

**Minutes**  
**Village of Willow Springs Combined**  
**Committee of the Whole and Board Meeting**  
**March 24, 2016**

President Alan Nowaczyk led the Pledge of Allegiance. Meeting called to order at 7:08 p.m.

**Roll Call: Present:** President Nowaczyk, Trustees: George Bartik, Mario Imbarrato, Annette Kaptur, Kevin Maloney, Kathy Stanphill and Jerry Strazzante.

**Also Present:** Administrator William Murray, Clerk Adena Baskovich, Police Chief Peter Kokkinis, Treasurer Arlette Frye and Attorney Mike Mc Grath

**Public**

**Hearing:** None

**Presentation:** None

**Minutes:** Motion by Trustee Imbarrato, second by Trustee Stanphill to approve the minutes from May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015. **ROLL CALL: ALL AYES:** Trustees: Bartik, Imbarrato, Kaptur, Maloney, Stanphill and Strazzante. ***Motion Carried.***

**President:** *President Alan Nowaczyk* *No Report*  
Nowaczyk announced Donald (Slim) Mc Kenna has passed away. He served on the Plan Commission and the Historical Society for many years. He had a great memory of Willow Springs and he will be missed greatly.

**Engineering:** *Engineer Matt Buerger* *Jose Raya*  
Raya attended a meeting regarding the cost of the Green Corridor. They are putting together a master plan presentation. The presentation will be used for I.D.O.T., the Forest Preserve and other entities for the purpose of marketing the corridor. Engineer Buerger is working with the Forest Preserve regarding an easement through the forest preserve to connect Archer and the Corridor. Engineer Raya said Administrator Murray will put together a meeting with all the agencies to show the presentation and explain the Green Corridor.

They have met with the Complete Streets and the Active Transit Authority (ATA); they will be putting on a demonstration in Willow Springs and seeking input on areas in which streets could be more cohesive and safer for autos, pedestrians and bike traffic. Willow Boulevard and Wolf Road are two locations that are being considered.

Administrator Murray said the Village was lucky that it was selected by A.T.A. to be a recipient for the demonstration. The materials used for the demonstration will be donated to Willow Springs.

The quiet zone is moving forward. The pedestrian platform has to be worked on. The Village is trying to acquire funds to help with the expense, perhaps through Metra or STP funds. All avenues are being considered. The cost is \$500,000 to \$600,000 including all the requirements pertaining to a quiet zone. This includes but is not limited to: signs, flashing lights and running a mile worth of electric lines for signals. The board is considering a Village Committee Meeting for the sole purpose of explaining the progression of the quiet zone.

**Administrator:** *William Murray*

The Village is working with the ATA and he meets twice a month with CMAP. STP funds can be used for bike trails. ATA would like to see the I & M Bike Trail extended through Justice and possibly to Cicero. This would alleviate bike traffic on the roads. Cook County is looking at fronting some money to assist with the bike trails in exchange for Villages assisting with some of their streets and etc. within the Villages.

Trustee Bartik was glad to hear that they are willing to work again with Villages regarding this subject. Years ago there were discussions on such items; however, nothing ever came of it.

Trustee Kaptur said in many areas the bike trails have issues in which the Rails to Trails are trying to assist with. Many easements are privately owned and the liability lies against the private land owners. Rails and Trails are trying to assist with those matters. To purchase this property is one example of where funds could be used.

Trustee Bartik said that there is an area where the public has the legal right to walk around lakes or bodies of water. This is all being looked into.

**Attorney:** *Mike Mc Grath*

Mc Grath explained the two referendums have been passed on Election Day. The referendum for the Video Gaming was approved. Once the machines are in establishments in the Village, the Village is allowed to charge \$25 per machine and the establishments are allowed five (5) machines. The fee is set by State. The revenue the Village will receive will be one sixth (1/6) of the 30% the State will receive. The machines cannot be located within 100 feet of a school or a place of worship. The area is to be restricted and employees and patrons have to be 21 years of age or older. The businesses will need to shield them with a partial wall from the public, while still having the capability of the establishment to view the machines. These are only a few of the highlights and the State regulates all the requirements. The ordinance will be on a future agenda. The ordinance cannot be on the agenda until the final election results are certified and that will be on April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The Board will have the attorney research all the requirements and it will appear on a future agenda.

The Village referendum regarding joining the Tri-State Fire Protection District was voted in.

Tri-State had a meeting and pasted the I.G.A. regarding the sale of the Willow Springs Firehouse. The Village will sign the agreement and send it back to Tri-State.

The Village will have to go to court on April 19<sup>th</sup> for the certification of the election results. The Village will have to work on the annexation agreement with Tri-State. The appraisals will have to be finalized. Tri-State is interested on purchasing some of the items in the firehouse and we will have to work on the amounts of the rebate to the public.

Mc Grath has been working with Clerk Baskovich on reviewing the sign ordinances. The Board has been reviewing all of the outdated ordinances for over a year and some newer ones coming up therefore they will be going over ordinances pertaining to signage, property maintenance, video gaming, and liquor license regulations.

**Treasurer:** *Arlette Frye*

Frye gave the Board the financial statements as of February April 2016. The Board can review them and if they have any questions they can contact her. The majority of the property taxes were not received until March therefore those revenues are not on this report. The March report will look better.

Frye has applied to the Trustee of the T.I.F. escrow account seeking reimbursement for the allowable amount regarding the construction of the new Metra Lot. Once she receives the okay she will make the adjustments to the proper funds.

Frye will be filing the Annual Financial Report and the T.I.F. report with the County and Comptroller's office on Monday and continue working on the budget.

**Ordinances:** *Trustee George Bartik*

Motion by Trustee Bartik, second by Trustee Imbarrato for a consensus to direct the attorney to draft an ordinance for the Video Gaming. ROLL CALL: AYES: Trustees: Bartik, Imbarrato, Maloney, Stanphill and Strazzante. NAYS: Trustee Kaptur. ***Motion Carried.***

**Finances:** *Trustee Annette Kaptur*

Motion by Trustee Kaptur, second by Trustee Strazzante, to approve the warrants dated March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2016 as read. ROLL CALL: ALL AYES: Trustees: Bartik, Imbarrato, Kaptur, Maloney, Stanphill and Strazzante. ***Motion Carried.*** April 2<sup>nd</sup> Frye, Murray and Kaptur will meet to discuss the budget for 2017.

**W.S. Family & report.** *Trustee Maloney & Stanphill* ~ *No*

**Veterans Relief:**

President Nowaczyk commented the Benefit Car Show Committee is working on the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Show. A large portion of the proceeds go to fund the W.S.F. & V.R. program. The Committee has already chosen the band. The New Invaders will be playing at this year's event.

**Streets & Alleys:** *Trustee Jerry Strazzante*

Strazzante reported public works is working on all the equipment that will be used for the upcoming grass cutting and branch chipping season.

**West Suburban Water Commission:** *President Alan Nowaczyk* *No Report*

**Police and Fire:** *Trustee Mario Imbarrato*

Imbarrato stated the Village is still under contract with Tri-State Fire Protection District until the end of September. The Village will have ongoing negotiations with Tri-State pertaining to all the aspects of the firehouse and equipment.

Motion by Trustee Imbarrato and second by Trustee Strazzante to declare the 2006 Volvo Tractor Truck as surplus. ROLL CALL: ALL AYES: Trustees: Bartik, Imbarrato, Kaptur, Maloney, Stanphill and Strazzante. ***Motion Carried.*** This was an undercover vehicle that is no longer needed.

Trustee Stanphill thanked Trustees Imbarrato and Kaptur, President Nowaczyk, Administrator Murray and Treasurer Frye for all their efforts to educate the public for the Fire Dept. referendum. They worked very hard to calculate numbers and put the presentation together.

**Business Licenses:** *Trustee Kathy Stanphill*

Motion the approve the business licenses for Dyjak, Marquardt & Associates (insurance co.) located in Forest View Building on Archer Ave., second by Trustee Strazzante.

ROLL CALL: ALL AYES: Trustees: Bartik, Imbarrato, Kaptur, Maloney, Stanphill and Strazzante. *Motion Carried.*

**Building Committee:** *Trustee Kevin Maloney* *No report*  
Maloney had no report but wanted to inform the public if they are doing any construction, they will need a permit. Permits are for their own protection and are necessary.

**Village Clerk's Report:** *Adena Baskovich*  
Baskovich stated the Egg Hunt went well and thanked all of the Volunteers that helped: Sandy Munch, Sarah Paulsen, Peter Kononelos, Jessica Horton, Kathy Wendell and the group that helped stuff eggs.

This year the Village will host its annual Clean Willow Day. We are turning it into a scavenger hunt in order to stir up more interest. Anyone wishing to help can register at the Village Hall. This event is part of the Village's compliance with the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District in educating the residents on the importance of keeping waterways free of debris. Blowing debris always winds up somewhere and debris will block natural water drainage in turn creating flooding. The school offers extra credit to the students that participate.

Baskovich said it is that time of year to file your Cook County Ethics Report. Those required to file will receive an email from the Cook County Clerk's office. Follow the directions and print out 2 copies and turn one into the Clerk's Office. Baskovich wishes everyone a Happy Easter. The Polish Church has asked for permission for a special event during the week.

**Open Floor:** Motion by Trustee Strazzante and second by Trustee Stanphill to open the floor. Voice Vote: All Ayes. *Motion Carried.*

Joe Russo from N. Rust Trail discussed the flooding of his property. He has been turned down by the County that purchases properties that flood.

Administrator Murray said that was his only option. The Village Engineer did suggest some alternatives to alleviate his flooding. The engineer will watch to see if a buy out offer comes up again through the County. The County didn't refuse because he wasn't flooding; they only have a certain amount of funds and ran out of money. Perhaps the next round they can assist him. Murray advised the homeowner to watch out for other offers as well. The Village tried its best with what they could through engineering and helping him file his request. The Village cannot buy his home. His property is pitched towards his garage and it will continue to flood until he rectifies that issue.

Motion by Trustee Strazzante to close the floor, second by Trustee Stanphill. ROLL CALL: All AYES: Trustees: Bartik, Imbarrato, Kaptur, Maloney, Stanphill and Strazzante. *Motion Carried.*

**New News:** Trustee Kaptur asked if there were items from the Plan Commission to vote on. Administrator Murray stated they were not signed off on yet. It will be on the agenda next meeting.

Trustee Maloney asked about the water standing on Louis Drive and North Rust Trail and if Public Works could work on it. The flooding could create an accident. Public Work is aware and has taken pictures and when the weather clears they will work on it.

Trustee Imbarrato asked if the property on German Church Road across from Willow West Drive has been touched. It looks more bare due to the leaves off the trees.

**Old News:** The Old Willow Shopping area turned in a design for the sign. The sign has room for 12 businesses to advertise. The rendering is as large as allowable for that area. The sign will be illuminated which will help. Concern was expressed that the printing on the sign will be too small to read. I.D.O.T. will have to remove the Willow Florist Sign due to the location, it is on the easement and right next to the sidewalk creating a safety hazard. The Board can ask them to add more lights to the new Old Willow Sign. The consensus was approved to have Old Willow go forward with the sign plans.

Trustee Stanphill and Administrator Murray met with the manager of the building located at 300 Village Circle. The management company was paying the bills late and the current management company would like the late fees waived. They did go on a payment plan and paid all the fees up to date and are looking for reimbursement for the late fees. This will be brought up at a future meeting.

Trustee Bartik said the State has been cutting a lot of trees down in the area west of Willow Springs Road. Administrator Murray said he believes the Forest Preserve is cutting trees down due to the deer population.

Archer and Willow Springs Road has been moved up on the highway safety and improvement list. They will be starting to finish the project at that corner. Jose Raya said that I.D.O.T. said they have said they will finish the project by the end of June. Discussion has been brought up by A.T.A. regarding the safety. Many fatalities have occurred around 1 mile east of that intersection. The northbound lane will stay one lane and Village has asked for additional signage due to the lanes being cut. Traffic southbound seems to flow fine; however, it has created a different safety problem. Engineer Matt Buerger has been working closely with the project manager regarding that corner and trying to get matters addressed.

Trustee Bartik commented on all the trash along Archer Ave. it is more predominant since the trees have been cut back. We will contact I.D.O.T.

Motion by Trustee Imbarrato and second by Trustee Kaptur to go into Executive Session for the purpose of contract, personnel, possible litigation and real estate. ROLL CALL: VOICE VOTE. ALL AYES. *Motion Carried.* 8:27 p.m.

Motion by Trustee Kaptur to come out of executive session and resume the Combined Committee and Board Meeting and second by Trustee Stanphill. ROLL CALL: ALL AYES: Trustees: Bartik, Imbarrato, Kaptur, Maloney, Stanphill and Strazzante. *Motion Carried.* 9:44p.m.

**Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn by Trustee Strazzante and second by Trustee Stanphill.

Voice Vote: ALL AYES. *Motion Carried.* Time 9:45 p.m.

Adena Baskovich, Village Clerk