

**VILLAGE OF KINGSTON
REGULAR VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 5, 2011
UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AS WRITTEN ___
OR AS AMENDED X BY THE VILLAGE BOARD
ON January 2, 2012.**

MEETING CALL:

The Regular Village Board Meeting with the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Kingston was called to order at 7:00 pm by President John Munro, December 5, 2011, in the Village Board Room, at the Kingston Municipal Building, 101 E. Railroad St., Kingston, DeKalb County, Illinois.

ROLL CALL:

Upon roll call by Clerk Edwards, the following were in attendance:

Present: President John Munro, Trustees Jim Baenziger, Jennifer Bankson, Jack Fischer, Joe Hengels, John Lynch, and Robert Ruehl Jr.

Absent: 0.

Also in attendance were Village Attorney Kevin Buick, with the firm Foster & Buick Group LLC, Chief of Police Gerald Taft, and Village Engineer Kevin Berry, with HR Green, INC.

MINUTES:

Motion by Trustee Ruehl, seconded by Trustee Bankson to approve the November 7, 2011, minutes as written.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: 6, Trustees Baenziger, Bankson, Fischer, Hengels, Lynch, and Ruehl.

Nays: 0.

Absent: 0.

Motion Carried.

VILLAGE OFFICERS REPORT

Police
Department

Chief Gerald Taft commented that the police department received a grant from the DeKalb County Community Foundation for bullet proof vests.

Chief Taft and Treasurer Taunya Fischer met with Nathan Schwartz, County Engineer Highway Facility, with regard to doing a speed study. Mr. Schwartz informed them that a speed study was not necessary since speed limit signs of 25 mph have been posted throughout the village for more than fifteen years. Mr. Schwarz recommended that the village pass an ordinance stating the speed limit is 25 mph on village roads.

Chief Taft commented that he spoke with the building inspector regarding the burn ordinance. Chief Taft has concerns that the current ordinance is vague and requested that it be tightened up.

Chief Taft requested direction from the board with enforcing ordinance 62-101, snow removal of sidewalks.

Attorney

Attorney Buick commented that as of the first of the year, any text messages or emails received on your personal phone or computer will be subject to FOIA requests. Attorney Buick commented that there have been changes to what is considered "Unduly Burdensome" requests.

Attorney Buick reminded the board that they will have to take the OMA training starting January 1, 2012.

Public Works

Justin Kamp will be taking his CDL test in December.

Village Engineer

As part of the Land Use mini grant, HR Green reviewed the comprehensive plan and the land use maps. Engineer Berry recommended several changes to the plan and maps.

Village Clerk

Clerk Edwards reviewed the job description for street maintenance worker and a CDL license is required.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

City of Genoa (Wastewater)

Engineer Berry commented that the average PE flow for November was approximately 50,000 PE.

Flooding

Nothing new to report.

4th Street Well House Improvements

Trustee Ruehl commented that there was information in their packets with regard to taking the 4th Street well house tanks offline, rerouting the pipes, and removing the tanks. Trustee Ruehl commented that it would be cheaper to take the tanks offline then to repaint them. The cost for HR Green to do the surveying would be \$3,500.00 and \$11,200.00 to develop engineering plans. Trustee Ruehl commented that there was money

budgeted in this year's budget for the project. Engineer Berry will contact the EPA with regard to the lead paint that is on the tanks.

Trustee Ruehl motion seconded by Trustee Hengels to authorize HR Green to develop plans to bypass the tanks at the 4th Street well house. HR Green Job Number 86110192.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: 6, Trustees Baenziger, Bankson, Fischer, Hengels, Lynch, and Ruehl.

Nays: 0.

Absent: 0.

Motion carried.

Sewer
Rate Study

Trustee Ruehl commented that the finance committee met and recommends a 33% percent increase. The residents would see an increase in their bill of approximately eight to ten dollars per month. Discussion followed.

Trustee Ruehl motion seconded by Trustee Lynch to accept the recommendation of the finance committee of a 33% increase and begin the public hearing process.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: 6, Trustees Baenziger, Bankson, Fischer, Hengels, Lynch, and Ruehl.

Nays: 0.

Absent: 0.

Motion carried.

Ordinance
2011-06
(Hazardous
Material)

Trustee Ruehl was concerned with the wording in Section 50-150 B. Attorney Buick recommended adding: Police Chief, or Village Engineer, or Building Inspector. Clerk Edwards will make the changes to the ordinance for the next meeting.

Sidewalk

Engineer Berry commented that the board was given information regarding sidewalk gap locations and the length. The information included the sidewalk gap from Hunter Rd. to the high school. Consensus was expressed by the board not to include the sidewalk gap from Hunter Road to the high school in the Safe Routes to School grant. Trustee Ruehl will discuss the issue with the school superintendent when the time comes.

Employee
Handbook

Consensus was expressed by the board to add Background Checks to the employee handbook.

NEW BUSINESS:

2012 Village
Board Meeting
Calendar

Attorney Buick commented that January 2, 2012, is considered a federal holiday.

Trustee Fischer motion seconded by Trustee Hengels to accept the 2012 Village Board Meeting Calendar.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: 6, Trustees Baenziger, Bankson, Fischer, Hengels, Lynch, and Ruehl.

Nays: 0.

Absent: 0.

Motion carried.

2011 Tax
Levy

Trustee Ruehl explained the 2011 Tax Levy. The estimated assessed value is \$217,127.33.

Trustee Ruehl motion seconded by Trustee Fischer to accept the 2011 Tax Levy of \$138,650.00.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: 6, Trustees Baenziger, Bankson, Fischer, Hengels, Lynch, and Ruehl.

Nays: 0.

Absent: 0.

Motion carried.

Utility
Agreements

Bill McMahon was present at the meeting. Mr. McMahon commented that the village would save over \$2,000.00 by switching to Liberty Power for electricity and over \$800.00 by switching to Santanna for gas. NiCor gas would charge a \$220.00 fee to change out a gas meter that is too large. Attorney Buick commented that Santanna charges a \$3.99 monthly fee. Attorney Buick had concerns with the Liberty Power contract. Clerk Edwards will contact Mr. McMahon to discuss the issues.

Ordinance
2011-08

(Providing for the submission to the electors of the Village of Kingston, DeKalb County, the question whether the village should have the authority under Public Act 096-0176 to arrange for the supply of electricity for its residential and small commercial retail customers who have not opted out of such program)

Mr. McMahon commented that Progressive Energy Group would get bids from different electricity suppliers to get the best rate. If residents decide they want to go back to ComEd there would be no penalty. If ComEd's

rate drops below the rate that was contracted, the rates would automatically drop to that price. Residents can opt out and stay with ComEd. Attorney Buick suggested taking out section six of the ordinance. Attorney Buick will send over a revised copy.

Trustee Fischer motion seconded by Trustee Hengels to adjourn to closed session to approve June 20, 2011, closed session meeting minutes, review closed session meeting minutes to determine if any can be opened, and adopt Resolution 2011-02, the destruction of audio tapes.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: 4, Trustees Baenziger, Bankson, Fischer, and Lynch.

Nays: 2, Trustees Hengels and Ruehl.

Absent: 0.

Motion carried.

ROLL CALL:

Upon roll call by Clerk Edwards, the following were in attendance:

Present: President John Munro, Trustees Jim Baenziger, Jennifer Bankson, Jack Fischer, Joe Hengels, John Lynch, and Robert Ruehl Jr.

Absent: 0.

Trustee Fischer motion seconded by Trustee Lynch to approve June 20, 2010, closed session meeting minutes.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: 4, Trustees Baenziger, Bankson, Fischer, and Lynch.

Nays: 2, Trustees Hengels and Ruehl.

Absent: 0.

Motion carried.

Trustee Fischer motion seconded by Trustee Lynch to open June 20, 2010, closed session meeting minutes.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: 4, Trustees Baenziger, Bankson, Fischer, and Lynch.

Nays: 2, Trustees Hengels and Ruehl.

Absent: 0.

Motion carried.

Trustee Fischer motion seconded by Trustee Bankson to adopt Resolution 2011-02, the

destruction of audio tapes.
ROLL CALL VOTE:

Ayes: 6, Trustees Baenziger, Bankson, Fischer, Hengels, Lynch, and Ruehl.
Nays: 0.
Absent: 0.
Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Fischer motion, seconded by Trustee Baenziger to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 p.m.

Heather Edwards, Village Clerk