

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF SAUK VILLAGE,  
HELD IN THE SAUK VILLAGE MUNICIPAL CENTER ON **OCTOBER 13, 2009**

**CALL TO ORDER**

- 1a.** Mayor Towers called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.
- 1b.** Mayor Towers led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 1c.** On roll call by Village Clerk Williams, the following were  
Present: Trustees Anderson, Burgess, Hanks, Myers and Williams  
Absent: Trustee Benson (excused)  
A quorum was present.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- 2a. July 21, 2009- Committee Meeting**  
**2b. September 8, 2009 –Revised Board Meeting**

Mayor Towers asked for a motion to approve the minutes stated above. A motion was made by Trustee Myers and seconded by Trustee Williams to approve these minutes.

Trustee Anderson stated that the copy of the minutes she received has the word DRAFT on them. VC Williams stated that as mentioned in a previous memo the minutes will appear in draft form until approved and then are considered final.

Ayes: Burgess, Hanks, Myers, Williams

Nays: None

Absent: Trustee Benson

Abstain: Trustee Anderson

Motion carried.

**3. REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

**3a. Chief of Staff –Mrs. Corley-** COS Corley stated that she and most of the Board attended the Illinois Municipal League Conference two weeks ago. The conference was a wealth of information regarding Municipal Finances, Freedom of Information Act, etc... There was also plenty of opportunity to meet and mingle with other South Suburban officials and a variety of vendors. The Department Head meeting was held on Monday, October 12, 2009. Village finances were discussed as well as winterizing Village vehicles. COS Corley stated that DH Jasinski will be passing out flyers to residents that live in apartment buildings to alert them of winter safety and heating issues. Concerns about the water and the need for assistance with the school drop off were discussed while attending the Lincoln Meadows Block Club meeting last week. The residents were encouraged to call the Police Department and ask for assistance during that time to help avoid kids congregating in the street. COS Corley thanked DH Weller and the Public Works Department for weeding out the Senior Center and offering to help weed out the Village Hall. While meeting with the Lincoln Meadows Block Club it was decided that the Beautification Committee would be reestablished and resident Marva Pruitt was asked to chair that committee. COS Corley thanked Ms. Pruitt for offering to chair that committee and asked anyone who would like to join that committee to contact her after the meeting or call Village Hall. COS Corley is also in the process of working on the renewal of the Property & Casualty Insurance that is due by the end of 2009. She is working to obtain competitive quotes from a variety of insurance companies. VISTA has now arrived at the Paesel Center. There is a survey on the table in the hallway of the Village Hall for residents to complete.

**3b. Village Clerk: Mrs. Williams-** VC Williams stated that the Sauk Village website has been updated to include Board meeting agendas and minutes from September 2009 and will be updated by an offsite IT person as future minutes are approved. The link for this information is on the front page of the website. Every effort will be made to provide timely updates even though the offsite IT person is not a full time employee. Weekly updates are scheduled in order to post agendas prior to the Committee of the Whole, Regular Board and Special Board meetings. There will be a bi-weekly posting of approved meeting minutes. VC Williams stated that flyers have been placed in the back of the room with regards to job openings for General Laborers, Fork Lift & Machine Operators, Packers, Sanitation Workers and Machine Operators. The company hires on an ongoing basis but does need 12 people by Monday, October 19, 2009. The McConathy Public Library will also be hosting a Job Fair for these positions on Monday, November 2, 2009 (time to be determined.).

**3c. Village Treasurer Mr. Griegel – No report- (Absent-Vacation)**

**3d. Village Attorney-Mr. Vasselli – No Report**

**3e. Village Engineer: Mr. Czarnik –** VE Czarnik stated that the draft version of the Water Quality Report is finished and he will be meeting with the Chief of Staff and the Mayor to report the findings.

**3f. Mayor's Report: Mayor Lewis Towers–** Mayor Towers stated that he also felt that the IML conference was very helpful and educational and looks forward to the next conference. Mayor Towers stated that he is a member of State Representative Anthony De Luca's Economic Development Advisory Committee. The committee met with Mayors of the south suburban area on October 1, 2009 to discuss jump starting new commercial, industrial and residential investors to the area as well as assisting existing business and encouraging downtown redevelopment. Other topics to encourage growth in the south suburban area included the proposed high speed rail, going green and the wind turbine.

#### **4. REPORTS OF TRUSTEES AND BOARD COMMITTEES**

**4a. Senior Citizens Committee: Trustee Anderson –** Trustee Anderson invited all seniors to the Spaghetti Dinner this Saturday, October 17, 2009 from 3pm- 6pm. The cost of \$5.00 includes spaghetti, salad, bread, desert and drink. Tickets are on sale at the Village Hall. Rose Langston, Larry Stewart and Trustee Anderson also have tickets available for sale. Free entertainment will be provided by the Morgan Family. Trustee Anderson also stated that on November 7, 2009 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm the seniors will be hosting a forum for seniors to discuss leaving the mystery out of Home Health. Discussion includes what services are provided, what is available for seniors who can pay for it, caregivers and housing for seniors. Six agencies have already confirmed to be a part of this event. Refreshments will be provided.

**4b. Parks, Recreations & Youth Services: Trustee Benson–** No Report (Absent-Vacation)

**4c. Housing Authority Commission: Trustee Hanks –** Trustee Hanks stated that the next Housing Authority meeting will be Thursday, October 15, 2009 at the Village Hall at 6 pm. Guest speaker John Pieterczak, Executive Director of South Suburban Housing Center, will be giving pointers on how information and workshops can be provided to Village residents with regards to housing. Trustee Hanks also requested that resident David Chick be approved as Housing Authority commissioner as noted on agenda item 8b. Trustee Hanks also stated that he sent a resolution to the Mayor and Village Attorney regarding working with the South Suburban Housing Collaboration. The resolution asks that a representative from the Village be appointed; either the Mayor or his designee. Trustee Hanks requested this item to be placed on the agenda for discussion at next week's meeting. Trustee Hanks also passed on an intergovernmental

agreement that the communities are working on. A final draft should be coming through after October 19, 2009 and will be turned over to the Board and the Village Attorney for review.

**4d. Ordinance Review Committee: Trustee Myers** – Trustee Myers stated that the Ordinance Review Committee meets on the third Wednesday of every month at 7 pm in the Village Hall. The Committee will be reviewing two new ordinances and proofreading another ordinance.

**4e. Economic Development Committee: Trustee Burgess-** Trustee Burgess stated that he also attended the IML conference and brought back literature for DH Weller with regards to saving money patching and new equipment to do larger areas as part of going green. DH Weller will be working on that; look for a presentation at a later date. Next Tuesday there will be an announcement of ways to hopefully enhance the schools, churches, municipal buildings and houses in the community. This would include giveaways and a great prize for one lucky family. This will be discussed at the next Economic Development meeting on Wednesday, August 12, 2009 at 6:30 pm. and then brought before the Board the next week. Trustee Burgess stated that the conference was very informative and through networking with other Village representatives he discovered that other municipalities are running into similar problems that Sauk Village faces. He suggested working with other communities during this economic crisis. Many communities are already joining forces.

**4f. Public Relations/Web Site Committee: Trustee Williams** – Trustee Williams stated that the Public Relations Committee met Wednesday, October 5, 2009. The future of the Sauk Talk was discussed. School District 168 was contacted to see if the September Sauk Talk could be passed out in the schools due to the fact that they were unable to be delivered in the homes because of budget restraints. Superintendent Williams did agree and the September issue was circulated in the Friday folders of the Wagoner and Strassburg students. Trustee Williams thanked Public Works for delivering them to the library, the library for sorting them and making sure they got to the appropriate school and the school district for passing them out. Sauk Talk will continue to be produced bi-monthly but will be available only on the website with limited hard copies available at the Village Hall and the library until the budget allows for printing and postage in the future. Therefore, Sauk Talk articles are due October 30, 2009. The Sauk Talk policy still applies. A copy of the Sauk Talk policy is available to anyone who needs it. Sauk Talk articles are to be submitted electronically to Trustee Williams who then compiles the articles for that issue and forwards this to the IT person for posting on the web. Trustee Williams also stated that the committee welcomed a possible new member on the last meeting. This new member may be introduced to the Board soon. Trustee Williams also stated that the Public Relations Committee discussed a Current Events page. Board members will be able to post a short 2 paragraph synopsis of current events that should be followed by a contact name and number. This will provide more up to date information on a bi-weekly basis; even more often than the Sauk does now on a bi-monthly basis. Holiday events, senior events, etc... will be accessed from the front page of the site. The PR Committee is also looking to provide contact information for the Times and Star Newspapers so the same information can be placed in the neighborhood newspapers.

**4g. 2010 Census Update- Chief of Staff Corley-**

COS Corley stated that the first meeting was held on October 1, 2009. Executive Census Director Kerry Dean was on hand to provide information on how to get residents information on how to complete the forms. Ten members were in attendance and the committee is still looking for 10-15 more volunteers. The committee did strategize how to inform the residents why it is important to stand up and be counted. The next strategy meeting will be Thursday, October 15, 2009 and information will be passed out among committee members to share with the public.

## 5. REPORTS OF DEPARTMENTS, COMMITTEES & COMMISSIONS

**5a. Police Department: Chief Lacheta** – No Report (Absent)

**5b. Fire Department: Interim Chief Stoffregen** - DC Stoffregen stated that Fire Prevention Week was last week and members of the Fire Department gave speeches in the schools. The Open House was Saturday and Trustee Myers went to the schools and passed out prizes to the winners.

**5c. Public Works Department: Mr. Weller** – DH Weller stated that residents have called inquiring about short flags in their yards. These are JULIE locator flags. Public Works calls JULIE when they are digging in the area and JULIE flags gas lines, as well as electric, water, etc... Residents can call Village Hall if they have questions. Mr. Weller also stated that the last hydrant flushing of the year was October 6, 2009 and it was discovered that 10 hydrants need to be repaired once the budget allows. DH Weller also stated that snowfall signs have been posted. Once snow has been removed from the street residents can park in the street. However, residents are asked not to shovel snow into the street once it has been plowed; residents can get ticketed for that. The leaf program starts November 9<sup>th</sup> and runs through the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> week of November. Residents are asked not to put any leaves in the street after November 15, 2009. Public Works will send street sweepers out after that time for light sweeping – no leaves should be on the street after November 15<sup>th</sup>. DH Weller stated that Public Works is continuing to trim the trees; over 200 trees have been trimmed so far. Pot hole patching is being completed on the south side and will move to the north side after completion.

**5d. Community Development Department: Ms. Jasinski** –DH Jasinski stated that the Fire Department received a fire alarm call from Jeffery Apartments and there was no contact information; it took a couple of hours to reach the maintenance man. DH Jasinski stated that she has compiled a list of emergency numbers for the apartment buildings and gave this list to the Police and Fire Departments. DH Jasinski stated that it was also discovered that there was no heat in the Jeffery Apartments. She also made a flyer informing residents of the heating requirements landlords must maintain and she will pass those out to the residents of Crossroads and Jeffery Apartments. DH Jasinski stated that she will also inform the residents that the Village will assist them if the buildings are not being maintained properly. DH Jasinski stated that she is checking with the prosecutors regarding two demolitions; the cost and putting liens on the properties. Those properties are located on Talandis and the Jeffery Apartments. She will report to the Board when she has gathered the information.

**5e. Finance & Administration Department: Mrs. Sterrett** – DH Sterrett provided the Board with the weekly financial update as well as an updated list of Accounts Payable checks still being held. DH Sterrett has requested a list of registered vehicles from the State of Illinois to compare with Sauk Village in order to increase revenues through issuing tickets for non compliance of purchasing a Village Sticker. A dig list was also provided to the Board with water account balance. DH Sterrett stated that there is a resolution to be voted on later in the agenda to open separate accounts for waste management, water and sewer. DH Sterrett and COS Corley met with Kane, McKenna earlier today to continue to investigate loans and working cash bonds; both of these are in progress.

Trustee Burgess asked if we had met our shortfall. DH Sterrett stated that we had met the shortfall. Trustee Burgess asked Mr. Weller what the average cost of a dig was. Mr. Weller stated that could be about \$300.00

**5f. Emergency Services & Disaster Agency: Mr. Darnell – No Report**

**5g. 9-1-1 Board: Interim Chief Stoffregen – No report**

**5h. Human Relations Commission: Mrs. Sterrett –** DH Sterrett stated that the Human Relations Commission is seeking nominations for the 2009 Sauk Arrow award. This award recognizes individuals who have made contributions and improved the quality of life in Sauk Village. Eligible individuals include those who assist with charitable contributions or otherwise are nominated for their good works and selfless work to help the community. The nomination form was in the September Sauk Talk and is available the Village Hall and the Library. The nomination form will also be included on the website. Last year's Sauk Arrow award went to Officer Joshua Morris and his wife Stephanie for their work with the youth of Sauk Village. The Morris' tirelessly volunteered their time to start a mentoring program in Sauk Village.

The Human Relations Commission is also accepting letters of interest to fill a vacancy. This is a volunteer position. A strong, community minded individual who will assist the commission in their long term goal to promote a truly open community with long term population diversity and to stimulate and improve human relations among all persons. Past Human Relation Commissions include a successful Job Fair with over 300 participants, voter's registration drive, etc... Please present a letter of interest to the Village Hall. The next Human Relations committee meeting will be Monday, October 19, 2009 at 7:00 pm at the Village Hall.

**5i. Police Alliance Committee: Trustee Anderson –** Trustee Anderson announced her regrets for the cancellation of the Citizen's Police Academy. Trustee Anderson thanked the 16 people who have participated in the first three sessions. Trustee Anderson stated that it was her understanding that the academy would be conducted by volunteers but there have been requisitions for overtime turned in. It is difficult to make the regular payroll and it is not fair to add overtime. The committee will meet to discuss restructuring the academy with volunteers.

## **6. CONSENT AGENDA**

Trustee Hanks made a motion to move items 7a-7j to the consent agenda and further motioned to approve these items. Trustee Myers seconded the motion.

**7a. Banking Resolution (First Midwest Bank)- New Accounts-**

**7b. TIF Resolution Certificate # 70 (\$16,854.65)**

**7c. TIF Resolution Certificate #71 (\$49,015.78)**

**7d. Ordinance for Driveway Variance- Mr. & Mrs. Vance Persons**

**7e. Ordinance for Extension on Midwest Promissory Note- January 2010**

**7f. Ordinance for Illinois Treasury Funds Loan**

**7g. Ordinance for Liquor and Tobacco Policy**

**7h. Ordinance Approving Kane, McKenna & Associates, Inc. as Financial Advisors**

**7i. Ordinance Amending Fiscal Year**

**7j. Ordinance Approving a Contract for Fire Chief**

Mayor Towers asked Village Clerk Williams to call the roll.

Ayes: Trustees Anderson, Burgess, Hanks, Myers and Williams  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Trustee Benson

Motion carried.

## **7. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS & COMMUNICATIONS**

Items 7a- 7i were moved to the consent agenda.

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

### **8a. Accounts Payable & Disbursements**

#### **For the period of September 23, 2009- October 13, 2009**

Mayor Towers asked for a motion to approve the accounts payable.

Trustee Burgess questioned items on pages 3 & 4. Trustee Burgess stated that there is an invoice for the same amount, same invoice number placed as line items for the Police Department and Community Development.. He asked if this was a typo. DH Jasinski stated that the invoice is for Dennis Gianapolous who is the prosecutor and adjudicator for the night court. One invoice is received and the total amount of that invoice is dividing equally between the two departments.

Trustee Burgess questioned the item 1027 for \$12.45 on page 1 – Elected Officials- Car Wash.

Mayor Towers stated that he answered that last week. Trustee Burgess stated that this is a new accounts payable and a new invoice. COS Corley said that it could be a police vehicle and she will check into it. Trustee Williams stated that there was a previous expense questioned on the accounts payable approved weeks ago and asked for the explanation in writing to explain if it was a police vehicle or other vehicle. Trustee Burgess stated that the police have their own line item.

Trustee Hanks made a motion that only the employee payroll, insurance and bonds be approved and all other items should be placed on hold. Trustee Myers seconded the motion. Trustee Hanks stated that he also spoke with Finance Director Sterrett and requested that the Board be informed if there is anything that will put the Village in jeopardy and needs to be paid and in the future pass line items that are necessary to be paid. Trustee Myers stated that there are several board up costs and asked if they are related to fires or vacant houses. DH Jasinski stated that the Police Department calls Code Enforcement to board up and secure vacant houses. Trustee Myers asked if the Village is reimbursed. DH Jasinski stated that we do not get reimbursed. Mayor Towers asked if a lien could be placed on the property. DH Jasinski stated that when the bill for the board up comes in and gets paid it also gets billed to the bank if one is on record. Any money that is received is placed in the General Fund and she does not see it. Trustee Myers stated that there is a bill in the House that will allow municipalities to be on top to receive the first payout in the event of foreclosures; they are presently on the bottom of the list.

Mayor Towers asked Village Clerk Williams to call the roll.

Ayes: Trustees Anderson, Burgess, Hanks, Myers and Williams  
Nays: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: Trustee Benson

Motion carried.

### **8b. Housing Authority Swearing In- Mr. David Chick**

Trustee Hanks made a motion to approve David Chick as a Housing Authority Commissioner. The motion was seconded by Trustee Burgess.

Mayor Towers asked Village Clerk Williams to call the roll.

Ayes: Trustees Anderson, Burgess, Hanks, Myers and Williams  
Nays: None

Abstain: None  
Absent: Trustee Benson

Motion carried.

VC Williams swore in the David Chick as Housing Authority Commissioner.

**8c. Transition/ Appointment of Persons to Village Positions**

Mayor Tower asked for a motion to approve Mr. Alan Stoffregen as Sauk Village Fire Chief.

Trustee Myers made the motion to approve Alan Stoffregen as a Sauk Village Fire Chief.

The motion was seconded by Trustee Burgess.

Mayor Towers asked Village Clerk Williams to call the roll.

Ayes: Trustees Anderson, Burgess, Hanks, Myers and Williams

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Trustee Benson

Motion carried.

VC Williams swore in Alan Stoffregen as Sauk Village Fire Chief.

VA Vasselli addressed Mayor Towers and the Board stating that he has been in contact with Police Chief Tom Lacheta and on certain terms and conditions he would like to ask the Board on behalf of the Village to accept his formal resignation or retirement from the duties of Police Chief of Sauk Village, Illinois.

Mayor Towers asked for a motion to approve accepting the resignation/ retirement of Tom Lacheta. Trustee Burgess asked if this motion is accepting his retirement or his retirement package. VA Vasselli stated that the motion includes his retirement or resignation on certain terms and conditions; meaning this is one and the same.

Mayor Towers restated the motion to approve. Trustee Williams made the motion to approve and the motion was seconded by Trustee Hanks.

Mayor Towers asked Village Clerk Williams to call the roll.

Ayes: Trustees Anderson, Hanks, Myers and Williams

Nays: Trustee Burgess

Abstain: None

Absent: Trustee Benson

Motion carried.

VA Vasselli stated that there is then a vacancy in the Police Chief position in the Village. Accordingly, through prior conversations, the appointment of the current Deputy Police Chief, Rebecca Sailsbery, to Interim Police Chief is in order. Rebecca Sailsbery needs to be sworn in as the Interim Police Chief after the vote of the Board is taken.

Trustee Burgess made the motion to appoint Deputy Chief Salisbery to the position of Interim Police Chief. Trustee Myers seconded the motion. Trustee Hanks asked if she has agreed to appointment. Mayor Towers stated affirmatively.

Mayor Towers asked Village Clerk Williams to call the roll.

Ayes: Trustees Anderson, Burgess, Hanks, Myers and Williams

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Trustee Benson

Motion carried.

VC Williams swore in Rebecca Sailsbery as Interim Sauk Village Police Chief.

## 9. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

### 9a. Questions and comments from the Board of Trustees-

Trustee Hanks welcomed the new interim Chief as well as stating that he will miss Chief Lacheta who was his cadet advisor back in the 1980's. Trustee Hanks wished his family the best in the future. Trustee Hanks also thanked everyone who sent cards, flowers or attended the funeral of his wife's mother; it was greatly appreciated.

Trustee Burgess also congratulated Interim Police Chief Sailsbery and Fire Chief Alan Stoffregen and is confident that they will do a great job.

Mayor Towers also thanked Fire Chief Stoffregen and Interim Police Chief Sailsbery for taking on those responsibilities; you're hands will be full but we know you will do a great job. Mayor Towers thanked them for stepping up.

### 9b. Questions from the Audience

Rose Langston congratulated both the Fire Chief and Interim Police Chief and stated that they will both do fine jobs.

Ed Shankel asked where the Village stands on the grant of hiring the new policeman. COS Corley stated that the grant has been accepted; the deadline was October 1, 2009. The process is ongoing to review the candidates next in line for the position.

Nan Wargo congratulated the new Fire Chief and Interim Police Chief; they are filling big shoes. Nan also stated that she has received and reviewed her FOIA requests and she suggests that at some point she would like to meet with the Mayor, Chief of Staff, etc... to discuss some things that she feels they need to be aware of. Nan also mentioned that opening the new accounts for water and sewers was vital. Nan also mentioned after reviewing the minutes from the Parks & Recreations meetings that someone should inform Trustee Benson that all of his meetings are open meetings and that if someone appears on his agenda they are supposed to be allowed to speak.

Rose Langston mentioned that the grant information requested from the Parks & Recreation committee was supposed to be received in writing and asked if that information has been received. COS Corley stated that it has not been received and in the absence of Trustee Benson she would like to wait until he can respond to that.

Marva Pruitt asked if the meeting agendas will now be placed on the website according to the Open Meeting Acts. VC Williams stated that the agendas from September 1, 2009 on have been posted and will be posted weekly. VC Williams stated that this is a new procedure that would involve receiving the agendas timely and forwarding them to an outside IT person for posting the Monday prior to the Village meetings. This is a new procedure which should be totally up and running within a couple of weeks. COS Corley stated that agendas are also posted at the Library and the Village Hall.

Trustee Hanks restated that copies of the agenda are placed at the Library, Village Hall and hard copies are available for the residents.

VA Vasselli restated that there is not a full time IT person dedicated to that job and that we will work to be in compliance of the Open Meetings Act. VA Vasselli stated that he will meet with the Village Clerk this week to discuss compliance with the Open Meetings Act.

Mr. Hyde stated that he has lived in Sauk Village for 5 years. Mr. Hyde also stated that last Friday there was an accident on Route 30 and Torrence Avenue. The Police had the street blocked while directing traffic and they shined a light in his face. Mr. Hyde tried to tell the officer that he could not see where to go because the lights were in his face. Mr. Hyde stated that the police officer cursed him out twice. Mr. Hyde stated that the Police Department is there to serve and protect the residents not to disrespect them; he put his face in the window and cursed him out. Mr. Hyde stated that he is a 68 year old resident who has never been in trouble and he will not fight this further if he receives a personal apology from the officer.

Mayor Towers stated that he will be the first to apologize and that the officer should not have cursed him. Mayor Towers asked him to meet with the Interim Chief to discuss this further.

## 10. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Towers asked for a motion to adjourn.

Trustee Burgess made a motion to adjourn and Trustee Hanks seconded the motion to adjourn.

Mayor Towers asked VC Williams to call the roll.

Ayes: Trustees Anderson, Burgess, Hanks, Myers and Williams

Nays: None

Absent: Trustee Benson

The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:02 PM.

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Mayor

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Village Clerk