a few hundred dollars, when in reality it was going to be thousands. Trustee Stone said that this particular area of Town had very deep wells, so the price is considerably higher than other parts of Town. It was recommended that the Town remind anyone asking approximate costs to connect to water and abandon wells to do their due diligence and get prices from contractors before starting work.

Trustee Lanning asked about employee raises. Mayor Seyller said he has directed the bookkeeper to put an explanation of wages and benefits in employees' next pay check.

Mayor Seyller reminded everyone of the Mayors' Memorial Day Breakfast that will be on Monday, May 28, 2012 from 6:45am to 7:30am at Jane Fargo Hotel in Sycamore.

Trustee Stone moved and Trustee Barzso seconded a motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Rita Nielsen  
Deputy Clerk