

VILLAGE OF ALSIP
MINUTES OF
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
COMMITTEE MEETING
August 13, 2012

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7 Mayor Kitching called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Clerk Venhuizen called the roll with the
8 following in attendance: Trustees Shapiro, McGreal, Daddona, Quinn, Dalzell, Ryan, and Mayor
9 Kitching and Attorney Todd Hayden.

10
11 MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Kitching reported on the creation of a Land Bank with the
12 following donations: 8.2 acres along the tollway appraised at \$350,000, property at 118th &
13 Pulaski planned to be a walking shopper green space to be dedicated to our Veterans. The Mayor
14 is currently negotiating with MB Financial concerning the plot directly behind Village Hall
15 property known as Mulberry Ridge, a townhome development that went under. MB Financial
16 contacted the Village concerning their intent to turn over all the vacant land to the Village of
17 Alsip. All the improvements are already provided with an estimated value of \$500,000.

18
19 Mayor Kitching reported on a new warehouse at 122nd & Central being built by Pullmax
20 Transportation, 150,000 sq. ft. with a fuel station for their trucks. The taxes on the diesel fuel
21 will provide the Village with an estimated \$200,000 annually, plus bringing 150 jobs to Alsip,
22 which they expect to double in five years.

23
24 Mayor Kitching reported on the reason there were an estimated 100 residents in the audience and
25 read the following: I have prepared this statement to inform you of events that have brought us
26 here today. Five members of this Board have passed multiple ordinances designed to erode the
27 Mayor's Office of its powers, and give those powers to themselves over my objections and
28 vetoes.

29
30 Starting with an ordinance that allowed them to hire their own lawyer rather than utilizing the
31 law firm appointed by the Mayor. This Village is now responsible for their attorney bills.

32
33 Next was an ordinance giving these Trustees the power to self-appoint themselves to the various
34 committees rather than the Mayor assembling their committee assignments which has been done
35 for our entire history. They refused input from the Mayor's office.

36
37 Again, they passed yet another ordinance that our Village attorney advised them as being
38 unconstitutional. This refers to the Mayor's appointments of Chiefs, Deputy Chiefs,
39 Commissioners of Water, Public Works, etc. This ordinance was not given to me, the Clerk,
40 Trustee Shapiro or our Village Attorney until minutes before being introduced as were others
41 including the one that brought you here tonight. Our Village Attorney advised these five Trustees
42 that their ordinance was unconstitutional, and that taking the final say of the Mayor's
43 appointments away from his office constitutes a change in our form of government. This
44 ordinance will be up for a constitutional challenge should any appointment of the Mayor be
45 subjected to such. It would follow that any appointee could seek civil restitution.

46
47 All of these ordinances were vetoed by me. The five independent Trustees of the Unity Party
48 chose to override my veto. These ordinances do not carry my signature but have passed into law.

49
50 Now this brings us to our most recent events. An ordinance to reduce the Mayor's pay by 64%
51 and then move to make the position part time – hire a village administrator/manager by passing
52 another ill proposed ordinance; this is a sham and political. It is plain to see these five Trustees
53 did not want a public hearing on what they were up to on "your behalf."

54
55 Mayor Kitching then opened the Public Hearing on the possibility of making the Mayor's
56 position part time and called for public input. There were an estimated 100 residents in
57 attendance and an estimated 41 addressed the Board and in summary, all expressed opposition to
58 lowering the Mayor's salary, making the position part time, disappointment on the way this was
59 handled, the negative impact this action has on the Village, questions on the data used to
60 determine a 64% reduction in the Mayor's salary, and by reducing elected officials salaries the
61 estimated savings is only \$100,000, cost of an administrator, throwing out the proposed wage
62 ordinance, loss of Village revenues by spending time on this issue in lieu of the development of
63 the Cicero Avenue property, part time Trustees receiving pensions.

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69 CLERK'S REPORT: Clerk Venhuizen presented: 1) Report a bid opening is scheduled for
70 August 20, 2012, for Austin Avenue between 115th and 118th Streets, the last of the bond issue
71 projects.

72
73 PUBLIC FORUM: Mayor Kitching called for input from the public; there was none.
74

75 FINANCE REPORT: Trustee Quinn presented: 1) List of payroll. 2) List of accounts payable.
76 3) 6b renewal application from Roth Metal Fabricators, Inc., 3735 W. 128th Place, Alsip, an
77 extension of their 6b assessment status granted on 12/3/2001 in Ordinance 2001-12-R-2.
78

79 FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Trustee Dalzell presented: 1) Request to hire two persons
80 from the current hiring list; one person to fill the vacancy created by the recent retirement of
81 Chief Geraci and recent promotions, and one person to fill the vacancy lost by attrition and not
82 replaced. These personnel are needed to keep up with the call volume the Fire Department has
83 experienced over the past few years, maintain safe staffing levels while responding to fire calls
84 and reduce the amount of overtime generated by calling in standbys for general alarms during
85 multiple calls. 2) Engine 2053, the 1986 Gruman Telesquirt Engine will be sold to the De
86 Gualacco Volunteer Fire Department in Ecuador. This sale was approved under Village
87 Ordinance 2012-8-1. 3) Letter from Jose A. Santiago, Fire Commissioner, Chicago Fire
88 Department, sending heartfelt appreciation for assisting and participating in the funeral services
89 for Cook County Correctional Officer Nikki Bostic-Jones. 3) Report the Fire Department
90 acquired approximately \$4,500 worth of foam used for fighting flammable liquid fires from the
91 sister plant of the Alsip Arkema Coating Plant, 12840 S. Pulaski. With the amount of flammable
92 and combustible products being stored in the Village and traveling through the Village, this
93 acquisition provides a great resource when needed. Each of the department's three engines carry
94 a complement of 40 gallons of foam.
95

96 POLICE DEPARTMENT: Trustee Daddona presented: 1) Request for approval of the Garcia
97 timesheets. This item was inadvertently omitted from the August 6, 2012 Agenda. 2) Request for
98 approval to hire a new crossing guard to replace Guard Evelyn Fertwagner, who is unable to
99 return to duty. 3) Thanks to Chief Radz and Officer Gutierrez for an excellent job on National
100 Night Out.
101

102 PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT: Trustee McGreal presented: 1) Request for
103 approval of an ordinance declaring one piece of used equipment as surplus and designate it to be
104 sold at public auction, Unit #11, 1994 Ford L-8000 5-ton dump truck with plow and salt
105 spreader. This equipment will be taken to the September 22, 2012, Southwest Council of Mayors
106 Municipal Auction and sold to the highest bidder. 2) Monthly report.
107

108 BUILDING DEPARTMENT REPORT: Trustee Shapiro presented: 1) June, 2012 and July, 2012
109 monthly reports.
110

111 HEALTH & POLLUTION: Trustee Daddona presented: 1) Report the Health Inspector wrote 32
112 municipal tickets for tall grass and garbage.
113

114 SEWER & WATER: No report.
115

116 LICENSE REPORT: Trustee Quinn presented: 1) Request for approval of a list of licenses.
117

118 PLANNING/ZONING REPORT: No report.
119

120 REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

121
122 VILLAGE PROPERTY: Trustee Ryan presented: 1) Request for approval of a Management
123 Agreement for Heritage II Apartments between the Village of Alsip and Zeiler Management, Inc.
124 Sue Waddell, Zeiler Management, reported the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional
125 Regulations monitors their Brokers license and requested a current contract with the Village. The
126 contract is under review by the Village attorney.
127

128 INSURANCE COMMITTEE: No report.
129
130

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133
134 ORDINANCE & LEGISLATION: Trustee Dalzell withdrew the Ordinance Establishing
135 Compensation and Rate of Pay for Elected Officials of the Village of Alsip, which will not be
136 placed on the August 20, 2012 Agenda.

137
138 IT REPORT: No report.

139 BOAT LAUNCH: No report.

140 PRESENTATIONS, PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS: None.

141 UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

142
143 NEW BUSINESS: Trustee Quinn requested an update on the status of the Treasurer for the
144 JAWA. Mayor Kitching reported JAWA has not had a meeting and no updates are available.
145 The JAWA attorney is working on the situation.

146
147 ACTION ITEM: Motion by Trustee Quinn to approve AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR
148 AND REQUIRING THE SUBMISSION OF THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THE VILLAGE
149 OF ALSIP SHOULD HAVE THE AUTHORITY UNDER PUBLIC ACT 96-176 TO
150 ARRANGE FOR THE SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY FOR ITS RESIDENTIAL AND SMALL
151 COMMERCIAL RETAIL CUSTOMERS WHO HAVE NOT OPTED OUT OF SUCH
152 PROGRAM TO THE ELECTORS OF THE VILLAGE OF ALSIP, COOK COUNTY,
153 ILLINOIS BY REFERENDUM AT THE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON THE 6TH
154 DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2012; seconded by Trustee Dalzell.

155 Roll #1: Voting “aye”: Trustees Shapiro, McGreal, Daddona, Quinn, Dalzell and Ryan. Motion
156 carried. **Ordinance No. 2012-8-4.**

157
158 ACTION ITEM: Mayor Kitching reported the next item is for an advisory referendum question.
159 Trustee Quinn pointed out that the Ordinance on the Agenda addressed the Village of Alsip’s
160 Motor Vehicle License Sticker Requirement, and the proposal submitted to the Trustees includes
161 “shall the Village of Alsip adopt an electric utility tax.” Trustee Quinn reported the Board was
162 not provided with any numbers for the Mayor’s utility tax request. The stickers bring in an
163 estimated \$375,000 a year and the Board has no knowledge of the estimated utility tax revenues.
164 What will be the cost to the homeowners? The Mayor reported this is only an advisory
165 referendum and not binding. Mayor Kitching reported the Village attorney recommended hiring
166 an experienced consultant to handle and provide hard numbers. Trustee Dalzell pointed out that
167 persons, particularly seniors, receiving vehicle stickers free of charge will be levied with the
168 utility tax. The Mayor reported the resident should save an estimated 30% on electric bills and
169 pay basically pennies on the utility tax. The Village attorney advised that in order to be on the
170 November 6, 2012 ballot, the decision must be made no later than the August 20, 2012 meeting,
171 the filing deadline is August 21, 2012.

172
173 Motion by Trustee Quinn to table until August 20, 2012 meeting pending utility rate information,
174 AN ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE SUBMISSION OF AN ADVISORY
175 REFERENDUM QUESTION REGARDING THE VILLAGE OF ALSIPS MOTOR VEHICLE
176 LICENSE STICKER REQUIREMENT TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS OF THE
177 VILLAGE OF ALSIP AT THE NOVEMBER 6, 2012 GENERAL ELECTION; seconded by
178 Trustee Dalzell.

179 Roll #2: Voting “aye”: Trustees McGreal, Quinn, Dalzell and Ryan.

180 Voting “nay”: Trustees Shapiro and Daddona. Motion carried.

181
182 ACTION ITEM: Following discussion and with the recommendation of the Police Chief
183 Motion by Trustee Dalzell to table the request for approval to hire Frank Volpi as a crossing
184 guard to replace Guard Evelyn Fetwagner to the August 20, 2012 meeting; seconded by Trustee
185 Quinn.

186 Roll #2: Voting “aye”: Trustees Shapiro, McGreal, Daddona, Quinn, Dalzell and Ryan. Motion
187 carried.

188
189 ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Trustee Quinn to adjourn; seconded by Trustee McGreal. All in
190 favor; none opposed. Motion carried at approximately 10:25 pm.

191 Respectfully submitted,

192
193
194 _____
195 Deborah Venhuizen
Village Clerk, Alsip, Illinois