

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL ROOM OF THE MATTESON VILLAGE HALL  
4900 VILLAGE COMMONS  
ON THIS 3<sup>RD</sup> DAY OF JANUARY 2006

President Stricker called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Clerk Grisco called the roll and the following Trustees answered present:

**ROLL CALL**

Andre Ashmore  
Usher Sawyer, III

Trustee Motton arrived at 7:45 p.m.

Trustees Imoukhuede, Johnson, and Marshall were absent.

Also present were: Joseph Perozzi, Village Attorney; Lafayette Linear, Village Administrator/Finance Director; Robert Crouch, Human Resource Director; Nick Wilkens, Acting Fire Chief; Jan Dinnocenzo, Recording Secretary; and the media.

Acting Fire Chief Nick Wilkens noted that Firefighter/Paramedics Tracy Russo, David Klinger and Ramon Del Rio were deployed to the New Orleans area through FEMA and the state-wide Mutual Aid System (MABAS) on September 19, 2005 for 14 days to assist in the recovery efforts from the effects of hurricane Katrina.

Mr. Wil Chapleau, Chicago Heights Fire Chief and President of MABAS (Mutual Aid Box Alarm System of Illinois) Division 27, presented Firefighter/ Paramedics Russo, Klinger and Del Rio with a certificate and medal, awarded by the Illinois Fire Chiefs Association and MABAS, for their Humanitarian efforts in this tragedy.

*Trustee Motton arrived at 7:45 p.m.*

President Stricker read a Proclamation proclaiming January 13-29, 2006 as Girl Scout Cookie Sale Time in the Village of Matteson.

Board members wished everyone a Happy New Year.

**PRESENTATION**

- a) Presentation of Certificate and Medal for Humanitarian Efforts to Firefighter/Paramedics Tracy Russo, David Klinger and Ramon Del Rio

**COMMENTS BY  
VILLAGE OFFICIALS**

- a) Proclamation – December – Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month
- b) Trustee Committee Reports

Trustee Ashmore thanked everyone for their kind remembrances on the passing of his wife's grandfather. Trustee Ashmore reminded everyone of the Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration to be held on January 16 at 9:00 a.m. at Lincoln Mall. He also requested an update on the status of the planning of this year's annual Matteson Fest.

Trustee Sawyer reported that at the last Parks and Recreation Committee meeting concerns were raised regarding the need for the appointment of a new Commissioner as well as the progress on the planning of a new Community Recreation Center. Trustee Sawyer thanked all involved in supporting the Seasons of Change Committee and noted that the H.A.V.E. Committee will be holding a voter's registration drive on January 7 at the Village Hall. He urged everyone to get involved in their community.

President Stricker noted that staff is working on formulating a new policy for the Public Comment portion of the Board meetings.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR  
PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Char Campbell, 5244 Stoneridge Court, voiced her concern regarding the proposed new Public Comment policy fearing that it would monitor or restrict residents' ability to speak at Board meetings. She was also very distraught over issues she is having with her home builder and requested help from the Village. Administrator Linear noted that the new Public Comment policy is only intended to streamline the procedure, not prevent residents from speaking at the Board meeting. As to the concerns regarding her home, Administrator Linear stated that all the Village building codes have been met. He noted that the Village was informed that the builder intended to turn over the issue to his legal counsel for resolution.

Trustee Motton requested that a Board Workshop be held with the Building Department to review Village code enforcement, the phases/procedures that are followed, and to review what the Village's responsibilities are and those of the residents.

Trustee Ashmore noted that the Housing and Human Relations Commission is preparing a "Buyer Be Aware" packet to help potential new homeowners understand where their responsibilities lie when purchasing a home.

Trustee Sawyer noted that he did visit Ms. Campbell's house on her request.

Mr. Darrell Hill, 208 Grafton Place, noted his concern over the proposed new Public Comment policy for Board meetings and stated he felt it would be wrong to limit, restrict, and/or monitor resident comments. It was noted that the new policy will not limit the opportunity to speak but rather will provide for a more efficient way of handling public comments.

President Stricker announced that the next regular meeting of the Village

Board will be held on Tuesday, January 17, 2006 rather than Monday due to the observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's Birthday.

Mr. Dwayne Shipp, 6229 Virginia Lane, voiced his concern over the public having to limit their comments to what can be placed on a 3 by 5 card. He also stated his concern over the lack of lighting in the Marketplace of Matteson parking lot as well as other areas in the Village. Staff will look into the matter.

Ms. Brenda Reynolds, 5241 Southwick Court, felt the Village has disrespected the residents of Southwick Court by taking the word of a builder over that of the residents regarding building issues. Administrator Linear gave a brief synopsis of past activity that transpired regarding these issues and noted that the builder indicated his intention to contact the homeowners. Administrator Linear will follow up on the matter to ensure that the builder follows through with his intention.

Trustee Motton stated that the Village has procedures that it must abide by and will do its best to assist new homeowners while staying within those parameters. He noted that the workshop will provide a better understanding of where the various responsibilities lie regarding building issues.

Attorney Perozzi stated that the Village's responsibility is to ensure that the builder complies with all Codes adopted by the Village. He noted that the State of Illinois enacted a law that the builder must provide a one year warranty on all newly constructed homes. However, the Village is not involved in that legislation; that provision is between the builder and the homeowner.

Ms. Cynthia Harvey, 5234 Stoneridge Court, noted she contacted the Attorney General's office regarding concerns she has with her home.

President Stricker presented the Consent Agenda.

Trustee Motton moved that the Board approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. Seconded by Trustee Ashmore.

AYES: (4) Ashmore, Motton, Sawyer, and Stricker  
NAYS: (0)  
ABSTAIN: (0)  
ABSENT: (3) Imoukhuede, Johnson, and Marshall

- A. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES – *Approved by Omnibus Vote*  
1. Public Hearing of December 19, 2005

**6. CONSENT AGENDA:**

A. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

1. Public Hearing of December 19, 2005
2. Regular Meeting of December 19, 2005

B. CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

2. Regular Meeting of December 19, 2005

1. Salary, Overtime and Accounts Payable

B. CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL REPORTS – *Approved by Omnibus Vote*

1. Salary, Overtime and Accounts Payable

**8. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA - None**

**9. ACTIVE AGENDA**

**A. OTHER BUSINESS**

1. Request for Executive Session

Trustee Motton moved that the Board of Trustees adjourn to Executive Session under the Open Meetings Act, Section 2(c)(1) – Personnel, for the purpose of updating the Board on matters concerning Village bargaining units and also for the purpose of discussing the filling of vacancies in the Village, with no need to reconvene. Seconded by Trustee Sawyer.

AYES: (4) Ashmore, Motton, Sawyer, and Stricker  
NAYS: (0)  
ABSTAIN: (0)  
ABSENT: (3) Imoukhuede, Johnson, and Marshall

President Stricker distributed a written copy of his “Veto Message” to the Board and read it aloud wherein he submitted his veto to the action taken by a majority of the Matteson Village Trustees at the regular meeting of Monday, December 19, 2005, wherein they adopted a motion to authorize the creation of a position of a Director of Public Safety.

**CLOSING COMMENTS**

Clerk Grisco stated she agreed with President Stricker’s veto stand and felt that employees are needed in other departments prior to the hiring of a Public Safety Director.

Attorney Perozzi noted that State Statutes require this item be placed on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting and at that time the Board can reconsider the motion or override the veto by a two-thirds majority vote.

Trustee Ashmore reminded everyone of the Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration to be held on January 16 at 9:00 a.m. at Lincoln Mall and encouraged all to participate.

Trustee Sawyer noted that the H.A.V.E. Committee will be holding a voters registration drive on January 7 from 10:00 a.m. to noon. He encouraged everyone to get involved in their community.

Administrator Linear reiterated that the proposed change in the Public Comment portion of the Board meeting is not meant to curtail comments but to make more efficient use of the time designated for that portion of the meeting. He also reported that preliminary numbers for the special census have been received from the U.S. Census Bureau, noting that the population has grown by approximately 3,631 since the 2000 census.

Trustee Ashmore moved to adjourn the Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees at 8:48 p.m. and, after a short recess, convene to Executive Session with no need to reconvene. Seconded by Trustee Sawyer.

**ADJOURNMENT**

AYES: (4) Ashmore, Motton, Sawyer, and Stricker  
NAYS: (0)  
ABSTAIN: (0)  
ABSENT: (3) Imoukhuede, Johnson, and Marshall

Respectfully Submitted,

---

Dorothy Grisco, Village Clerk