

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
VILLAGE OF PHILO, ILLINOIS  
August 11, 2010

The meeting was called to order by President Craig Eckert at 7:08 p.m. at the R.E. Franks Meeting Center in the Eileen Painter room.

ROLL CALL: Present-Trustees Mumma, Franks, Tarter and Asklund. Trustee Sappenfield arrived at 7:12 p.m. Absent-Trustee Pioletti.

GUESTS: Rod Schweighart, Chris Payne, Hammerschmidt, Dave Laker, Dave Traxler, Paul Brady, Bob Rice, Susan Helmink, Christine Walsh and Dave Phillippe.

MINUTES: Trustee Franks made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tarter, to approve the meeting minutes of July 14, 2010. Voice vote; all “ayes,” motion carried unanimously.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANT: Trustee Asklund made a motion, seconded by Trustee Alta Tarter, to pay the bills as presented. Roll call vote; “ayes” Trustees Mumma, Franks, Tarter, and Asklund. Motion carried unanimously.

ROD SCHWEIGHART: Rod purchased a home that he is remodeling on north Jackson and would like to purchase the small tract of land south of his property that the Village owns. This property lies north along the railroad tracks. Mr. Schweighart stated he has helped various homeowners improve their properties and has offered to side Dale Terven’s home, also located on north Jackson. At a prior Village Board of Trustee meeting, Attorney Marc Miller described the process the Village would complete if they were interested in selling this property. Mr. Hendren reviewed this process and added the need for a resolution and also the need to vacate the alley, which could go half to each property owner or Mr. Schweighart could pay for the entire 20 feet. Trustee Tarter asked what the first step would be. Attorney Hendren explained the Board would first need to decide if they want to sell the property, followed by determining a minimum bid, direct him to prepare a resolution, publish the proper notices and act at the November meeting. The alley would need to be vacated, which is a separate process but related and should be able to be completed on the same timetable. Trustee Franks indicated the minimum bid should cover all of our costs. President Eckert asked Christine Walsh provide an estimate of the publishing expense to either Judy Kirby or Susan Helmink. Mr. Hendren will get a legal description and we should estimate legal, as well as engineering, fees.

DAVID LAKER: Nothing at this time.

DAVE PHILLIPPE: The Village Engineer stated he received an email from Kristi Blair (Norfolk Southern) asking for definition in regard to the septic issue discussed at last months meeting. Mr. Phillippe said he provided a sketch to use for the proposal she will be submitting to President Eckert. The approximate 50’ south of the railroad goes around where Franks’ family owns an existing structure. President Eckert wanted the record to reflect in no way is the Village trying to assist the bar owner and wants a more accurate picture of what’s been going on. Trustee Tarter asked if the paper could reflect “how this isn’t just the Village helping the bar

owner.” Trustee Franks is concerned about the power of the EPA guy. He said Mr. Daly had provided him with 3 proposals and none were approved. Trustee Franks said we ran into the same thing with the bathrooms at Hazen Park. Larry has talked to a County Board member to let them know that this guy is no help. It is frustrating knowing we maintain the tile, but have no say in what gets approved. President Eckert said he would talk to Steve O’Connor, not to trash the guy, but to ask what to do. The application fee was also discussed, noting the Village does not receive any portion of it. Mr. Hendren explained the Village does not charge a fee to the resident. President Eckert said if R.J. (Daly) conversation is correct, the guy has avoided him. The Board then discussed their concerns if the Village purchased property from the railroad. Trustee Franks was frustrated and wanted to know what happens if we make the purchase and the disposal system is still not approved, or other property owners have problems with their systems. The Village wants to know the regulations for disposal systems and how the new regulations are going to be determined. The Board wants Craig to invite Mr. Blackford to the next Village meeting to hear about the new regulations and also ask him about this issue (North Washington Street business district sanitary sewer systems). Trustee Mumma commented when South Point was being done, only three multi-flows were allowed per outlet. The EPA or Champaign County Board of Health was not able to explain or say what an outlet was. He was told they had three options: 1) Hook into tile; 2) Pump on top of ground to catch basin; or 3) Pump into detention area and drain out there. John then asked “Isn’t that unhealthy, for kids to be playing in ditch or muddy area?”

Resident Dave Laker added that a resident on Garfield was required to put in 800 linear feet of septic line, 375 foot leach field over 400 foot percolator drain and it ends up in open ditch on Garfield or forced to have a sand filter. Trustee Tarter feels they are forcing the issue. Chris Payne commented that there are articles from EPA, get on the Internet. They are trying to force small towns toward sanitary sewer systems.

SOGGY SOIL: Another sample was taken at 706 Country View and it tested high in fecal material. President Eckert stated he would take direction from the Board as to what to do. Do we need to put in field tile, etc.? Trustee Franks made a motion, seconded by Trustee Sappenfield directing President Eckert to contact the residents to ask where they are at in resolving the problem and inform them the problem will be reported to Public Health if not resolved by August 17, 2010. Voice vote, all “aye’s” motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Tarter asked where the water is coming from between the properties. Dave Phillippe said they cannot be 100% sure where it is coming from, adding Ault’s sump pump area is wet and the soggy soil is concentrating between fences and to the north. A dye test (down resident drains) is not a perfect test.

OIL & CHIP: Mr. Phillippe noted that the oil and chip work has been completed.

TREASURER REPORT: Bob Rice presented his monthly report, noting it was routine. Mr. Rice also noted the State is still 3 months behind on the income tax money.

PAUL HENDREN: Paul stated the railroad issue was already discussed and he did not have anything else to discuss.

DAVE TRAXLER: There were eleven loads of brush picked up. D.J. Stewart did the work at Hazen Park. The Board decided to seed the area as a warm up area and Dave Traxler will take down the basketball hoop and net.

OLD BUSINESS: Susan Helmink reported that a 4-yard dumpster is the same price as two 2-yard dumpsters, so the Board decided not to make any changes.

Susan also presented the proposal to move the antenna. Trustee Franks made a motion, seconded by Trustee Mumma, to approve the proposal from Apo in the amount of \$870.00 to relocate the antenna and the narrow band service. Roll call vote, “aye’s” Trustees Mumma, Franks, Sappenfield, Tarter and Asklund.

Eagle Eye has not yet provided a proposal for door chimes for the R.E. Franks Meeting Center, but did indicate the door chimes would work with the existing system.

President Eckert noted that three letters were sent to residents on Van Buren Street in regard to their lawns. One letter was returned “undeliverable.”

Susan said the committee agreed the Village should raise the rent from Hugs and Bugs by \$25.00 per month. Paul Hendren indicated a new lease does not have to be written, but that both parties should sign agreeing to the increase. President Eckert will prepare the letter. The Fuzzy Bikes lease for the Village building will be up soon, too.

Trustee Tarter reported that the Philo Fall Festival is coming along. Alta mentioned Mary Jones’ aunt made a quilt and chances will be sold to win it. President Eckert was reminded a special liquor license will need to be issued for the beer tent sales. The Village will have a tent with information and village officials will be available to greet the public.

The issue of raising the cost to pet owners that do not adhere to the Village ordinance was discussed. The Village pays Champaign Animal Control a minimum of one hour (\$31.85) to pick up dogs, or answer a complaint call. The fee can be paid at the Village or paid there. Trustee Tarter believes the fee to residents has to cover our cost. President Eckert asked Susan Helmink to determine if they are collecting and sending the fines (\$10.00) to the Village. Trustee Sappenfield asked if that’s the only cost or if there are other fees. The contract reads up to \$75.00 can be charged. Reports on cost are supposed to be provided to President Eckert. Paul Hendren noted our concerns are understandable and will review and stated the Village has their own dog control ordinance and can charge up to \$75.00. Resident Paul Brady said his dog may bolt out front door, but not the same as a roaming dog issue. Trustee Franks said the concern is for persons that are not taking care of their dogs.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Susan Helmink presented her usual monthly REFMC report. Hugs & Bugs had asked Susan if the Village might be interested in jointly purchasing an LCD projector. Bundy Business priced several options between \$650 to \$1,700. Trustee Franks suggested the Village hold off, but if Hugs & Bugs want to make the purchase it would be fine.

Since we switched over the website, Susan stated we are not limited on the number of email accounts and it is now possible to let people directly email the Trustees or we can continue as we do now. The consensus was to leave it as is.

**MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION:**

**Trustee Mumma:** Nothing

**Trustee Franks:** Had talked with Trustee Pioletti and they think Rund Park needs additional mulch.

**Trustee Sappenfield:** Nothing

**Clerk Kirby:** Stated the Village auditor, Stan Feller, had given her year-end transfer amounts to various funds from the general fund to bring balances to zero to close the fiscal year. Trustee Franks made a motion, seconded by Trustee Sappenfield, to approve the transfers. Voice vote; all “aye’s” motion passed unanimously.

**Trustee Sappenfield:** Nothing

**Trustee Tarter:** Nothing

**Trustee Asklund:** Verbally submitted his resignation as a Trustee, effective tonight. His term ends April 2011. Neal said he has appreciated Bob, Dave P. and Paul and wishes the Village the best. President Eckert wished Neal the best from the entire Board and said he appreciated his service on the Board.

**President Eckert:** Craig indicated he will be attending the Tolono Village Board meeting Tuesday, to discuss Philo’s interest in the possibility of them accepting our sewage. Like Villa Grove, we will go slowly and both should understand costs. His purpose for attending their meeting was to answer any of their questions and determine if they are interested.

With the assistance of two of his students and a colleague at EIU, President Eckert wants to conduct an assessment survey, during his last term as president. This survey would let every resident of Philo weigh in, not just on support for a sewer system, but to assess residents’ opinions on parks and priorities like sidewalks, etc. The purpose of the survey is to leave some type of “roadmap” and have a gauge of where people stand on various issues that affect the village. Craig will deliver the survey to the Board for their review prior to sending to our 1600-1700 residents. His students will also do a presentation and provide an overview of residents’ responses in the spring of 2011.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN:** Trustee Franks made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tarter, to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote; all “aye’s” motion carried unanimously.

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VILLAGE CLERK

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VILLAGE PRESIDENT