

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 15th DAY OF DECEMBER 2008

President Andrè B. Ashmore 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

- Emmanuel Imoukhuede
- Kevin Little
- Anthony Burton
- Sam Brown
- Usher Sawyer III (arrived at 7:33 p.m.)

Also present were: Joseph Perozzi, Village Attorney; Lafayette Linear, Village Administrator; Gregory Bates, Director of Parks & Recreation; Norm Burnson, Acting Police Chief; Rick Smeaton, Director of Community Development; Brian Mitchell, Director of Human Resources; Gloria Gibson, Budget Officer; Pat Gericke, Deputy Fire Chief; the Media; and Angela Simington, Recording Secretary.

The following Trustees were absent:
Nathaniel Motton, Jr.

Chief Burnson presented K-9 Police Officer Zaron.

PRESENTATION
a. K-9 Police Officer Zaron

President Ashmore presented the Consent Agenda.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

Trustee Sawyer III made a Motion to pass all items on the Consent Agenda as presented. Seconded by Trustee Brown.

- AYES: (5) Brown, Little, Imoukhuede, Burton, Sawyer III
- NAYS: (0)
- ABSTAIN: (0)
- ABSENT: (1) Motton

A. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Vote

- 1. Regular Meeting of December 1, 2008-*Approved by Omnibus*

A. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

- 1. Regular Meeting of December 1, 2008.

B. CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

1. Salary, Overtime and Accounts Payable– *Approved by Omnibus Vote*

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. The Board of Trustee approve the Ordinance Amending Chapter 51, Entitled “Sewers” and Chapter 52, Entitled “Water” of the Code of Ordinances of the Village of Matteson, Creating the Office of the Director of Public Works – *Approved by Omnibus Vote*

2. The Board of Trustee approve the Ordinance amending Chapter 111, entitled “Alcoholic Beverages” of the Code of Ordinances of the Village of Matteson, Relative to the Number of Class “D” and Class “E” Alcoholic Liquor Licenses to be issued. – *Approved by Omnibus Vote*

Trustee Brown made a Motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report for November, 2008. Seconded by Trustee Sawyer III.

AYES: (5) Brown, Little, Imoukhuede, Burton, Sawyer III

B. CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

1. Salary, Overtime and Accounts Payable

C. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consideration of an Ordinance Amending Chapter 51, Entitled “Sewers” and Chapter 52, Entitled “Water” of the Code of Ordinances of the Village of Matteson, Creating the Office of the Director of Public Works.

2. Consideration of an Ordinance amending Chapter 111, entitled “Alcoholic Beverages” of the Code of Ordinances of the Village of Matteson, Relative to the Number of Class “D” and Class “E” Alcoholic Liquor Licenses to be issued.

6. ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

None

7. ACTIVE AGENDA

A. CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

1. Treasurer’s Report for November 2008.

NAYS: (0)
ABSTAIN: (0)
ABSENT: (1) Motton

Trustee Sawyer III made a Motion to accept the required public improvements for the Southwick Courtyards Subdivision Phases 3 and 4, which includes the water distribution system, sanitary sewer system, storm sewer system, detention facility, roadways, and street lighting system. Seconded by Trustee Imoukhuede.

AYES: (5) Brown, Little, Imoukhuede, Burton, Sawyer III
NAYS: (0)
ABSTAIN: (0)
ABSENT: (1) Motton

Trustee Imoukhuede made a Motion to accept the required public improvements for the Echelon Subdivision, which includes the water distribution system, sanitary sewer system, storm sewer system, detention facility, roadways, and street lighting system. Seconded by Trustee Brown.

AYES: (5) Brown, Little, Imoukhuede, Burton, Sawyer III
NAYS: (0)
ABSTAIN: (0)
ABSENT: (1) Motton

Ms. Gretchen Murray of 2112 Patricia stated that Patricia and Ridgeland and the Bus stop on Patricia had not been salted during the recent snow, that the Roads near her home need to be repaired and she also stated that the paper said that there is a new Village Police Chief.

Administrator Linear said that trouble spots and intersections are being salted and that some of the areas she is referring to are not in Matteson's jurisdiction.

President Ashmore directed the Administrator to look into Ms. Murray's comments. He also stated that the article in the paper was a misprint as it should have read Acting Chief Wilkens was appointed Fire Chief not Police Chief.

Trustee Sawyer III said that salt is not always effective without the appropriate chemicals mixed into it. He also said that Patricia/Ridgeland is a construction through way and with the many trucks that pass through a better street repair material needs to be used. He said that he has been talking with the developer as it is the developer's responsibility to repair the street.

B. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consideration of by the Board to accept the required public improvements for the Southwick Courtyards Subdivision Phases 3 and 4, which includes the water distribution system, sanitary sewer system, storm sewer system, detention facility, roadways, and street lighting system.

2. Consideration by the Board to accept the required public improvements for the Echelon Subdivision, which includes the water distribution system, sanitary sewer system, storm sewer system, detention facility, roadways, and street lighting system.

8. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Trustee Little asked the Administrator, in light of the increase in Salt prices, does the Village have enough Salt to cover its area of responsibility. The Administrator said yes and that the Village has an agreement with the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association to purchase a second bulk of salt.

Two representatives from Ridgeland Manor residing at 6128 Old Plank and 21121 Vivian Drive stated that they have met with the Village Engineer and have complained to the Village for five years about a mound of dirt in the subdivision and nothing has been done. They requested that the letter of credit be withheld from the developer until the mound of dirt is removed. They also stated that they were not aware of or asked for input regarding the assisted living facility that is being built in their subdivision.

Trustee Brown said that notice was posted regarding the Public Hearing that was held and that the residents could have voiced their opinion at the Plan Commission Meeting that was held.

The consensus of several members of the Board was that Staff should put more effort into going above and beyond the minimum notice requirement when a new development is proposed.

Sam Johnson of 21133 Alexander said that he has lived in the Village 30 years (some of those years he lived in a different subdivision) and that he has noticed a difference in service he receives from the Village now that he lives in Ridgeland Manor. He stated that snow was not removed from the roads in Ridgeland Manor.

President Ashmore said that he did hear the salt trucks out at 2:00 a.m. the morning Mr. Johnson is speaking of and that the issue will be looked into.

Trustee Imoukhuede said that the Village will look into all of the matters right away.

Trustee Sawyer III said that he is glad people are finally getting involved as he has been speaking of these very issues for some time.

Mr. Johnson also asked if the assisted living will affect the value of his house.

Trustee Brown and Trustee Burton said that the design of the Assisted Living Facility will compliment the neighborhood and that the Plan Commission did an excellent job in making sure that the Village's design guidelines were met.

Ms. Lynn Johnson of 21133 Alexander said that he does not want to hear mere words from the Board, he wants to see action. She also said that there is a problem with the timing of the green arrow at Cicero and Lincoln Highway.

President Ashmore asked Chief Burnson to look into the matter.

Ms. Johnson stated that she has called the Administrators Office and does not receive a response. She also asked if the Ordinances will be changed so that all Village employees will be required to live in Matteson. She also stated that she interviewed for a position she knows she was qualified for and was not hired.

Trustee Imoukhuede said he has always been a proponent of hiring people who live here.

President Ashmore stated that at present only certain employees are required to live in the Village and that there is not plan to change the Ordinance. He stated further that most towns have eliminated the requirement and that the Village will look into it and staff will weigh the pros and cons of hiring only residents to work at the Village.

Mr. Andre Johnson of 21142 S. Whitney said that he invited neighbors here to talk about the dirt mound, the proposed assisted living facility, the streets not being cleaned and several issues and that he will continue to come to board meetings until he believes the issues with the subdivision have been taken care of.

Trustee Burton thanked everyone for attending the Board Meeting. He encouraged everyone to attend Plan Commission Meetings so that their input can be heard regarding new developments. He reported that there will be an Administration and Finance Meeting on Tuesday, December 23, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. and he wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Trustee Little thanked everyone for attending the Board Meeting. He stated that he reviewed the response from the Administrator to Ridgeland Manor and stated that the Administrator did not include a time commitment regarding items 2, 3 & 4 of the response.

Trustee Imoukhuede said that at the last Board Meeting he asked for Sales tax receipts from the Auto Mall. He asked that Staff give those reports to him by the end of the week. He also asked staff for all Agreements between Lincoln Mall and Village and stated that the spread sheet needs to be brought current concerning what items have been met. He applauded Staff for doing its best to take care of the Foreclosure Board up issue he brought up at the last Board Meeting. He reported that in 2007, 377 Foreclosure occurred in the Village and that in 2008 so far 517 Foreclosures have occurred. He said that the Foreclosure issue is a serious matter and that he'd like the Housing and Human Resource Commission to research what programs are in place to assist residents and report its findings to the Board. He also asked that any

**9. COMMENTS BY
VILLAGE OFFICIALS**
a. Trustee Committee Reports

resident who knows of any programs to assist fellow residents who are in foreclosure to let the Village know. He reported that he attended the Matteson Bears program and that it was great to see residents encouraging their children to get involved in sports and cheer-leading events. He wished everyone happy holidays and reminded everyone to not drink and drive.

Trustee Brown reported that the Plan Commission will meet on Thursday December 18, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. He encouraged everyone to attend. He asked that Staff look into ways of better assisting its residents. He also stated that residents should be able to make a phone call to Staff and their issue is taken care of right away, avoiding the need to raise issues such as issues at the Board level. He thanked everyone for coming to the Board Meeting. He said that he is proud of the way the Board has conducted itself in lieu of the fact that the Village lost its President in 2008. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Trustee Sawyer III stated that Salt is 3 times higher than it was last year. He stated that he is happy he was able to witness two historic events: the election of the first African American United States President and the appointment of the Village of Matteson's first African American President. He said that he wished interest rates on home loans could be lower, that everyone would be more humble as the present economy affects everyone, and he wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Safe New Year.

Administrator Linear said that Staff works diligently to answer residents' inquiries and phone calls.

Attorney Perozzi said reiterated the requirements (as stated at the last two Board Meetings) necessary for Glen Eagle Point to be removed from Frankfort Park District. He said that the developers own a large portion of the parcels and that the developers have been sent the papers to sign. He stated that a first format of the Petition has been created and has been sent to the Village Administrator for review and that he [Attorney Perozzi] will be meeting with the Administrator to discuss the proposed petition. He suggested a Special Board Meeting be held which will be open to the public to discuss and/or sign the petition and that the Final Petition be placed somewhere in the subdivision, at the Village the Hall, and with the developer so that residents can have full access and opportunity to sign the petition.

President Ashmore reported that there will only be one board meeting in January due to the fact that the U.S. Presidential Inauguration will be held on the Tuesday following Martin Luther King Holiday which would have been the regular day for the Board to Meeting. He said that the Petition will be on the Agenda at the January 12th Board Workshop. He said that Housing and Human Relations Commission and Staff need to discuss the Foreclosure issue. He stated that some towns are returning a portion of resident's

property tax to assist them. He invited everyone to the Tree Lighting on Thursday January 18, 2008 at 6:45 p.m. and the celebration at 7:00 p.m. at Colin Powell. He stated that all residents concerns are taken very seriously. He thanked the Board for its hard work and for appointing him to the position of Acting President and he wished everyone a Merry Christmas on behalf of his entire family.

Clerk Grisco wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Joyous New year.

Trustee Brown made a Motion to adjourn the Meeting at 9:17 p.m. Seconded by Trustee Sawyer III.

10. ADJOURNMENT

AYES: (5) Brown, Little, Imoukhuede, Burton, Sawyer III
NAYS: (0)
ABSTAIN: (0)
ABSENT: (1) Motton

Respectfully Submitted,

Dorothy Grisco, Village Clerk