

VILLAGE OF HINCKLEY
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING - MINUTES
APRIL 10, 2023
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING REGULAR BOARD MEETING

CALL BOARD MEETING TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order by President Pro Tem Constant at 7:24 PM. Roll call was taken showing the following:

Present: Trustees Russell Kula, Steve Gayhart, Walter Rainford, Sarah Quirk, and Mike Constant. Quorum Established.

Absent: Michele Greene-Larsen.

Also Present: Village Clerk Elizabeth Losiniecki, Deputy Clerk Kathy Michaels, Police Chief Ken Gettemy, Ceneca Wagner, Brandon Kramer, and Members of the Public.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Nate Lamaster, 281 E. Slater, stated he has been doing chickens, meat, and egg laying chickens, he sees no reason why the ordinance needs to be changed. This would be taking food off their table.

Steve Kreitzer, 205 E. Slater, stated his family has egg laying chickens, its great fertilizer for the garden and reduces pesticides.

Danny Puknanaitis, 431 E. McKinley, stated this helps reduce food allergies, great for home education and learning how to care for chickens.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Approval of Committee of the Whole meeting minutes from 03/27/23

Trustee Gayhart moved to approve the minutes from March 27, 2023, and Trustee Kula seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Quirk-Aye, Gayhart-Aye, Kula-Aye, Rainford-Aye, and Constant-Aye. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

No Report.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

No Report.

CLERK'S REPORT

*Discussion and Recommendation: Site Plan Review Requirements

Dollar General wants to get on the Planning Commission Agenda for their site plan approval per our code of ordinances. B & F Construction has reviewed and approved the plans. Tait stated the Planning Commission can discuss this at their next meeting and provide feedback to the Board.

Dollar General is looking for us to give them a Will Serve Letter for Water and Sewer for their lending company. Attorney Lundgren stated this is a very standard letter. Clerk Losiniecki stated that she would draft that letter.

Clerk Losiniecki stated monitoring wells need to be bored, per IEPA requirements, for the property at the southwest corner of May and Rt 30. This is a former gas station location that apparently had

leaking underground storage tanks. Prior to selling the property, the IEPA requires proof that no contamination persists. Losiniecki has been working with the State of Illinois permitting department. They urge caution regarding the location of the monitoring wells due to the underground utilities and disruption to the flow of traffic on a state highway. She will continue working with all three parties to be sure the monitoring wells are located safely.

Clerk Losiniecki informed the Board that the owner of the storage facility on the west side of town would like to do some fairly significant stormwater remediation that will benefit not just his property, but the surrounding properties, as well. This may help resolve the long-standing stormwater problem that resulted from the development of the "Crest property." It has been suggested that the Village Engineers review the plans for compliance with the existing stormwater management ordinance.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

No Report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Personnel

Trustee Quirk stated she is revisiting the employee handbook and looking at other towns/villages across Illinois.

Finance & Economic Development Report

No Report.

Public Safety

*Discussion and Recommendation: Standards for keeping chickens

Trustee Constant stated surrounding villages and towns around us allow a lot less chickens. Maximum being 6 chickens. We currently allow a maximum of 22 between meat and egg laying. His suggestion was to reduce the number of chickens to 5 or 6. Use of extension cords would not be allowed and limit the number of licenses. We currently have 6 licenses issued and no one else would receive a license until someone no longer wanted their chicken license. They would also have to renew every year with an inspection required. The yearly renewal fee of \$50.00 would cover the cost of the inspection. Trustee Quirk stated that she agrees with Trustee Constant on the no extension cord use and registration/inspection fee yearly. She does not agree with the number of chickens he suggested her recommendation was a maximum of 12 total. Trustee Rainford agreed with Trustee Quirk. Trustee Kula agrees with Trustee Constant. Trustee Quirk stated this is not easy and an unpleasant position to be in. Trustees Constant and Gayhart agreed that there should be a maximum of 6 permits allowed. Trustee Constant stated we should put this back on the Committee of the Whole meeting for April 24, 2024, for further discussion.

Streets & Alleys

Trustee Kula stated that street sweeping will be done on Tuesday, April 18th.

Buildings, Grounds & Parks

No Report.

Water & Sewer

No Report.

OPEN DISCUSSION

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was major opposition to all the proposed changes to the Standards for keeping chickens. Eight village residents spoke to the board in disagreement with the proposed changes. A resident in the medical field stated about the mental health benefits of having chickens.

ADJOURMENT

Trustee Quirk moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 PM and Trustee Rainford seconded the motion. Voice vote: all in favor. Motion carried. The next Committee of the Whole Meeting is scheduled for April 24, 2023, immediately following the Regular Board Meeting.

Mike Constant, Village President Pro Tem

Kathy Michaels, Deputy Clerk