

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES

April 5, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Abbott called the meeting to order at 7:29 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Abbott opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPENING PRAYER

Father Bill McFarlane from St. Ann Church offered a prayer.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Abbott asked for a roll call. Roll call revealed the following trustees present: Eidam, Kapteyn, Stole, Skrbina, Manno and DeLaurentis.

MINUTES

Mayor Abbott asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the March 15, 2016, Committee of the Whole meeting. There were none. Mayor Abbott asked for a roll call and the minutes were accepted as presented.

DISCUSSIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Resolution 967 – Lease Agreement with Chicago SMSA, d/b/a Verizon Wireless

Village Attorney, Tim Lapp, presented Resolution 967 explaining the resolution will allow for a lease agreement with Verizon Wireless to occupy space on the water tower located at 18249 Chicago Avenue. He also explained Verizon will occupy the space U.S. Cellular vacated last year.

Attorney Lapp indicated that the lease agreement is a mirror of the agreement the village currently has with Verizon for the space they occupy on the water tower located at 19300 Burnham Avenue. The lease agreement stipulates the rental fee of \$2,200 per month with an additional one-time payment of \$5,000. The five year lease also contains four options for renewal.

The trustees agreed Resolution 967 should be included on the Agenda for the next board meeting.

B. Resolution 969 – Cook County Community Development Block Grant Application

Jeff Pintar, Village Engineer, distributed two maps indicating the areas that are eligible for capital improvement projects using CDBG funds. The eligible areas are designated by Cook County. Therefore, grant monies are restricted to specific areas of Lansing.

The Village of Lansing is annually asked if they would like to apply for funding for capital improvement projects for the following year. This year the village is requesting Cook County CDBG funds in the amount of \$400,000 for infrastructure investment. The village is targeting water main and underground infrastructure with updates and some additional alley resurfacing. Resolution 969 is a request for the program year 2016 which would be used in 2017.

Both Mayor Abbott and Mr. Pintar expressed the importance of timely acceptance of Resolution 969 in order to comply with the application submission date of April 22, 2016.

Trustees agreed to place Resolution 969 on the next regular Board Meeting Agenda.

C. Ordinance 16-014 – Amending Chapter 40 “Utilities”

Mayor Abbott announced that, due to the difficulties with resident’s illegal tampering and bypassing of water meters, it has been recommended the board consider amending the Village’s Utility Code.

Ms. Arlette Frye, Treasurer, cited the various problems explaining that currently there isn’t a way to quantify the water or sewage usage that is being used when a meter has been illegally tampered with or bypassed. Presently, there is no recourse in place for such illegal usage. Staff recommendation is being made to assess a fee of \$500 in the following instances; 1) illegal tampering of a water meter, 2) illegal connection to the Village’s water supply and 3) an authorization allowing village personnel to turn off water service when an owner refuses to allow inspection of a suspicious meter.

A brief discussion ensued regarding fee structure. Trustee DeLaurentis suggested the amendment include a \$500 fee for a first time offense and a \$1,000 fee for a second offense. All trustees agreed to place the amendment on the next board meeting’s Agenda.

Mayor Abbott announced plans for replacement of residential water meters with the new and improved “smart meters” are scheduled to be installed later this year. In addition, monthly water billing will begin at that same time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Michael Hersom, 3137 178th Street, Lansing, Illinois, asked questions regarding the selection of contractors for the CDBG project, illegal bypassing of water meters, street meters and the process of collection of unpaid water bills.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:50 p.m., Mayor Abbott asked for a motion to adjourn the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Trustee Eidam so moved.

Trustee DeLaurentis seconded.

ROLL CALL ON MOTION

Yeas – 6- Trustees: Eidam, DeLaurentis, Kapteyn, Stole, Skrbina and Manno

Nays - 0

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Kooyenga
Lansing Village Clerk
/dk